

Food Vendor Permit Information

If you operate a Mobile Food Unit from a single location within Bandera City Limits for a period of 15 days or more, you must have a Texas State Health Permit as required by the State. Carlos Mora is the Bandera County Inspector. He can be reached via email (jeancarlos@moracolon@dshs.texas.gov) or phone (512-963-7213). This inspection is done after receiving the State permit.

If you are selling only pre-packaged food or canned or bottled drinks, you are considered a Trade Vendor and a health permit is not required. You must still have a valid vendor permit issued by the City of Bandera.

If you are selling food prepared on site at a vendor market, other organized event, or on private property within Bandera City Limits you must have a Temporary Texas State Health Permit and a Food Handler's Card as required by the State.

These permits are valid for up to 14 days. To apply for a Temporary Texas State Health Permit, go to:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/retail-food-establishments/permitting-information-retail-food-establishments#Temporary%20Retail%20Food%20Establishments>

There are two options:

1. Temporary Food Establishment Single Event Permit Application – Valid for ONE event.
2. Temporary Food Establishment Multi Event Permit Application – Valid for TWO YEARS.

Submit the application to the State 30 days prior to the event date to allow enough time for a permit to be issued.

Call 512-834-6626 for questions about Texas State Health Department Licensing.

Other City of Bandera Food Vendor Permit Application Requirements:

- **Copy of valid driver's license or state issued ID**
- **Copy of Texas State Sales Tax Certificate**
- **Copy of valid General Liability Insurance**

***Cottage Law Food Vendors are required by Texas Law to have a Food Handler's Card.**

Cottage vendors still require a Vendor Permit from the City. The following must be submitted with the permit application:

- **Valid ID**
- **Tax Certificate**
- **Proof of General Liability Insurance**
- **Copy of Food Handler's Card**

A cottage food production operation is defined as an individual, operating out of the individual's home who produces:

- Baked Goods
- Candy
- Coated & Uncoated Nuts
- Unroasted Nut Butters
- Fruit Butters
- Canned Jam or Jelly
- Fruit Pies
- Dehydrated Fruits or Vegetables
- Whole, (uncut) frozen Fruits or Vegetables
- Popcorn, Popcorn Snacks, Cereal & Granola
- Dry Mixes (including Herbs & Herb Mixes)
- Vinegar
- Pickles
- Mustard
- Roasted Coffee & Dry Tea
- Fermented vegetables with a pH of 4.6 or less
- Pickled fruits or vegetables with a pH of 4.6 or less

Any items that require refrigeration to keep from spoiling are not allowed under Cottage Law – Including Beverages, fresh fruit, fresh salsa, Charcuterie boards, pickled eggs, low acid foods, puddings and cream pies as well as some types of cakes.

Visit <https://cottagefoodlaw.com/allowed-foods/> for a more comprehensive list of foods not allowed under cottage law.

Fees:

Refer to the Unified Vendor Permit Application for fees.

Set-up Locations:

DO NOT set up in a Texas Department of Transportation right-of-way.

There are several Market Day events throughout the year sponsored by either Bandera Business Association or Bandera Chamber of Commerce.

NON-organized events are allowed as follows:

- Place Types P1(Civic Space) & P6 (city easement) – Approval from City of Bandera.
- Place Types P4 &P5 (Commercial areas) – Submit a letter of permission from the business/private property owner with the permit application.
- Permits are Site and Event specific. Each requires its own application and fee.

Signs:

See the Bandera Code & Ordinances page for information pertaining to any signs you intend to display as part of your booth or mobile food unit. Feather signs are prohibited in the City Limits & ETJ.