WHAT FOOD PERMIT DO I NEED?

Congratulations on your decision to own and/or operate a Food Establishment in Brazoria County! Whether it includes plans to open a new restaurant or mobile unit , to remodel and/or renovate an existing one, or purchase a currently permitted Food Establishment we are here to assist you.

Complimentary Consultations: Feel free to request a consultation for an existing MFU that you have in mind prior to signing a lease or contract to get a general idea of what may be required to follow the Texas Food Establishment Rules (TFER). **You may call to us to schedule or ask questions (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday between 8am-5pm) at 979-864-1600** and ask to speak to a Food Inspector.

FOOD PERMITTING TYPES: (Permits are NOT Transferable – transfer paperwork must be completed **prior to** changing owners)

1. **FOOD ESTABLISHMENT:**
    a. Four Walled Structure
    b. Permanent Connections to Utilities
    c. Prepares Food Products &/or Beverages on site for public consumption (whether sold or not, includes water & ice)
    d. Requires a Food Manager during all hours of operation
    e. Relinquishes possession of food to a consumer directly, or indirectly through a delivery service, such as home delivery of grocery orders or restaurant takeout orders, or delivery service that is provided by common carriers.

2. **MOBILE FOOD PERMIT:**
    a. A vehicle-mounted, self or otherwise propelled, self-contained food service operation designed to be readily movable (including catering trucks, trailers, push carts, and roadside vendors) and used to store, prepare, display, serve or sell food.
    b. Prepares Food Products &/or Beverages on site for public consumption (whether sold or not, includes water & ice)
    c. Must Completely remain mobile at all times
    d. All Food Items Sold must remain on Unit at all times or in an approved Commissary or Permitted Kitchen
    e. Requires a Food Manager on Duty at all hours of Operation
    f. Requires a Licensed Driver at all times of Operation
    g. Requires Hot and Cold Running Water under pressure
    h. Mobiles at a single location more than 2 hours require the following documents:
        a. Property Agreement
        b. Restroom Agreement
    i. Examples include: Taco Truck, Snow Cones, Cut Fruit, Coffee, Lemonade, Beverages served with Ice, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs or any other product that requires preparation from its natural state.

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3. **TEMPORARY FOOD PERMIT:**
    a. Single Event, Fair, Craft Show that is no longer than 14 days in length
    b. Food Handler Permit Required (Non-Profit Agencies are exempt from this requirement with documented 501C.

4. **FARMER'S MARKET:**
    a. Location where greater than 51% of vendors sell Whole Fruit, Vegetables, Yard Eggs or other Farm raised Products
5. **DAY CARE:**
    a. Licensed Child Care Facility who provides any meals (other than pre-packaged snacks)
    b. Licensed to care for 7 or more children and for less than 24 hours per day, at a location other than the permit holder's home.

6. **FOSTER CARE OR GROUP HOME:**
    a. Care of Children under 18 that are not related to the home owner
    b. Provides all meals and care to those under their care.
    c. Located outside of the city limits or municipality in Brazoria County

7. **NO PERMIT REQUIRED:**
    a. Sales of Whole, Uncut Fruits and Vegetables (excluded sprouts/micro greens)
    b. Sales of **Individual** Commercially Packaged Ice Cream, Candy, Chips, bottled or canned water and sodas (No ICE, No Cups)
    c. Home produced baked items that **do not require refrigeration** following baking. (Texas Cottage Food Law Items)
    d. Individual, pre-packages ice cream bars, popsicles
    e. Home prepared canned Jelly or Jams,
    f. Dehydrated Fruits and Vegetables
    g. Popcorn / popcorn snacks (prepared at home)
    h. Dried Mixes, teas or roasted coffee
    i. Plant based acidified canned goods
    j. Gross income of less than $50,000 per year
    k. Sampling of products
    l. Lemonade Stand operated by a child under 18 years and on personal, private property in a neighborhood environment.