

How to Obtain a Permit To Operate A Push Cart



**Madera County
Environmental Health Department
2037 W. Cleveland Ave
Madera CA 93637
(559) 675-7823 Fax (559) 675-7919**

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Step 1 - Application and Fees

Complete the health application form and submit to this office with the commissary form.

- **Commissary Form.** The Push Cart must operate out of an approved commissary and shall report there at least once daily for cleaning & service operations and to store left over food products. No food products or supplies may be stored at your personal residence. The owner/operator of the commissary must sign this form in the appropriate place and check the facilities you are using. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

Step 2 - Cart Inspection

- Inspections are by appointment only. You must contact (559) 675-7823 to schedule an appointment for an inspection.
- Carts must be constructed of smooth, easy to clean materials such as stainless steel, fiberglass reinforced plastic panels or other approved water-resistant materials. Unfinished wooden surfaces are prohibited. Construction joints shall be tightly fitted and sealed so as to be easily cleanable.
- The name of the business, city, state, ZIP Code, and name of the person obtaining the permit, if different from the name of the business, shall be permanently affixed to both sides of the cart so as to be legible and clearly visible to patrons of the Push Cart. The business name shall be in letters at least 3 inches in height and shall be of a color contrasting with the exterior of the Push Cart. Letters and numbers for the city, state, ZIP Code and the name of the permittee shall not be less than one inch in height.

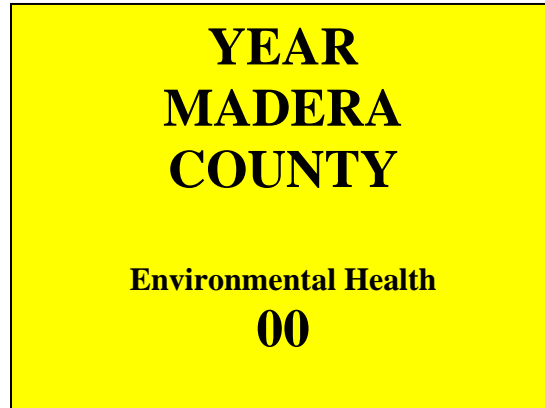
Step 3 – Pay Fees

When your vehicle passes inspection, you will pay Health Permit fees to the Environmental Health Dept. The health permit fee is to be paid yearly. The annual health permit fee is paid at the time you open and expires December 31 of every year you are in operation. If you start your business between July and December, your permit fee may be prorated. However, each January you will pay the full annual permit fee.

Step 4 - Health Permit

Once your application is approved, you will be issued a health permit and decal. (See sample below.) The decal is to be placed in a visible location on your cart. Your health

permit must be maintained on the cart at all times. Your health permit specifies what food items are approved for sale. Food prepared or stored at home is prohibited. Your health permit will expire on December 31 of that year.



Step 5 - Business License / Peddler's License

If you plan to operate in the county area, you will need a business/peddler's license from the Madera County. If you plan to operate in an incorporated area, such as the City of Madera or Chowchilla, you may need a Business License. Check with the city you plan to operate in to find out what their requirements are.

Step 6 - Permit Renewals

Your cart must pass inspection in order to renew your permit. You will receive information in the mail regarding the procedure to renew your permit. It is important that the mailing address and contact information is current on the application