



Temporary Outdoor Dining/Seating

All restaurants, as well as social organizations such as American Legions, VFWs, and Elks Clubs, that intend to provide outdoor dining must obtain the appropriate City of Westminster, Carroll County Health Department, and, if intending to sell alcohol, the Carroll County Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) approvals and adhere to the following strict public health requirements preventing the spread of COVID-19 consistent with the CDC, FDA, and the National Restaurant Association.

Restaurants must:

- Ensure patrons are appropriately distanced with no more than six people seated at a table, with the exception of members of the same household.
- Ensure patrons are seated at least six feet away from each other, except for members of the same household seated together.
- Use single-use disposable paper menus or sanitize reusable menus between each seating.
- Sanitize outdoor tables and chairs between each customer seating.
- Train staff in current COVID-19 health and workplace guidelines.
- Begin screening procedures including daily temperature checks of all staff.
- Ensure staff wear masks or face coverings when interacting with other employees or patrons.

If your restaurant is currently approved for outdoor seating pursuant to an approved site plan and building/use permit and are not exceeding the limits of the approved outdoor seating area, you may continue to offer outdoor seating subject to the State requirements listed above.

If your restaurant is not approved for outdoor seating or you would like to exceed the limits of an approved outdoor seating area, the City of Westminster Mayor and Common Council, in an effort to promote safer dining and support the restaurant industry, is allowing for temporary outdoor dining subject to the State requirements listed above and the following guidelines and procedures including the submission of an application for a [Sidewalk Use Permit for Temporary Outdoor Dining](#) for sidewalk dining areas or a [Simplified Site Plan](#) for parking lot dining areas.

If proposing outdoor dining in a location other than a sidewalk or parking lot, please email the Department of Community Planning and Development at planning@westgov.com with your proposed outdoor dining option and location for possible allowance and applicable process.