



MECKLENBURG COUNTY Public Health

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Health Director

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Temporary Food Establishments Exemptions and Exceptions

Some vendors of Temporary Food Establishments (TFE's) may be exempt from the regulations requiring a permit to prepare and sell food to the public. The vendors who meet one of the following conditions will not be required to obtain a permit to operate their TFE:

- i. Incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in accordance with Chapter 55A of the North Carolina General Statutes
- ii. Exempt from federal income tax under the Internal Revenue Service Code as defined in General Statute 105-228.90 (have 501(c)(3) status)
- iii. A political committee as defined in General Statute 163-278.6(14)

A facility meeting one of the above conditions may prepare and sell food to the public without a permit from Mecklenburg County Public Health (MCPH) for no more than two consecutive days, one time per calendar month. MCPH requires proof of the organization's tax-exempt status such as a federally issued 501(c)(3) document or state issued tax-exempt status document.

TFE vendors who sell only non-potentially hazardous drinks, such as fresh-squeezed lemonade, coffee, tea, etc., are not required to obtain a permit from the MCPH.

TFE vendors who sell only dipped ice cream, popcorn, candy apples, cotton candy, funnel cakes, soft pretzels and or pre-packaged chips or candy are not required to obtain a permit from MCPH.

Questions? Please call the Mecklenburg County Public Health at (980) 314-1620.