# Town of Swansea Hospitality Tax

#### **Taxable & Exempt Items**

6/5/25



#### **General Rule**

The local hospitality tax is collected on sales of prepared foods, which are any foods and/or beverages—inclusive of alcoholic beverages, beer, and wine—prepared or modified by an establishment's employees or contractors which, at the time of sale, is ready for consumption by members of the public, regardless of the actual quantity, presentation, or packaging, without regard to the time of day of the sale. Basically, any prepared foods or meals that are subject to South Carolina sales tax are also subject to local hospitality tax.

The lists below are meant to serve as examples; they are not inclusive of all items that are subject to or exempt from the local hospitality tax.

### **Items Subject To Hospitality Tax**

# Produce cut, sliced, cored, or modified in store

- Hot & cold side items (e.g., salads, vegetables, macaroni & cheese, mashed potatoes, potato salad, coleslaw, etc.) prepared on site
- Bakery items cooked/baked on site (e.g., muffins, bagels, donuts, pastries, etc.)
- Oven-ready pizzas (whole or by the slice)
- Sandwiches, subs, hamburgers, hot dogs, or nachos made to order or made in advance
- Cooked chicken and seafood (e.g., wings, strips, fish filets, rotisserie chicken)
- Packaged dinners cooked on site
- Fountain drinks or frozen drinks (e.g., smoothies) dispensed from a fountain machine
- Hot beverages (coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cappuccino, etc.) dispensed from a brewing machine or brewed on site
- Ice cream and frozen yogurt, dipped or prepared in the establishment
- Foods and beverages prepared for catering
- Bulk or cold deli products "repackaged" for household consumption
- Party platters
- Served beverages, inclusive of beer, wine, and liquor

## **Items Exempt From Hospitality Tax**

- Canned or bottled drinks
- Pre-packaged foods in cans, boxes, or jars (not prepared or modified for immediate consumption)
- Re-packaged bulk foods (not prepared or modified for immediate consumption)
- Bags of chips, pretzels, nuts, candy, or other pre-packaged snack food items
- Any alcohol (including beer & wine) that is sold in cans or bottles and is not intended for consumption on the premises
- Whole fruit consolidated into a basket