

Upcoming Changes for Mobile Food Units

As a result of legislation during the most recent General Assembly session, notable changes are coming that will affect mobile food units that operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Here is what you need to know:

What is a “mobile food unit”? A mobile food unit is a food establishment which is typically mounted on wheels yet is readily moveable from place to place at all times during operation. Examples of mobile food units include pushcarts, trailers, trucks, or vans. The operations and equipment must relate to, be within, or be attached to the unit.



State Law Change

Effective July 1, 2017, state law will require the Virginia Department of Health to issue a mobile food unit license or permit in the form of a sticker. You may review the new law [here](#).



VDH in Action

The local health department in the district where the mobile food unit is permitted will issue a mobile food unit permit in the form of a sticker beginning July 1, 2017. Mobile food unit operators will receive a notice via standard mail prior to July 1, 2017, containing instructions on how to obtain the new mobile food unit permit. There is no additional cost to the operator for the issuance of the sticker.



Operator Responsibility

Operators of permitted mobile food units are asked to obtain the new license within 60 days of July 1, 2017, to avoid potential findings of non-compliance during inspections.

***Licensing applications for mobile food units approved after July 1, 2017 shall receive a license in the form of a sticker.**

If you have any questions regarding the issuance of mobile food unit licenses, please contact your local health department.