

June 16, 2008

MEMORANDUM

To: Food Service Operators, Regulators and Other Interested Parties

From: Clancie D. Pullen, Environmental Health Supervisor
Environmental Health Section

Subject: Collection of Permit Fees for Temporary Food Establishments

On July 1, 2008, local health departments across the state will begin collecting permit fees for temporary food establishments (TFE). Permit fees for all permitted food service operations, with some specified exceptions, have been mandated by N.C. General Statute 130A-248(d) since 1990. This law currently sets a \$50.00 fee for each permit issued.

As a condition for being exempted from many of the rules that apply to other food service establishments, TFE are permitted to operate no more than 15 days for each event. The permit fee is charged for each permit issued, and a new permit is issued for a TFE under the following situations:

- a) Change of location or special event
- b) Period of operation exceeds 15 days per calendar year (days do not have to be continuous)
- c) Change in operation, including food served or facilities

A new permit is not required for TFE operating during the same event or during a seasonal series event at the same location, if total operation is no more than 15 days.

Local health departments have established procedures for the inspection and permitting of food service operations and for the collection of fees. TFE operators should contact the local health department in the county where the TFE will be operated in advance of the event, according to these procedures. This is necessary to assure your TFE is scheduled for an inspection and to avoid delays in getting your establishment permitted for a particular event.

Fees for other foodservice facilities, such as restaurants, mobile food units and limited food service establishments, will continue to be collected at the state level, as usual.

If you have questions, please contact the Environmental Health staff of the local health department or Bart Campbell, Chief, Environmental Health Services Section, at (919) 715-7148.