

Guidance to Community Events for Wineries and Breweries

Attention: If your tasting room is open to the public, a permit or permit exemption is required to serve beer or wine.

Please answer the questions below to determine whether your tasting room requires a Temporary Food Facility (TFF) permit to participate in a community event:

Start Here	Criteria	Yes	No
Step 1	Will any food (except wine/beer) be sold, served, sampled, given away or otherwise provided at the event? Note: Food is defined as any item including beverages (excepting wine/beer) that can be ingested, whether prepared on-site, prepackaged, bottled or canned.	Go on to Step 2	TFF permit NOT required
Step 2	Will the food be served off the premises, for example, on a public sidewalk/street in front of the tasting room?	TFF permit required	Go on to Step 3
Step 3	Does your winery have a current extensive preparation level food facility permit ?	No TFF permit required	Go on to Step 4
Step 4	Does your winery have a current moderate or minimal preparation level food facility permit ?	TFF permit may be required*	TFF permit required

*A TFF permit is required if the food provided at the event is at a preparation level higher than the current food facility permit. Please see the description of preparation levels below.

If food will be served outdoors, a tent or booth to provide overhead protection is required. Sides are required when active food preparation is conducted within.

If hiring a caterer, you must still abide by the permit requirements as stated above. The caterer must have a valid permit, verified by Sonoma County Environmental Health.

Preparation Levels

Extensive Preparation

This category includes most temporary food facilities that prepare or serve hot potentially hazardous food (PHF). Extensive Preparation permits are issued to temporary food facilities that engage in sampling, cooking, packaging, portioning, assembling, processing, or hot holding of PHF.

Moderate Preparation (*potentially hazardous foods*)

Moderate Preparation permits are issued for temporary food facilities that sell or give away unpackaged potentially hazardous foods or that conduct “limited-food preparation” as defined in the California Retail Food Code.

Minimal Preparation (*including sampling*)

Minimal Preparation permits are issued for temporary food facilities that sell or give away processed food, including temporary food facilities that conduct low-risk food preparation such as coffee and lemonade. Temporary food facilities that prepare samples by cutting or portioning of food (including produce) as well as those that sell prepackaged potentially hazardous foods items such as prepackaged cheese and ice cream would also fit into this category.

Prepackaged/No Food Preparation (*non-potentially hazardous food*)

Prepackaged/No Food Preparation permits are issued for temporary food facilities that sell or give away prepackaged, non-potentially hazardous food. Whole produce is also included in this category.

Please feel free to contact our offices at (707) 565-6565 if you are unsure whether you require a TFF permit.

To obtain a TFF permit application please contact us at the phone number above, come to our offices or visit our website at www.sonoma-county.org/health/services/foodTFF.asp.