



MOBILE VENDORS (MV)

For more information, refer to [Chapter 5.30 SMC](#)

WHAT IS A MOBILE VENDOR?

A Mobile Vendor (MV) is a type of business that sells food and beverages at a temporary location from a licensed vehicle or concession stand. Vendors are required to have a business license with a City of Snohomish endorsement, and a Mobile Vendor Site permit is required for the proposed location.

Mobile Food Vendors are regulated by the Snohomish County Department of Health, and the vending unit has to meet the standards of the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries Factory Assembled Structures program, in addition to being licensed by the Washington State Department of Licensing.

WHERE ARE THEY ALLOWED?

Mobile Vendors may be permitted on any private property and in select parks. Vendors may be located on the premises for up to 12 hours in a 24-hour period. There are separation restrictions from flammable or combustible storage structures and units cannot obstruct pedestrians or vehicles.

WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR OPERATING IN THE CITY?

Mobile Vendors may be within a permitted location for up to 12 hours at a time. Mobile Food Vendors must be licensed through the Snohomish County Department of Health and the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries. The vehicle itself must also have a valid license. MVs may not create a sight or safety obstruction; they must provide a trash can; and all appurtenances must be attached to the vehicle. Other requirements may be found in Chapter 5.30 SMC.

HOW LONG IS THE PERMIT VALID?

An approved Mobile Vendor Site permit is valid for one year from the date of issuance. This means that when you apply, you should include as many sites as you intend to be located throughout the year, to avoid additional permits.

WHAT IS THE REVIEW PROCESS?

All MV Site applications are made online through the [Permit Portal](#). Site plans and any other uploads can be attached as PDFs or JPGs. For more information review the MV Site Permit [Application Requirements](#), and to get started on the Portal, visit www.snohomishwa.gov/661/Permitting.

CAN I OPERATE IN A PARK?

Parks that are adjacent to Commercial zones have areas that can be reserved for Mobile Food Vendors and/or concessions stands. These include Averill Field, Ferguson Park, Kla Ha Ya Park, and Pilchuck Park. Vendors that wish to set up at a park should apply for a MV Site permit and reserve one of the predesignated park sites ([separate park reservation](#)(s) are required).

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A VEHICLE?

Vendors without vehicles do not meet the same definition of Mobile Food Vendors in Chapter 5.30 SMC, but they may still be allowed to operate under the same license type. These vendors may be considered concessions stands, farm stands, or other types of temporary vendors depending on what is being sold and the type of equipment being used.

Applicants are encouraged to contact permits@snohomishwa.gov with questions and/or information about their specific business operations to find out what will be required.

CAN I HAVE AN EVENT IN THE STREET?

Yes, with a Special Event Permit. For more information, contact info@snohomishwa.gov or visit www.snohomishwa.gov/411/Special-Event-Permit.

NOTE: This information should not be used as a substitute for City codes and regulations. You should review all the details of your project with the Planning and Development Services Department at 116 Union Avenue (360) 568-3115.