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## 2022 FDA Food Code - Summary of Significant Changes

January 26, 2023

Dear Arlington Food Establishment Owner,

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released the 2022 edition of the [Food Code](#). [Arlington County Code Chapter 9.2, Food and Food Handling](#) adopts the most current version of the Food Code. This means that your establishment must comply with the changes immediately.

The significant changes in the 2022 Food Code include:

- Adding sesame as the 9th major [food allergen](#) to reflect the [Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act of 2021](#) (Chapter 1. Purpose and Definitions)
- Requiring food establishments to inform consumers, **in writing**, of major food allergens as ingredients in **unpackaged food** (3-602.12)
- Requiring food establishments to label major food allergens in bulk foods (e.g., baked goods) that are available for consumer self-dispensing (3-602.11)
- Requiring approval to allow pet dogs in outdoor dining spaces (6-501.115). Note: Arlington County already requires food establishments to [apply](#) for dog dining.
- Revising the definition of intact meat, including clarifying time/temperature cooking requirements (Chapter 1. Purpose and Definitions)

The 2022 Food Code and the full Summary of Changes are available on the [FDA website](#). If you have questions about the changes, please contact the Arlington County Public Health Division, Environmental Health Program at 703-228-7400 or email us at [ehealth@arlingtonva.us](mailto:ehealth@arlingtonva.us).

Thank you,



Evelyn Poppell, Bureau Director