

Guideline for Distributing Food-Past the Best Before Date

CATEGORIES														
Time Frame Past Best Before	Fruit / Vegetables	Fruit / Vegetable Juices	Bread	Grains & Cereals	Meat uncooked	Meat cooked	Deli	Dairy-Pasteurized	Dairy	Dairy-Sterilized	Combination Foods	Soups/Stews	Non-Food	Infant Formula and Nutritional Supplements
Categories Explained														
Product Descriptions	Fresh Produce	Juices and Drinks-Tetra Packed, Bottled(Not requiring refridgeration prior to opening)	Loaves, Rolls, Bagels, Muffins	Granola, Flours, Rices, Dry Pastas, Cookies, Crackers	Packaged and Bulk	Examples: Prepared Food from Food Service Providers. Canned Tuna, Salmon	Deli Meats, Sausages	Fresh Milk, Powdered, Canned	Butter, Margarines	Tetra-Pak Milk	May contain Popcorn, Condiments, Tomato Sauces, Canned Pastas, Cooking Oils	Soups, Stews, Gravies. Could be Food Service Packaged or in Larger Quantities	Laundry Detergent, Mixed Product Pallets, Body Washes, Deodorants, Diapers, Infant Wipes	Note: These products do not contain Best Before Dates, only Expiry Dates
Room Temperature	Fresh 2-7 days	1 Month	1 Week	NA	less than 2 hours	less than 2 hours	less than 2 hours	less than 2 hours	1 Week	6 months	NA	less than 2 hours	NA	Do Not Distribute Past Expiry Date
Refrigerated	Fresh 1-4 Weeks (depending on produce)	3-6 Months	2 Week	NA	3-4 Days	Fish and Shellfish 1-2 days other 3 Days	5-7 days	2 Week	3 Months	1 month	NA	2-3 Days	NA	
Frozen	1 Year	1 Year	1 Month	NA	beef, lamb pork, veal, whole poultry 12 months, poultry pieces 6 months, ground meat 2-3 months, fish 2-6 Months, and shellfish 2-4 months	beef, lamb pork, veal, 3 months whole poultry 2 months, food mixtures 3 months	2-3 months	6 months	6 Months	6 months	3 Months	3 Months	NA	
Canned/Jarred	1 Year	1 Year	NA	NA	NA	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	NA	1 year	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year	
Boxed/Bagged	NA	NA	1 Week	6-12 Months	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6 Months	1 Year	1 Year	

Best Before Date- This gives consumers information as to when the product is at its best - as good as the day it was made when stored under appropriate conditions and packaging is in tact. Best Before dates are not indicators of Food Safety and applies to unopened products only.

Expiry Date- Tells consumers that the product may not be providing them with the nutrients expected of the product and they should no longer consume it after that date.

Products with Expiry Dates must never be shared past the date on the packaging.

- Products Include
- Infant Formula (Canned or Boxed, Liquid or Powdered)
 - Baby Foods (Canned or Boxed, Liquid or Powdered)
 - Nutritional Supplements (Canned, Boxed, or Ready to Use, Liquid or Powdered)

Food Products and their ability to be shared should always be based on:

- 1) Ensuring the product has been handled safely (ie. Chilled product is kept chilled)
- 2) That the product is at a level of quality that is still worth sharing
- 3) That the Manufacturer's Branding will not be compromised if the product is shared

Note -Information provided is to be used as a guide only. The above Information is provided based on general knowledge and industry practices

Canned See Safe Food Handling Standards to asses integrity of the can (ie. Dents, Creases, etc)