



RUTHERFORD POLK MCDOWELL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Requirements for Food Service at Temporary Food Establishments at Festivals and Special Events

The N.C. “Rules Governing the Sanitation of Restaurants and Other Foodhandling Establishments” require that certain temporary food service operations located at festivals and special events obtain a **Permit to Operate** from the local health department before starting operation. The information in this packet is intended to help you understand what is needed and what will be expected of an operator while the festival or event is in progress. An application for a permit to operate is included in this packet. Please submit this application and contact the Health Department at least 4 weeks prior to the event.

Permit To Operate: Before the event starts, an Environmental Health Specialist will visit your site. If all requirements have been met, a permit to operate will be issued. No food service or food preparation is allowed on the site until you have received this permit. Your acceptance of this permit implies that you agree to keep the site as originally permitted throughout the duration of the event and that you agree to operate in accordance with all statutes, rules, regulations and any specific conditions which may be included on the permit. Health Department personnel will be on duty during the event to monitor food service operations and to provide guidance where applicable. During operation you may be requested to remedy problems observed by the Environmental Health Specialist; prompt compliance is required.

* A Temporary Food Establishment must operate in conjunction with a public event such as a fair, festival, or carnival.

* A permitted restaurant or caterer must also obtain a permit to operate a Temporary Food Establishment if operating in conjunction with a public event such as a fair, festival, or carnival.