Virginia Department of Health Blue Ridge Health District

# Temporary Event Process: Regulations, Applications and Permitting

Community Informational Session February 22, 2017



### **Definitions and Roles**

<u>Blue Ridge Health Department</u> – includes the counties of Fluvanna, Louisa, Nelson, Albemarle and Greene and the city of Charlottesville.

 Role: Protect public health by preventing the transmission of disease through food

**Event Coordinator** – responsible for organizing the event

 Role: Ensures all food vendors are permitted to serve food to the public

<u>Temporary Food Vendor</u> – operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a fair, festival, or community event.

Role: Serves food to the public in a legal and safe manner

# Who Needs to Apply for At Permit?



#### Any individual or entity serving food to the public at the event Exemptions:

 Selling pre-packaged foods that do not require time or temperature control for safety (non-TCS foods) and there is no food handling

Examples: Sodas, pre-packaged chips, pre-packaged candy bars

 VDH permitted mobile units and restaurants who are not doing in food preparation outside of their permitted facility\*

\*These entities will function under their current permits and do not require an additional temporary food permit. They are <u>not exempt</u> from the regulations and are subject to inspection by the Health Department at the event.

# Who Needs to Apply for A Permit?

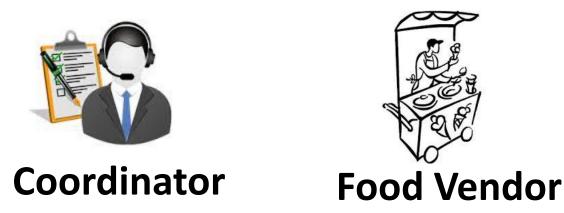


#### **Exemptions Continued:**

- All of the following are met:
  - 1. Churches; fraternal or school organizations; organizations that are exempt from taxation under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; or volunteer fire departments and rescue squads
  - 2. Dinner, bazaar, or other fundraisers of one or two day duration
  - Food is (i) prepared in the homes of members or the kitchen of the church, school, or organization, or (ii) purchased or donated from a licensed restaurant

### **Application Process**

Two applications are required



- Both due to our office at least 10 calendar days prior to the start of the event (12VAC5-421-3670)
- TJHD will not approve any application received after the deadline.

#### Rationale for Deadline

- Public health work is about prevention
- Adequate time is required to review, screen, and approve proposed temporary food establishments
- Adequate time is required to coordinate staffing and schedules for inspections at events that often fall outside of normal business hours and occur simultaneously

# TJHD had over 200 events with over 650 temporary vendors in 2016

## Water-borne outbreak 1999 , Washington Co. NY Fair

# Ecoli 0157: H7

- \*source: contaminated well water
- \*781 persons identified as ill
- \*71 persons hospitalized
- \*14 experienced HUS
- \*2 deaths

### Food safety @ 90 F + environment

- Food from approved sources? (screening apps.)
- Proper hot and cold holding food temperatures (screening through field verification- 41 F or less for cold holding, 135 F+ for hot holding)?
- Correct final cooking temperatures (calibrated thermometers available?)
- Appropriate washing, rinsing and sanitizing of food contact surfaces (adequate equipment?)
- Good employee / food handler hygiene

adequate equipment, location and potable h2o?

### **Coordinator Application**

- Submitted by the coordinator
- No fee
- Provides critical information on water, sewage, and food vendors as well as provides permission for listed vendors and health department staff to be on the property to conduct official business
- Required to permit food vendors

### Water and Sewage Regulations



If the event is on a private well and vendors/public will have access to the water, a copy of a water test report conducted within the last year for **both coliforms and nitrates** must be submitted with the coordinator application (12VAC5-421-2100).



When public restrooms are not available at the event, portable toilets must be provided at a minimum of one toilet per 100 persons expected to attend the event (12VAC5-610-980).

# Temporary Food Vendor Application



- Submitted by the vendor
- Provides critical information on the menu and food operation
- Required for every event the vendor is participating in
- \$40 annual fee
  - Keep a copy of your receipt. Attach a copy with your application. This is the only documentation to prove you have paid the fee for the year.
- Attach a copy of your last inspection with the application or at least note the location, date, and name of the event you were inspected in.

### Certified Food Protection Manager Regulation



 By July 2018 each food establishment, including temporary events, needs to employ at least one Certified Food Protection Manager who has supervisory and management responsibility

#### • Exemption:

- Food establishments that serve only non-TCS foods
- Food establishments where food handling does not exceed reheating, cold holding, and hot holding of commercially processed packaged ready-to-eat foods.

### Permitting Process and Inspection

- Vendor can expect a phone/email screen with the Health Department to discuss the set-up, menu and food operation
- Based on the menu and inspection history, a permit may be issued:
  - Without inspection (via email or in-person pick up)
  - Onsite after the completion of a successful inspection
- Health Department will inform the coordinator at least one business day before the start of the event of the permitting status of the vendors listed on the coordinator application.



### Safe Food Handling Class

- Two Classes Offered in March:
  - March 13: 5:30PM 8:00PM
  - March 27: 5:30PM 8:00PM

 Offered at the Charlottesville Health Department

#### References and Points of Contact

- Applications and guidance documents can be found on our website at:
  - http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/thomas-jefferson/foodservice-operation-permits/
- Susan Fortenberry, District Temporary Event Coordinator
  - **-** 434-972-4318
  - Susan.Fortenberry@vdh.virginia.gov
- Eric Myers, Environmental Health Supervisor
  - **434-972-6276**
  - Eric.Myers@vdh.virginia.gov