

Farmworker Food Safety

Farmworkers are a growing and essential group within our communities, however, having access to safe food during their workday can be challenging. GCHD aims to create safer and healthier communities. One way to achieve this is by working cooperatively with local farms to help implement food safety practices that include only allowing licensed food vendors to sell food to their employees.

A valid license, issued by GCHD, is required to sell food in Grant County. This includes mobile vendors, such as taco trucks.

What is ALLOWED ?	What is NOT ALLOWED ?
<p>Food Delivery- Restaurants delivering orders of food that were prepared and prepackaged in a licensed food establishment. Deliveries cannot have exposed foods (foods outside of packaging)</p> <p>Mobile Food Vending- Selling foods prepared in a licensed food establishment out of a licensed “mobile food unit”. You can identify licensed mobile food units by checking for a valid permit issued by GCHD, printed on blue paper, which states “Mobile Unit”, and should include the license plate number of the approved vehicle. The name of the business on the outside of the vehicle should match the name listed on the permit</p>	<p>Selling foods made at home or other unlicensed kitchens</p> <p>Selling food from a licensed food establishment that was <u>not preordered</u> from the food establishment or is exposed (i.e. open pans of meat to prepare tacos on-site)</p> <p>Reselling food purchased from a licensed food establishment out of an unlicensed vehicle.</p> <p>Using a “Food Worker Card” as a license to sell food. Food Worker Cards are required for employees to work in licensed food establishments, they do not permit people to sell food outside of food establishments.</p>

If you find a food vendor on your premises who you suspect may not be licensed or is not following the rules for selling food, please call GCHD at (509) 766-7960.

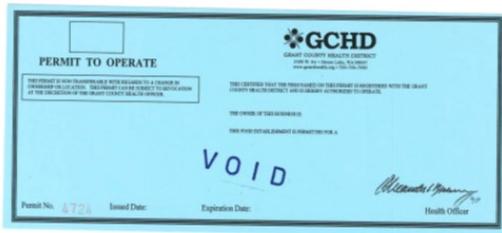
The **Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)** and many **GAP** programs require farms to establish hygiene practices to prevent people, including visitors, from contaminating produce with germs that are a concern to public health. One way to do this is to only allow licensed food vendors onto your premises, which reduces the risk of foodborne illness among your employees.



Farmworker Illness Outbreak

In 2003, Grant County experienced a significant foodborne illness outbreak among farmworkers who ate food from an unlicensed food vendor. Approximately 2 hours after their lunch break, the farmworkers began reporting to a local clinic with severe vomiting and stomach cramping. In total, over 40 workers became ill. The source of the outbreak was traced back to burritos that had been cooked at home by a family member of one of the workers. The outbreak caused the orchard to lose almost an entire crew for several days and ended up costing upwards of \$50,000 in lost wages and medical care.

Example of Permitted Vendor



Example of Unpermitted Vendor



Germans are easily to spread through food which is why sick food workers may not work with food or food-contact surfaces.

Stay home when you are sick with vomiting or diarrhea!



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**Questions,
Comments or
Concerns?**



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