

**4658.0650 FOOD SUPPLIES.**

Subpart 1. **Food.** All food must be clean, wholesome, free from spoilage, free from adulteration and misbranding, and safe for human consumption. Canned or preserved food which has been processed in a place other than a commercial food-processing establishment is prohibited for use by nursing homes.

Subp. 2. **Food brought into nursing home.** Nonprohibited food items from noncommercial sources such as fresh produce, game, and fish may be brought into the nursing home in accordance with nursing home policy.

Subp. 3. **Food containers.** Food, whether raw or prepared, if removed from the container or package in which it was obtained, must be stored in a clean, covered container. The container need not be covered during necessary periods of preparation or service.

Subp. 4. **Storage of nonperishable food.** Containers of nonperishable food must be stored a minimum of six inches above the floor in a manner that protects the food from splash and other contamination, and that permits easy cleaning of the storage area. Containers may be stored on equipment such as dollies, racks, or pallets, provided the equipment is easily movable and constructed to allow for easy cleaning. Nonperishable food and containers of nonperishable food must not be stored under exposed or unprotected sewer lines or similar sources of potential contamination. The storage of nonperishable food in toilet rooms or vestibules is prohibited.

Subp. 5. **Storage of perishable food.** All perishable food must be stored off the floor on washable, corrosion-resistant shelving under sanitary conditions, and at temperatures which will protect against spoilage.

Subp. 6. **Prohibited storage.** The storage of detergents, cleaners, pesticides, and other nonfood items not related to the operation of the dietary service, including employees' personal items, is prohibited in food storage areas. The nursing home may store dry goods and paper products related to the dietary service in the food storage area.

Subp. 7. **Vending machines.** Storage and dispensing of food and beverages in vending machines must be in accordance with chapter 4626, and in accordance with any applicable local ordinances.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 31.101; 31.11; 144.05; 144.08; 144.12; 144A.04; 144A.08; 157.011; 256B.431*

**History:** *19 SR 1803; 23 SR 519*

**Published Electronically:** *October 11, 2007*