

RETAIL CONNECTIONS

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Edmonton Comes Together to Feed People in Need

Traditionally, the time around the August long weekend has been one of our biggest summer food drives and this year was no exception. Our Heritage Festival Food Drive collected over 27,000 kg of food from donations at the festival site in stores. Thank you for your support!



Edmonton Food Drive

Our next large food drive is Saturday, September 27 with the city-wide Edmonton Food Drive. Six thousand volunteers will be going door-to-door throughout the city to collect food to help people in need.

You can support their efforts by having our most needed items marked on your shelves or hamper packs near the tills in case customers wish to donate.

EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK IS A CENTRAL WAREHOUSE FOR MORE THAN 380 AGENCIES, SCHOOLS, SOUP KITCHENS, AND SHELTERS.

Upcoming Food Bank Closures:

The food bank **will not** be available to pick up on the days below:

- August 30 to September 1 - Labour Day Weekend
- October 11 to 13 - Thanksgiving Weekend
- November 11 - Remembrance Day
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- December 26 - Boxing Day
- January 1 - New Year's Day 2026



Did You Know?

Garden season is nearing its end and we can accept any remaining packs of vegetable seeds you have.

Most seeds will last at least one more season and we can use them for our gardens or share them with other agencies next year.

Contact us to learn more.



For more information and resources or to **unsubscribe** from 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
[@yegfoodbank](https://www.instagram.com/yegfoodbank)



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. | |