FOOD SERVICE GUIDELINES FOR EXHIBITORS

For the Safety of our Guests

The DECC is the exclusive supplier of food and beverages to all guests of the venue.

The DECC is a licensed food service operator by the Minnesota Department of Health. All other exhibitors and show producers must obtain a valid special event license for sampling foods in the DECC facility or DECC property from the MN State Health Department, www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/food/license. For questions in regard to obtaining this license, please contact Sara Bents with the State Health Department, 218-302-6184, sara.bents@state.mn.us.

Guidelines for Exhibitors

- Exhibitors may sell pre-packaged food and non-alcoholic beverages to be consumed at home. Exhibitors may not sell food and beverage for on-site consumption.

- Exhibitors may not bring in their own food or beverage for the purpose of attracting customers to their booth. They may purchase, in advance, items for give-away from the DECC Food Service Department.
  - Examples include but are not limited to: popcorn, pastries, coffee, salsa, etc.

- Ask your Event Planner about Alcohol Sampling Guidelines.

Exceptions to Guidelines

- Candy jars are acceptable.

- Exhibitors may distribute food or non alcoholic beverage samples to their customers if that exhibitor is specifically exhibiting those food and beverage items that pertain to their business.
  - Example: an ice cream company may distribute sample size ice cream serving to demonstrate their product.
  - Exhibitors may not charge for samples.
  - This exemption does not apply to any alcoholic beverage.

- An exhibitor who is not able to leave his/her booth unattended to take a meal break may discreetly furnish his/her own “brown bag” lunch or refreshments.

Not following the guidelines listed above will result in removal of unlicensed food and beverage products.

If there are any questions concerning these guidelines, please contact the Event Planning Department at 218.722.5573.

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350 Harbor Drive • Duluth, MN  55802-2698 • p. 218.722.5573 • f. 218.722.4247 • www.decc.org