



HEALTH CARE AGENCY/PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH *INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN*

Subject: Food Vehicles at Community Events

There are two types of food facilities that may operate at a Community Event. One is the typical Temporary Food Facility (usually a booth) and the other is a Mobile Food Facility (usually a truck or cart). When operating in Orange County (OC), a Mobile Food Facility (MFF) is required to have an Orange County Mobile Food Facility (OC MFF) permit issued by Environmental Health. In the past, an unpermitted food vehicle has been allowed to operate as a Temporary Food Facility (TFF) at Community Events that have had a traditionally short duration time. The purpose of this Informational Bulletin is to describe situations in which a food vehicle without a valid OC MFF permit may apply for a TFF permit in order to work at an approved Community Event for a limited time period.

DEFINITIONS

A "**Community Event**" is defined in Section 113755 of the California Retail Food Code (CRFC) as "an event that is of civic, political, public, or educational nature, including state and county fairs, city festivals, circuses, and other public gathering events approved by the local enforcement agency."

"**Mobile food facility**" is defined in Section 113831 of the CRFC which means "any vehicle used in conjunction with a commissary or other permanent food facility upon which food is sold or distributed at retail. 'Mobile food facility' does not include a 'transporter' used to transport packaged food from a food facility, or other approved source to the consumer."

"**Temporary food facility**" is defined in Section 113930 of the CRFC which "means a food facility approved by the enforcement officer that operates at a fixed location for the duration of an approved community event or at a swap meet only as a part of the community event or swap meet."

FOOD VEHICLE PERMITTING AT A COMMUNITY EVENT

- 1) A food vehicle operating at a single Community Event lasting 3 days or less
 - a. Contact Environmental Health at 714-433-6000 at least two weeks prior to the event in order to submit a TFF application for approval and/or inspection.
 - b. At a Community Event where there is one TFF vendor and another food facility (MFF or TFF), an Event Organizer is required. The Event Organizer is required to coordinate with Environmental Health regarding all food facilities at the event. If your Event Coordinator is not helping you with the permitting process, contact Environmental Health directly. A valid OC health permit is required before operating a food facility (MFF or TFF). Food facilities (MFF or TFF) operating without a valid health permit may be subject to immediate closure; may be issued a Notice of Violation, with the associated fees; chargeable re-inspections, legal action, and/or receive a penalty up to three times the cost of the permit.

- 2) Any food vehicle operating at a Community Event lasting more than 3 days (including an on-going event) must have an OC MFF permit. Contact Vehicle staff at 714-433-6416 for plan review and permit processing at least one month prior to food operation in OC. Vehicle information is also available at www.ocfoodinfo.com/mobile .