



**St. Charles County Government  
Department of Community Health and the Environment**

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**HOW TO OBTAIN COMPLIANCE  
TO THE  
CONSUMER ADVISORY REQUIREMENT (§3-603.11)**

**Purpose** The purpose of this document is to assist customers in compliance to §3-603.11 of *St. Charles County Food Establishment-Consumer Advisory*.

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**Definition** *St. Charles County Food Establishment Code* addresses **Consumer Advisory** as follows:

**3-603.11 Consumption of Animal Foods that are Raw, Undercooked, or Not Otherwise Processed to Eliminate Pathogens.\***

Except as specified in Section 3-401.11(C) and Section 3-401.11(D)(3) and Section 3-801.11(D), if an animal food such as beef, eggs, fish, lamb, milk, pork, poultry, or shellfish that is raw, undercooked, or not otherwise processed to eliminate pathogens is offered in a ready-to-eat form as a deli, menu, vended, or other item; or as a raw ingredient in another ready-to-eat food the permit holder shall inform consumers by brochures, deli case or menu advisories, label statements, table tents, placards, or other effective written means of the increased risk associated with eating such foods in raw or undercooked form. Advisory information provided to the customer should be available in both English and Spanish.

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**Examples** Example of **consumer advisory** are brochures, deli case or menu advisories, label statements, table tents, placards, or other effective written means and should inform consumers of raw, undercooked animal foods. This includes food that is made to order (i.e, "I like my steak raw").

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**Contact** If you need additional information on the environmental public health program please contact the Environmental Public Health Program at 636-949-7400 ext. 4204

The following is from the FDA 2005 Food Code (§3-603.11):

**3-603.11 Consumption of Animal Foods that are Raw, Undercooked, or Not Otherwise Processed to Eliminate Pathogens.\***

- (A) Except as specified in ¶ 3-401.11(C) and Subparagraph 3-401.11(D)(3) and under ¶ 3-801.11(D), if an animal FOOD such as beef, EGGS, FISH, lamb, milk, pork, POULTRY, or shellfish is served or sold raw, undercooked, or without otherwise being processed to eliminate pathogens, either in READY-TO-EAT form or as an ingredient in another READY-TO-EAT FOOD, the PERMIT HOLDER shall inform CONSUMERS of the significantly increased RISK of consuming such FOODS by way of a DISCLOSURE and REMINDER, as specified in ¶¶ (B) and (C) of this section using brochures, deli case or menu advisories, label statements, table tents, placards, or other effective written means.
- (B) DISCLOSURE shall include:
  - (1) A description of the animal-derived FOODS, such as "oysters on the half shell (raw oysters)," "raw-EGG Caesar salad," and "hamburgers (can be cooked to order);" or
  - (2) Identification of the animal-derived FOODS by asterisking them to a footnote that states that the items are served raw or undercooked, or contain (or may contain) raw or undercooked ingredients.
- (C) REMINDER shall include asterisking the animal-derived FOODS requiring DISCLOSURE to a footnote that states:
  - (1) Regarding the safety of these items, written information is available upon request;
  - (2) Consuming raw or undercooked MEATS, POULTRY, seafood, shellfish, or EGGS may increase your RISK of foodborne illness; or
  - (3) Consuming raw or undercooked MEATS, POULTRY, seafood, shellfish, or EGGS may increase your RISK of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.