

## **State Highway Administration Produce and Seafood Vendor Regulations**

- The State Highway Administration (SHA) fully supports the sale of local produce and seafood to the citizens of surrounding communities. SHA must ensure that a produce stand on a State maintained road is safe and complies with the law and SHA regulations.
- In the past, there was no State approval required for vendors to operate within State rights-of-way, posing serious safety concerns both for the vendors and customers. Therefore regulations were established to address those concerns and comply with State law. In spring 2011, SHA finalized regulations and they are published on the SHA website.
- A “mobile seafood or produce vendor” is defined as a person who sells or offers for sale seafood or produce:
  - while outdoors or on foot;
  - from any vehicle or conveyance; or
  - from any tent, temporary stand, roadside stand, roadside market, or other quarters that is not an established place of business.
- When located in the right-of-way of any State highway, a mobile seafood or produce vendor may not sell, or offer for sale, any seafood or produce unless the vendor has a lease from the State that allows the vendor to conduct business.
  - The State requires the mobile vendor to submit an application and pay a reasonable fee to be applied to administrative costs.
  - The State may not enter into a lease with a mobile vendor unless the applicable county licenses mobile vendors.
- To formalize the process and to ensure the safety of all parties involved, a produce or seafood vendor must submit a “*Produce/Seafood Vendor Permit*” application to the appropriate SHA District Office. Applications can be obtained by contacting the appropriate district office.
  - Go to [www.roads.maryland.gov](http://www.roads.maryland.gov) and click on Regional Information and Districts at the bottom of the home page. Follow the instructions to find the appropriate District office.

- SHA engineers will review the permit application and conduct site assessment and evaluations including, but not limited to:
  - ✓ *Traffic Safety Review* (including a crash history)
  - ✓ Environmental Review
  - ✓ Maintenance/Construction Review
  - ✓ Traffic Operations Review
  - ✓ Parking Assessment
  
- A copy of these regulations can be found at <http://www.roads.maryland.gov/index.aspx?PageId=690> (copy and paste this link to your browser).
  
- For more information regarding the Produce and Seafood Vendor policy please contact the Statewide Utility Engineer Nelson Smith at 443-572-5267 or [NSmith@sha.state.md.us](mailto:NSmith@sha.state.md.us).

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