



Health & Human Services
2100 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, Illinois 60201
T 847.859-7831
TTY 847.448.8064
www.cityofevanston.org

Animals in Food Service Establishments Prohibited

Animals, with the exception of service animals, are prohibited in food- service establishments, this includes outdoor cafes.

The City of Evanston Health and Human Services Department is mandated by the Illinois Department of Public Health to enforce the State of Illinois Food Service Safety Code. Through the adoption of the FDA Code (2013) this issue is specifically addressed:

6-501.115 Prohibiting Animals. (A) Except as specified in parts (B) and (C) of this section, live animals may not be allowed on the PREMISES of a FOOD ESTABLISHMENT

Per the FDA code, paraphrasing parts B and C the only allowable animals on the premises of a food establishment include:

1. Edible or Decorative fish in aquariums or in display tanks
2. Patrol Dogs accompanied by police or security
3. Service Animals provided they are controlled by the patron

Specific information regarding service animals can be found on the following websites:

- Illinois Attorney General: <http://www.ag.state.il.us/rights/servanimals.html>
- Americans with Disabilities Act website: https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm

Please keep in mind animals can carry diseases, cause allergic reactions, may produce waste, carry fleas, bark or exhibit aggressive behaviors. If the City of Evanston receives a complaint regarding animals in your establishment a staff member will perform an inspection and issue a citation. Failure to comply may result in fines of \$500.00 per day of violation. Please assist us in keeping your patrons and animals safe.

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