

Consumption Guidelines

DAIRY

Product	Storage	Expiration \ Code Date Extensions	Not acceptable
Milk	• Chilled at 40 °F	 Half & half - 3 days past expiration Whipping \ Heavy Cream - 3 days past expiration Egg Nog - 5 days past expiration Whole Milk - 5 days past expiration 2% Milk - 6 days past expiration 1% Milk - 7 days past expiration Skim Milk - 10 days past expiration 	 Damaged or compromised packaging Off odor or discoloration
Yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, sour cream based dips	• Chilled at 40 °F	• 14 days past expiration	 Mold, off color or smell, damaged packaging
Cheese	• Cheese will last up to 3 months past the expiration date if chilled at 0 °F	 Soft cheeses (cream, ricotta) 7 days past expiration Hard cheeses (cheddar) 3-4 weeks past expiration 	 Opened or compromised packaging, mold
Eggs	• 40 °F or below	 Eggs in shell – 3 - 5 weeks past expiration Hard Cooked – 1 week past expiration Pasteurized or substitute – 10 days past expiration Frozen egg substitutes \ egg whites – 180 days 	• Off odor, color or taste

ALTERNATIVE DAIRY AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Product	Storage	Expiration \ Code Date Extensions	Not acceptable
Refrigerated Soy Products	• Refrigerated at 40 °F	 Refrigerated Soy Milk – 7 days past expiration Soy Yogurt – 14 days past expiration 	 Damaged or compromised packaging Off odor or discoloration
Refrigerated Meat Substitutes (Tofu, tempeh, seitan, etc.)	 Refrigerated at 40 °F or below Frozen at 0 °F or below on or before the expiration date 	 Up to the expiration date if refrigerated Consume up to 1 year past expiration date if frozen on or before expiration date 	 Damaged or compromised packaging Unfrozen past the expiration date Swollen or bulging container
Shelf-stable Non-Dairy Beverages (rice milk, soy milk, oat milk, etc.)	• Cool, dry and clean area	• Up to 6 months past expiration date if stored properly	 Damaged or compromised packaging Off odor or color Swollen or bulging container



MEAT

Product	Storage	Expiration \ Code Date Extensions	Not acceptable
Processed, Packaged Meats (such as fully cooked lunch meats, and hotdogs)	 Refrigerated at 40 °F or below, up to expiration date Frozen at 0 °F or below on or before the expiration date 	 Consume up to one year past expiration date if frozen on or before the expiration date After thawing – 4 days unopened, 3-5 days opened Do no defrost and refreeze product 	 Defrosted product Severe freezer burn Discolored product Damaged or compromised packaging
Fresh or Frozen Meat	 Refrigerated at 40 °F or below up to the expiration date Frozen at 0 °or below on or before the expiration date 	 Consume up to one year past expiration date if frozen on or before the expiration date Do no defrost and refreeze product 	 Defrosted product Severe freezer burn Discolored product Unfrozen past expiration Damaged or compromised packaging

CANNED AND DRY FOODS

Product	Storage	Expiration \ Code Date Extensions	Not acceptable
Powdered Milk	• Chilled at 40 °F	• 6 months if refrigerated	 Damaged or compromised packaging
Canned Foods	• Room temperature	 High acid foods (i.e. tomatoes) 12 18 months Low acid foods (canned meat, most vegetables) 2 – 5 years 	• Bulging, leaking cans
Food in Jars	• Room temperature	• 12 months past expiration	 Mold, leaking jars
Dry Cereal	Room temperature	• 6-12 months unopened	 Compromised packaging
Rice\pasta (dry)	Room temperature	• 1 year	 Compromised packaging