

Food Vendor FAQs

As of June 18, 2012

Who is eligible to get a Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle Permit?

Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle permits (food truck permits) can be issued to any vendor holding a Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle license from the City of Minneapolis.

How to do I get a permit?

Go to Minneapolisparks.org, click on the Permits & Reservations link on the left side of the page and choose Mobile Food Vendor Vehicle Permits. Complete and submit the online form with payment for the permit fee.

How much does a permit cost?

The cost of a permit is \$35 per day Monday-Friday, and \$100 per day Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

How long is the permit good for?

One calendar day, and only during park hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Is more than one permit allowed per location?

Yes. Up to two permitted mobile food vendors will be allowed at each location per day.

I own several food trucks. Can I apply for multiple permits at the same time?

All permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis, so all permit requests must be done one at a time.

How far in advance can I apply for a permit?

Two days.

Can I purchase a permit any other way than through the Internet?

Vendors interested in purchasing a same day permit may do so by calling 612-230-6400 during customer service hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Which parks will allow food trucks?

The only locations within the Minneapolis Park System where food trucks are allowed are:

Crown Roller Parking Lot (*located near the entrance to the Stone Arch Bridge off West River Parkway*)
Bryn Mawr Parking Lot
Wabun Parking Lot

North Mississippi Parking Lot
Webber Parking Lot
Northeast Parking Lot
Theodore Wirth Beach Parking Lot
Bossen Field Parking Lot

Why aren't food trucks allowed at all parks?

Additional locations may be added in the future. However, there are no plans to issue mobile food vendor permits at parks where the Park Board has food service partners, including Lake Harriet, Lake Calhoun and Minnehaha Park.

Other than the permit fee, are there other costs to operate a food trucks in the parks?

Only licensed and inspected Minneapolis Food Truck operators are allowed to operate in the park system. If you are not a licensed Minneapolis Food Truck operator you must first obtain the necessary license from the City of Minneapolis before a permit will be granted.

Additionally, food trucks must park in the parking lot designated on their permit. Parking on the grass or pathways is not allowed. In parking lots that charge for parking, each food truck operator must pay the parking fee for the number of stalls and for the time the truck occupies the parking spaces.

What if the parking lot is full when I arrive?

No refunds will be given for any reason once the permit has been issued, including a lack of available parking spaces. We recommend that you arrive early to ensure parking is available.

If the parking lot is full and there are parking spots open on the parkway, can I park there?

No. You must park only in the lot indicated on your permit. If you park anywhere else you may be issued a citation.

Do I need to print out my permit and keep it with me?

Yes. Permits should be posted on the bottom right-hand corner of the vehicle windshield (passenger side) so that Minneapolis Park and Recreation staff or Minneapolis Park Police officers can see that your food truck has a permit. Additionally staff and Minneapolis Park Police officers will receive daily lists of food vendors that have been issued a permit as well as a list of all Minneapolis licensed food truck operators.

Does the Park Board let people know which food trucks are at what park locations?

No. All food truck operators are responsible for their own marketing efforts.

What happens if another food truck without a permit shows up?

If you see a non-permitted food vendor at a Minneapolis Park, please call the Park Police at 911.

Food trucks found operating without a permit or in areas not designated in the list above will be subject to a citation and will not be issued a permit for the remainder of 2012.