SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DIVISION OF LICENSURE & ACCREDITATION

Health Protection

June 2, 2026

RE: Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, August 7-16, 2026

Dear Rally Food Service Vendor:

To help make the licensing and inspection process more efficient and convenient for everyone, the South Dakota Department of Health (SDDOH) is requesting that all food vendors planning to operate during the 2026 Sturgis Motorcycle Rally pre-apply in advance. New this year, applications and payment may be completed online at https://sddoh.safefoodinspection.com. After creating an account, you will find instructions on how to complete the online application.

NOW through JULY 30: Pre-Application Period
All applications submitted during this period will be processed. If you already know when you will be ready for your pre-operational inspection, you may schedule it at this time by calling 605-773-8107.

Beginning at 1:00 PM August 4: On-Site Application Period
Applications may be processed in person at Sturgis City Hall, 1040 Harley-Davidson Way, Sturgis, SD.
You must report in person to complete an application, credit card payment, and/or schedule a pre-operational inspection.
If you have already pre-applied online, you may contact Charlotte with SDDOH at 605-280-6817 to schedule your pre-operational inspection.

Please remember that no temporary food service operation is permitted to begin operating without a pre-operational inspection conducted by SDDOH. Licenses will be issued in Sturgis only after a successful pre-operational inspection. DO NOT BEGIN FOOD OPERATIONS UNTIL YOU HAVE PASSED THE PRE-OPERATIONAL INSPECTION.

All menu items must be prepared on site. Marinating or vacuum sealing food prior to arrival in Sturgis is not allowed. SDDOH may grant exceptions only if approval is obtained in advance. Proof of inspection and process verification from your local regulatory authority will be required.

If you have any questions at all, please contact Lisa at 605-773-8107. To avoid any delays and ensure you are fully ready to operate by Rally time, we strongly encourage you to apply online and apply early.

Sincerely,

Tori O'Brien
Administrator
Office of Health Protection