

EVALUATING CANNED FOOD

Code Section: 3-202.15 Package Integrity

GOAL

To spot damaged cans and remove from sale of public or facility preparations.

WHY

Damaged cans may be compromised and allow microorganisms or other foreign material to enter. Swollen cans may indicate the presence of microbial spoilage or a reaction product with the metal material causing hydrogen gas production. Sharp dents on the seam (top, bottom, and side) can allow microorganisms to enter the can. Hole, fractures, or punctures can permit microorganisms to enter. Rust may mean that the tin surface of the metal is corroded and that the other layers of metal may also be affected.



Leaks



Rust



Bulges



Dents parallel to rim



Dents on side seam



Pinched tops or bottoms



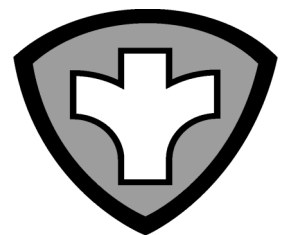
Sharp side dents



Ends that give

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REMINDERS:

- Sell only commercially canned foods – **NO HOME CANNED FOODS.**
- Store canned food in a cool, dry place. Do not expose cans to extreme temperatures.
- Do not accept canned food if label is missing. All canned food must be clearly identified.
- Designate an area for damaged cans that are to be returned or discarded. Label area appropriately.
- Establish clear procedures for accepting or rejecting canned foods and train employees accordingly.
- Purchase canned food from a reputable vendor who complies with federal, state, and local food codes.
- Inspect canned foods shipments as soon as they are delivered. Return or exchange any damaged cans.
- Do not accept cases of canned food that have evidence of pest infestation or other forms of contamination.
- Do not sell baby formula, nutrient supplements, or electrolyte replacements for infants after the sell-by date.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Peoria City/County
Health Department**

Environmental Health

2116 N Sheridan Rd.

Peoria, IL 61604

(309) 679-6161

Environmentalhealth@peoriacounty.org

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www.pcchd.org