



FOOD TRUCKS

As Regulated by the Zoning Ordinance

On Properties in the City of Columbus

Food Truck: A large vehicle equipped with facilities for cooking and/or selling food.

Did You Know?

The right-of-way is the publicly-owned property in which a street is located and usually includes the street, sidewalk, and some lawn area behind the sidewalk.

Other Temporary Uses:

The following are other temporary uses that are considered retail. These would follow the same options for temporary placement (as listed to the right):

- * Fireworks Stand
- * Flower Stand
- * Produce Stand
- * T-shirt Stand
- * Meat Truck
- * Cookie Stand

Required:

All food trucks require permitting with the Bartholomew County Health Department (812-379-1550 ext.2).

Options for Temporary Placement:

(1) As a guest of a business (invited by a business as a convenience for their employees and customers, intended to serve only the people onsite)

⇒ Not Regulated by the Zoning Ordinance.

(2) As part of a special event, like a farmers market or community block party (with approval of the event coordinators)

⇒ Not Regulated by the Zoning Ordinance.

(3) In the public right-of-way, but not part of an event (typically in parking spaces along a street or on a sidewalk, intended to serve the general public)

⇒ Not Regulated by the Zoning Ordinance.

⇒ For uses in the right-of-way, contact City Engineering at engineering@columbus.in.gov.

(4) On private property (with permission of the property owner and intended to serve the general public)

⇒ Regulated by the Zoning Ordinance and processed through the Planning Department.

- **Location:** A food truck is considered a mini-restaurant. A restaurant is permitted in the following zoning districts: CD (Commercial: Downtown Center), CDS (Commercial: Downtown Support), CN (Commercial: Neighborhood Center), CC (Commercial: Community Center), and CR (Commercial: Regional Center).
- **Permission:** The food truck owner needs to get permission from the property owner to sell from their lot.
- **Approval Process:** Submit a Zoning Compliance Certificate Application for a temporary use with the Planning Department. The application must include a site plan to verify placement on the property. The food truck can not take up required parking and must meet applicable setbacks.
- **Time Limit:** Temporary uses are permitted for a maximum of 60 days per calendar year.
- **Signage:** 1 temporary sign, no more than 32 square feet in area is allowed (in addition to any signs/decorations on the truck itself).

