

RETAIL CONNECTIONS

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Say Hello to Our Retail Food Specialist Team

A new face you will see visiting your business is **Melissa Schneider**, the newest addition to our Retail Food Team. Melissa comes to Edmonton's Food Bank with 30 years experience in the retail food industry. Fifteen of those working in the produce department. She enjoys hiking, kayaking, and camping all while taking in the beautiful scenic sights of our country.

Melissa is available to show your staff how to rescue food for donation and can answer your questions about donating to Edmonton's Food Bank. Melissa is excited to stop by and say hello in the coming weeks.

She can be contacted at:

melissa.s@edmontonsfoodbank.com or 780.425.2133 ext. 239

Another contact for the Retail Food Program is **Susan Padget**. She has over ten years with Edmonton's Food Bank in Special Events and Community Relations. Susan has a background in communications and media. She has helped grow our number of retail partners through a combination of in-person store visits and communications. She writes and edits our Retail Connections newsletter, sharing information about how the Food Bank works and the impact of your donations. When not working she enjoys gardening and Edmonton's food and arts scenes.

She can be contacted at:

communications@edmontonsfoodbank.com or 780.425.2133 ext. 239

Feel free to reach out with any questions you have about donating surplus food to Edmonton's Food Bank.



Melissa Schneider
Retail Food Specialist

Susan Padget
Special Events and Communications



Reminder! We cannot accept:

- Food with interior packaging slashed or open
- Milk or yogurt that has been frozen
- Frozen breads
- Meat in opened packaging
- Meat not frozen on or before its best before date
- Produce that is moldy, soft, bruised, or discoloured.

Thank you for providing food to feed people in need!

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We are happy to work with your staff what we can accept.



For more information and resources or to **unsubscribe** to this newsletter, contact **Melissa** at 780.425.2133 ext. 239 or melissa.s@edmontonsfoodbank.com or **Susan** at 780.425.2133 ext. 236 or communications@edmontonsfoodbank.com

edmontonsfoodbank.com
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Best Before Date (BBD) Guidelines

Category	Items	Donate By*
 Produce	Perishable fresh fruit and vegetables	Assess for spoilage, freshness, blemishes, fruit flies; no visible decay, mold, or bio-degrading smell
	Shelf stable canned fruits and vegetables, pickles, sauces, or pastes	6 months past BBD
	Vendor packaged cut fruit and vegetables, salads, tofu, meat alternatives	On or before BBD
	Store made fruit and vegetable platters	On or before BBD
 Dairy & Eggs	Perishable milk and dairy alternatives, butter, yogurt, cheese, eggs, ice cream, sour cream	On or before BBD
	Shelf stable evaporated, powdered, or milk alternatives	On or before BBD
	Shelf stable baby formula	1 month prior to expiry date
 Protein	Raw meat and fish	Before BBD or freeze on BBD and donate frozen
	Cooked luncheon meats	On or before BBD
	Shelf stable canned meat, fish and beans; nuts, nut butters, peanut butter, seeds	6 months past BBD
 Bread/Grain	Perishable bread, buns, bagels, pitas, tortillas, flat bread, naan	Assess for spoilage, evidence of rodents; no visible decay, mold, or bio-degrading smell
	Dry, shelf stable cereal, crackers, flour, oats, pasta, rice, quinoa, meals or sides, energy bars	6 months past BBD
	Meal replacement or supplement bars	1 month prior to expiry date
 Baked Goods/ Snacks/Dessert	Perishable or instore made baked goods (ex. cakes, cookies, pies, danishes)	Before BBD or freeze on BBD and donate frozen
	Vendor packaged shelf stable cookies, chips, popcorn, bagged snacks, snack cakes, granola and energy bars	6 months past BBD
 Prepared Foods	Perishable single or mixed food that is pre-cooked or ready-to-eat; deli salads, pizza, sandwiches, prepared meals and sides not held hot	Immediately or freeze on BBD and donate frozen
	Perishable pasta, vendor packaged soups, dips, hummus, deli meat, sauces	On or before BBD or freeze on BBD and donate frozen
	Frozen dinners and microwavable meals	3 months past BBD
	Shelf stable canned soups, stews, and meals	6 months past BBD
	Shelf stable baby food	1 month prior to expiry date
 Condiments	Frozen sauces, gravies	3 months past BBD
	Shelf stable mustard, relish, ketchup, jam, margarine, mayonnaise, oil, salad dressing, vinegars, spices, sauces, toppings	6 months past BBD
 Beverages	Juice, water, coconut water, coffee, tea, sport or energy drinks, drink crystals	30 days past BBD
	Supplemental beverages (ex. Ensure)	1 month prior to expiry date
Items that cannot be donated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products that have been subject to product recall • Any items from the sushi department • Unpasteurized juices from a juice bar, infused waters or food sold buffet style • Food previously served to customers or returned to the store by customer • Food product where the label is missing • Foods that are held hot instore for sale in full or self-serve • Cans that are sharply dented, lacking labels, dented at the seal, and/or rusted or bloated. • Foods with an off odour or show signs of spoilage (slimy layer, mold or unusual colour) • Distressed foods that include foods that have been exposed to a power outage, fire, flood, excessive heat, smoke, radiation, and pest infestation • Pharmaceutical including over the counter drugs, natural health products, and medical devices • Items placed in the customer donation bin at the front of the store are NOT counted as rescued food. 	