

Wild Game Event – Guidelines

To serve wild game in the District of Thunder Bay, **all** requirements of the Ontario Food Premises Regulation 562 must be met in full. If any requirements are not met, approval of the event could be cancelled.

Some sections of the regulation that relate to wild game are highlighted below. For questions about the regulation, please contact a public health inspector at 625-5930 or toll-free at 1-888-294-6630, ext. 5930.

A food premise may have on the premises uninspected meat obtained through hunting that is handled, prepared and stored for the sole purpose of serving it at a wild game dinner or a wild game event, if the following conditions are met:

- The uninspected meat is handled, prepared and stored so that it does not come into contact with other food before the other food is served.
- A ticket must be given to each person attending the wild game event (see *Wild Game Event – Ticket Sample*). These must be given each time wild game is served. This ticket must clearly state that the meat has not been inspected in accordance with either Ontario Regulation 31/05 (Meat) made under the *Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001* or the *Meat Inspection Act (Canada)*.
- The operator must keep a list of all patrons (See *Wild Game Event – Patron List*) that attend the wild game event and must provide a copy of the list to a public health inspector upon request. The list must contain each patron's name, address and telephone number in full. **If the patron is of “diminished capacity” or under the age of 12, informed consent from a guardian must be obtained.**
- Signage must be posted in a conspicuous location (i.e., where it can easily be seen) at the entrance to the venue. Signage must be of permanent in nature when posted (e.g. no white boards/chalk boards). Signage must be posted each and every time wild game is served. The signage must clearly state that the meat has not been inspected in accordance with either Ontario Regulation 31/05 (Meat) under the *Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001* or the *Meat Inspection Act (Canada)*. For more information, see *Wild Game Event – Sample Signage*.

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- The operator must keep a list of all persons who donate uninspected meat for a wild game event (See *Wild Game Event – Donation List*) and must provide a copy of the list to a public health inspector upon request. The list must contain each donor's name, address and telephone number in full, and the name of the species from which the donated meat was obtained.
- All utensils, equipment and food contact surfaces used in connection with uninspected meat must be washed and sanitized before being used in connection with any other food, including inspected meat. Please contact a public health inspector with any questions about this requirement.

Additional requirements

- An alternative menu option must be offered. Wild game cannot be the only item offered for cases where individuals do not want to consume uninspected meat.
- All wild game must be maintained at an internal temperature of 4°C (40°F) or lower while refrigerated.
- All wild game is to be defrosted in a refrigerator, under cold running water or in a microwave. If using a microwave, it must be cooked or reheated immediately after thawing.
- Probe thermometers must be used to verify final internal cooking temperatures (See *Wild Game Event – Final Cook Temperatures*).
- Adequate refrigerated storage space must be provided so that all wild game is kept separate from all other food items.
- All wild game must be labeled with the type of meat, date it was butchered and name of donor.
- Adequate freezer space must be provided to ensure separation of wild game from all other food items.
- All surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized prior to any other food preparation.
- Adequate separation must be in place to prevent cross contamination of wild game and any other food item.

All requirements of Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) must be met. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Serve only wild caught fish or game wildlife that was:
 - Legally obtained under a valid hunting, trapping or recreational fishing license.

AND

- Donated to be served at the event.
- Event must be hosted for a charitable purpose and all profits from the event must go to that purpose.
- Record all revenues and expenditures and the manner in which the profits were used for the charitable purpose and keep these records for one year after the event.

See *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* and *Ontario Regulation 665/98 (hunting)* or contact your local MNR office for additional information or questions. The provincial toll-free number is 1-800-667-1940.