

# FOOD TRUCKS

*"Mobile Food Units: A vehicle-mounted mobile food establishment, designed to be readily moveable."*



## Considerations for Regulating Food Trucks

- Many cities limit food trucks to non-residential districts, or establish distancing requirements from restaurants, residential districts, or other vendors
- Many cities require permits or licenses regardless of whether trucks operate on public or private property
- Many cities enact operational standards, including limited hours of operation, mandated access to restrooms, or sanitation requirements
- Many cities require waste receptacles for every mobile food vending unit and some further require waste to be removed from a site daily
- Some cities allow for food truck parks for multiple vendors at one site
- Cities have successfully navigated concerns from restaurant owners and other members of the public

## Additional Guides

**Department of State Health Services Regulations:**

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/foodestablishments/pdf/GuidanceDocs/23-15129-Guidelines-for-MFU-w-Citations-04152019.pdf>

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Compliance:**

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/industry/food-trucks-compliance-resources>

**American Planning Association Regulating Food Trucks:**

<https://planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com/document/open-EIP36.pdf>

## Updated Mobile Vendor Regulations in the News

[El Campo](#) recently denied a proposed \$50 fee for food trucks parking on city owned property.

[Montgomery](#) removed a \$1,000 bond requirement for mobile food vendors and gave the city greater flexibility to designate where vendors may operate.

[Conroe](#) city council has discussed removing a two-hour operation restriction on mobile food vendors.

[Tomball](#) adopted a land-use category—Mobile Food Court—that allows business owners to create an outdoor dining area with multiple food trucks parked for an extended time.

[Richardson](#) amended their ordinance to restrict operation hours for vendors without a special permit.

[Frisco](#) expedited permitting to streamline the experience for mobile vendors. The city's [mobile unit vendor ordinance](#) restricts where trucks can park.