



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

Information Letter

FOOD TRUCKS AT SWIM MEETS

With 102 teams in the Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL), and with the large majority of those teams located in Fairfax County, there can be as many as 45 or more Saturday swim meets occurring during the summer months, with many teams also holding Monday and/or Wednesday night meets. While some swim clubs do have concession stands on their premises, many do not, and rely on parents to provide and sell food and drinks at the meets. Some swim clubs are now inviting food trucks to locate on their private property to sell food and drinks to the swim meet attendees. To adhere to Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance requirements, those swim clubs who want to invite food trucks to their meets must follow certain guidelines:

1. Contact the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1380 to determine the zoning district of the subdivision or pool property and to determine whether the property is governed by a special permit for the community pool.

- A. **If the property is governed by a special permit**, contact the Zoning Evaluation Division at 703-324-1290 to request information on how to apply for a special permit amendment to allow food trucks as an accessory use to the community pool. Information on completing and submitting a special permit application may be found at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/applications/>

Once approved, the special permit amendment will run with the property and will be valid for the duration of the pool use. The approved special permit amendment should be posted in the pool clubhouse to be visible to the public.

- B. **If the property is not governed by a special permit**, food trucks are not allowed to vend on the property unless it is in conjunction with a special event, in which case, a temporary special permit must be issued for that event by the Zoning Evaluation Division.

When selecting food trucks to vend at swim meets, the swim club should follow these guidelines:

1. Confirm that the food truck vendor has obtained a valid permit from the Fairfax County Health Department. This permit is required to be posted on the windshield of the food truck, much like a state inspection sticker, and will indicate the current year for which it is valid.
2. Confirm that the food truck vendor employees have obtained solicitor licenses from Fairfax County.
3. Food trucks must be invited to the swim meet by the property owner.
4. Food trucks shall operate for a maximum of four (4) hours in any one (1) day at any one (1) location, including set-up and break-down.

5. A maximum of three (3) food trucks shall be permitted at any one (1) location at the same time. Additional food trucks may be permitted in conjunction with temporary special permits or other special events regulated by any proffered condition, development condition, special permit or special exception.
6. Food trucks shall not be in any fire lane, travel lane, entrance/exit or any required parking space.
7. Food trucks shall be located on a level, paved, or gravel surface with safe pedestrian access. The vicinity around the food truck must be kept clean and free of debris. Trash receptacles shall be provided.

Note: Items 4 – 6 apply to food truck location permits issued for commercial or industrial properties in accordance with Sect. 2-510 of the Zoning Ordinance; however, if they are approved on a community pool via the special permit process, the Board of Zoning Appeals can make and condition the rules. As such, the pool club may choose to propose similar conditions to these for inclusion in their specific special permit.