

Food Donation FAQ

Q. Do SNHD regulations allow a permitted food establishment to donate food?

A. [SNHD Regulations Governing the Sanitation of Food Establishments](#) (Regulations) applies to all food stored in a permitted establishment. The Regulations do not specifically address food for donation. Food donated to a food bank or other permit exempt charitable organization is no longer under SNHD regulations when it leaves the permitted establishment.

Q. Does the permitted food establishment need a separate permit for donations?

A. No, however it is recommended that all food for donation is labeled and kept separate from food for the establishment.

Q. Are the facilities that accept donated food permitted by SNHD?

A. Charitable and other nonprofit organizations that receive salvaged food in bulk quantities for **free distribution** are exempt from SNHD regulatory authority per [NRS 446.020](#).

Q. What liability do I have for food I donate?

A. The [Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act](#) protects food donors, including individuals and nonprofit feeding programs, who act in good faith should the donated product later cause harm to its recipient.

Q. Are there any special requirements for food that is intended for donation while being held at the permitted food establishment?

A. Regulations apply to all food stored in a permitted establishment, including storage temperatures and cooling conditions for Time/Temperature Control for Safety (TCS) foods. Expired hermetically-sealed, perishable food and non-TCS foods for donation must be labeled.

Q. Can facilities that accept donated food receive expired food?

A. Food banks and other permit exempt charitable organizations may receive some products that are near or past the expiration date, with the exception of infant formula and baby food. Work with the specific organization to see what food products they accept.

Q. What are some examples of foods that can be donated?

A. Check with the permit exempt charitable organization receiving the donation, however most accept:

- Canned Meals: Stew, Soup, Spaghetti/Ravioli
- Protein: Peanut Butter, Canned Meats and Fish, Dried or Canned Beans
- Grains: Cereal, Oatmeal, Rice, Pasta, Breads

- Fruits: Canned Fruit, Dried Fruit, Applesauce, Fruit Juice
- Vegetables: Canned Vegetables, Unspoiled Produce
- Dairy: Milk, Cheese, Yogurt
- Kid-friendly Snacks: Granola Bars, Popcorn, Animal Crackers, Graham Crackers
- Baby Products: Formula, Infant Cereal, Baby Food (MUST NOT BE EXPIRED)

Q. Whom can I contact if I have questions regarding donating food?

A. Email: contactinfoenvironmentalhealth@snhd.org

For food donation safety tips:

FDA Surplus, Salvaged, and Donated Foods - Safety Tips

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/ucm197835.htm>