



## **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](http://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](mailto: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.