



**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND  
**HEALTHIER COMMUNITY**

Chelan-Douglas Health District  
200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
**Personal Health:** 509/886-6400 \* FAX 886-6478  
**Environmental Health:** 509/886-6450 \* FAX 886-6449

## Farmers' Market

While individuals may sell unprocessed fruits, vegetables, berries, or any other farm produce without a permit from the Health District, individuals or groups selling or serving food at Farmers' Markets may need a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#). Health District recurring permits are good for the Farmers' Market season, including the spring/summer and winter markets. Below, we have outlined the permitting requirements for foods commonly sold at farmers' markets. We know the rules are sometimes complicated and confusing, so feel free to contact us if you have additional questions.

### **Fresh Juices & Apple Cider**

Freshly squeezed juices and beverages prepared onsite containing juices from fruits, vegetables, fresh herbs, and grass will require a [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#).

All unpasteurized juices prepared onsite need a Consumer Advisory. Other beverages that contain sliced or blended fruit and/or vegetables as an ingredient in a mixture (e.g., fruit smoothies, milkshakes, and lemon water) do not need a consumer advisory.

Packaged juices brought to the market, from a source that is regulated by the FDA or the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA\*) do not require a Permit. Sampling of the product may require a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#).

### **Baked Goods**

Baked goods sold or served at Farmers' Markets must be made in an approved kitchen; this includes WSDA Cottage Food Operations. All baked goods require either a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#), WSDA Cottage Food Operation Permit, or WSDA Food Processor's License.

Some baked goods may be exempt from permitting. Refer to our [Exemption from Food Establishment Permit Application](#) for a listing of foods that may qualify for exemption and how to obtain approval for exempt status.

### **Coffee & Coffee Beans**

Hot coffee served directly into a disposable cup may be served or sold without a permit. Powdered/UHT creamer and sugar may be offered to the customer for the coffee. Serving milk or cream is not allowed without a Health District [Temporary Food](#)

[Establishment Permit](#). Coffee beans may be offered for sale without a Health District Temporary Food Establishment Permit. You will need a WSDA Food Processors License to roast coffee beans.

### **Espresso**

Espresso, lattes, and Italian sodas, etc. require a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#).

### **Eggs**

Farmers selling eggs must be licensed by the Washington State Department of Licensing (WSDOL)\* as an Egg Handler/Dealer. Eggs must be cooled in a refrigeration unit to 45°F or less and held at 45°F or less while at the market. A Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) is also required.

### **Fish**

Whole frozen or fresh fish refrigerated or stored on ice, may be sold at the Farmers' Market with a Wholesale Fish Dealer's License from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) (360-902-2200). Exceptions to this requirement are:

- WDFW licensed commercial fishers with a direct WDFW Retail Endorsement selling salmon, crab and sturgeon are not required to obtain a Health District permit as long as the fish are not processed, but are subject to inspection from the Health District;
- Filleting of fish requires a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#);
- If fish are further processed (e.g., smoked or cooked), a WSDA\* Food Processor License is required;
- A retail seller who has purchased whole fish from a licensed wholesale dealer and is selling strictly to retail does not require a Health District permit as long as the fish are not processed.

### **Fresh Fruits & Vegetables**

Farmers selling fresh salad mixes in which the greens are cut or chopped and/or when sold as "ready to eat" are required to have a WSDA\* Food Processing License.

Any farmer or gardener may sell unprocessed farm produce without a permit from the Health District. Farmers that offer individual samples of sliced fruits and vegetables must submit a Health District [Exemption from Food Establishment Permit Application](#).

### **Guest Chefs**

A [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) is required when chefs cook with the ingredients available at the Farmers' Market and give samples for the public to eat. If the food item is used for recipe demonstration only and is not served to or tasted by the public a permit is not required.

### **Herbs**

Fresh cut herbs—see Fresh Fruits and Vegetables above. Mechanically dried herbs or herbs dried for tea require a WSDA Food Processor License.

## **Honey**

A Health District permit is not required. Beekeepers that extract their own honey and sell it in the raw form do not need a WSDA\* Food Processor's License. If ingredients, flavors, or honey from other sources are added, then a WSDA Food Processor's License is required.

## **Jams and Jellies**

Jams and jellies are a processed food and require a WSDA\* Food Processors License or a WSDA Cottage Food Operation Permit. A Health District Permit is not required to sell them at the market. Contact WSDA to obtain a Food Processors License packet or the Cottage Food Operation Packet. A [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) may be required for sampling.

## **Meat**

Farmers can sell fresh or frozen USDA-inspected meat with mechanical or non-mechanical refrigeration. You must also submit a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) application.

## **Milk and Dairy Products**

Farmers selling milk, cheese, butter, and/or other dairy products directly to consumers must obtain a milk producer license and milk processing plant license from WSDA\*. A Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) is also required. Raw milk may not be sampled.

## **Mushrooms**

Wild or cultivated mushrooms may be sold at Farmers' Markets. A Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) is required. The food establishment that sells or serves mushroom species picked in the wild must have a written buyer specification that requires identification of:

- 1) The Latin binomial name, the author of the name, and the common name of the mushroom species;
- 2) That the mushroom was identified while in the fresh state;
- 3) The name of the person who identified the mushroom;
- 4) A statement as to the qualifications and training of the identifier, specifically related to mushroom identification
- 5) Shall keep written documentation supplied by the mushroom identifier for any wild harvested mushrooms offered for sale or service on file for ninety days after receipt.

## **Nuts**

For roasted nuts or candy-coated nuts you must submit a Health District [Exemption from Food Establishment Permit Application](#).

## **Poultry**

A poultry farm or processing business that slaughters from one to 19,999 small birds (e.g., chicken, pigeon, and duck) or one to 4,999 turkeys annually must have a WSDA\* Food Processors License to sell their small birds and turkeys at the Farmers' Markets. If

20,000 or more small birds, or 5,000 or more turkeys per year, are slaughtered, then a USDA inspector is required. A Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) is also required.

### **Prepared Foods and Food Service**

Individuals or groups that offer food and beverages prepared and served for consumption on site must obtain a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) or have a Health District permitted mobile unit.

### **Processed foods**

Jams, jellies, pickled products, salsa, chutneys, sauces, dried herbs, teas, or any other processed foods to be sold or distributed to the public at Farmers' Markets must be commercially prepared or from a licensed WSDA\* Food Processor. Or jam, jellies, fruit butter, vinegar, and dried mixes may be from a WSDA Cottage Food Operation. A [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#) may be required for sampling.

### **Tea**

Hot tea served directly into a disposable cup may be served or sold without a Health District permit. Powdered/UHT creamer/non-dairy creamer and sugar may be offered to the customer for the tea. Serving milk or cream requires a Health District [Temporary Food Establishment Permit](#). Tea leaves or herbs for tea may be offered for sale without a Health District Temporary Food Establishment Permit. Mechanically dried herbs for tea require a WSDA\* Food Processor License.

### **Wine, Beer, Hard Cider**

The Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB\*) must license alcohol-containing beverages.

\*Contact Information:

Washington State Department of Agriculture

Phone: 360-902-1967

Website: [http://agr.wa.gov/AboutWSDA/Divisions/FS-CS\\_Div.aspx](http://agr.wa.gov/AboutWSDA/Divisions/FS-CS_Div.aspx)

Washington State Department of Licensing

Phone: 360-664-0116

Website: <http://www.dol.wa.gov/>

Washington State Liquor Control Board

Phone: 360-664-1721

Website: <http://liq.wa.gov/>

Chelan-Douglas Health District

Phone: 509-886-6450

Website: [cdhd.wa.gov](http://cdhd.wa.gov)