

City of Greer, SC



Successfully Licensing Food Trucks



The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.

Introduction

Heather Towner

Business License Coordinator
htowner@cityofgreer.org

City of Greer, Finance Department



Agenda

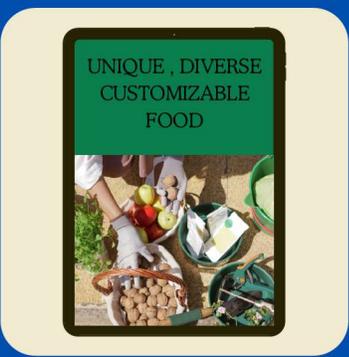
- Overview
- Benefit of Food Trucks
- Challenges
- Requirements
- Helpful Links
- Questions



Overview *

- ✓ Food Trucks are estimated to have started in the 1860's
- ✓ Food Trucks started out going to construction sites, factories and blue-collar locations
- ✓ The Food Truck industry is a **2 Billion-Dollar** industry
- ✓ The industry's overall revenue has grown 300% in the last 3 years
- ✓ Food Trucks are also known as "roach coaches" or "gut trucks"
- ✓ Starting costs for creating a Food Truck averages between \$50,000 to \$60,000 thousand dollars
- ✓ Food Trucks can be a truck, trailer, cart, wagon, etc.





FOOD TRUCK CHALLENGES

Like any other food-related business, food truck owners may face many challenges. (These are just a few)



| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Space/Layout of Property | Competition |
| Wait Times | Weather |
| Communication | Supply Chain disruptions |
| Licensing and requirements | Marketing |

FOOD TRUCK REQUIREMENTS



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA REQUIREMENTS:

- SOUTH CAROLINA DHEC PERMIT (REGULATION 61-25)
- APPROVED COMMISARY
- SOUTH CAROLINA RETAIL LICENSE
- ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSING (IF APPLICABLE)

CITY OF GREER REQUIREMENTS:

- SLED OR NATIONAL BACKGROUND CHECK
- LIABILITY INSURANCE
- DRIVER'S LICENSE
- NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER SEARCH
- REMIT HOSPITALITY TAXES
- FIRE MARSHAL INSPECTION (to be cont.)
- VEHICLE REGISTRATION

A Business License will be issued after all necessary documents are collected and the Fire Marshal inspection is passed.



Guidelines

Property Authorization from Owner

No overnight parking

Must have restroom access for all employees

The unit CANNOT be left unattended at any time

Waste Management

Knowledge of hours of operation

No offensive or loud noise

May not operate within 250 feet of an existing restaurant - unless written permission is granted.

Fire Marshal Inspection



The Fire Marshal inspection will identify and eliminate basic fire hazards, while educating vendors of the potential hazards. The Fire Marshal inspects the following:

- Ensure that the Food Truck does not impede traffic, and that emergency vehicles can access the Food Truck/public if necessary.
- Inspect Hood and/or Fire Suppression System, verify the inspection has been inspected by a 3rd party and the inspection is not expired.
- Verify that the correct Fire Extinguisher is located on the Food Truck, usually a 2A10BC.
- Inspect all compressed gas cylinders.
- Inspect Carbon Monoxide and Compressed Gas Detectors
- Inspect grease traps to ensure that liquid waste is disposed of properly

Download the NFPA Food Truck Safety Fact Sheet here:
<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/building-and-life-safety/food-truck-safety>

Example of Food Truck Inspection Form



Mobile Food Vendor Inspection Form

1. Business Name
2. Responsible Person
3. Commissary Address
4. Mailing Address
5. Phone Number
6. Email

Mobile Food Unit Type:

- Food Truck
- Food Trailer
- Food Cart
- Ice Cream Truck

Vehicle Make: _____

Model: _____

Year: _____

Tag Number: _____

Note: If you have additional mobile food units that operate within the City of Greer, each mobile food unit will be required to have its own individual inspection and decal.

Inspected by: _____

Date: _____

Notes: _____

Inspection Result: Pass Fail

Permits are not given until inspection is passed and all required documents are provided.

Attachment Checklist (if applicable)

- SCDHEC Inspection Documentation SC Retail License
- SLED Background Check Vehicle Registration
- Vehicle Insurance Driver's License
- National Sex Offender Search ABL License

There will be a mandatory annual inspection performed by the Fire Marshall. Each decal will expire on April 30th and must be renewed annually. The permit fee is \$25.00 per permit and there is a fee of 2.89% to process all debit/credit cards. Checks can be made out to the City of Greer.

By signing below I certify that I am an authorized agent for the company and all information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I have received a copy of the Mobile Food Unit Ordinance, Hospitality Tax Notification and I understand that I am required to pay Hospitality Taxes monthly.

I agree to comply with all ordinances of this jurisdiction and shall be responsible for any and all violations of state law and local ordinances. I understand that a permit will not be issued until the Business License tax is paid and a Business License is issued.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Example Spread Sheet for Food Truck Inspections

Both the Fire Marshal and a Business License Coordinator should inspect each Food Truck

| Account: | Business Name: | Email: | Phone Number: | Inspection date: | Re-inspection date: | DHEC | Retail License | Insurance | Background | DMV Registration | Fire Marshal Permit | Notes |
|----------|----------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 12345 | Food Truck 1 | foodtruck1@gmail.com | 555-555-5555 | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | Serves under a tent, and registration not required. No BL issued until inspection is complete and permit is issued. |
| 54321 | Food Truck 2 | foodtruck2@gmail.com | 555-555-5555 | 01/26/2024 | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | EXEMPT FROM DHEC PERMIT |

Notes:

Food Truck 1 has not completed their inspection, therefore no permit or Business License has been issued.

Food Truck 2 is exempt from DHEC Permit under Permit Exemptions Regulation 61-25
Food Truck 2 passed inspection, therefore was issued a permit and Business License.

I keep pretty basic information on this spreadsheet because it is shared with other departments within the city.

City of Greer Events



INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

- Festival began in 2014.
- Festival started without any food trucks, just traditional food vendors.
- Fast forward to 2023, we now feature 14 food trucks and 6 traditional food vendors.

FOOD TRUCK ROLLOUT

- The program launched in 2016 with just 3 food trucks.
- The program expanded from 1 event during the Spring and Fall seasons to 6 food truck rollouts annually.
- Each food truck rollout hosts between 7-8 trucks.

FREEDOM BLAST

- Established in 2009
- The City's largest event, attracting more than 20,000 attendees.
- Featuring 17 food trucks in 2023 and expected to grow.

Overall, adding Food Trucks to any event is a positive addition!

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Food Trucks increase attendee satisfaction, and contribute to the overall success and uniqueness of the event.



Helpful Links



DHEC Regulations:

<https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/Regulations/R.61-25.pdf>

DHEC Exemptions:

<https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-011506.pdf>

DHEC Mobile Food Establishment:

<https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-012708.pdf>

SC Retail License:

<https://dor.sc.gov/tax-index/registration/Pages/licensing-retail-license.aspx>

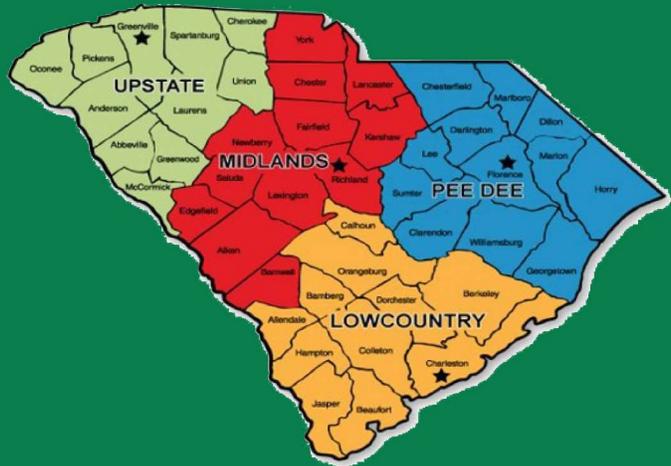
Alcohol Beverage Licensing:

<https://dor.sc.gov/tax/abl>

DHEC Local Emails

I have found that if you email your local office, you get a faster response.

Each region has their own contact info that can be found at: <https://scdhec.gov/environment/environmental-affairs-organizational-charts>



Upstate: Upstate-Food@dhec.sc.gov

Midlands: Midlands-food@dhec.sc.gov

Pee Dee: Peedee-Food@dhec.sc.gov

Lowcountry: Lowcountry-Food@dhec.sc.gov

Questions



Comments