



Florence County Health Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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Religious, Charitable and Non-Profit Organizations are Exempt from Obtaining a License

[Florence, WI] –

The Florence County Health Department would like to remind all religious, charitable, or non-profit organizations that they are exempt from obtaining a license under ATCP 75.063 for the following scenarios:

1. “A religious, charitable or non-profit organization occasionally (12-days per calendar year) may operate a retail food establishment-not serving meals (75.063(6)).”

This means that 12 days out of the calendar year (Jan.1 – Dec. 31) any one of the above-mentioned entities may hold an event **without obtaining** a license from the Florence County Health Department. **NOT SERVING MEALS** includes any of the following items that you are allowed to serve without being considered a meal:

- Beverages such as soft drinks, coffee, juices
- Ice cream
- Milk and milk drinks
- Ices
- Confections
- Grab-and-go packaged foods whether cold or from a hot case
- Deli case items sold by weight or volume
- Bakery items (breads, cakes, pastry, donuts, cookies, pie)
- Single-bite sized free food samples or an equivalent portion given away to demonstrate the characteristics of food.

**Any other items served, other than those listed above, may be considered a meal.

2. “A church, religious, fraternal, youth, patriotic or civic organizations or service clubs that occasionally (3-days per calendar year) **prepares, serves or sells meals** to transients or the general public (75.063 (7))” is also **exempt** from obtaining a license from the Florence County Health Department. For those organizations that “prepares, serves, or sells meals to transients or the general public more than 3-days per calendar year are required by state Administrative Rule 75 to obtain a license for a temporary restaurant.

You are, however, required to submit an **application** to the health department for any event that serves a meal or does not serve a meal and provides any type of food items. A copy of the Florence County Fee Exempt Application may be obtained from the health department's website at [https://florencewipublichealth.com/food-service-inspections-permits.htm#xl Application-Forms](https://florencewipublichealth.com/food-service-inspections-permits.htm#xl_Application-Forms) or by calling Amber at the health department at 715-528-3428.

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