



Sidewalk Encroachments

OUTDOOR DINING, MERCHANDISE & PUSHCARTS

The City of Asheville administers a sidewalk encroachment permit program for outdoor dining, outdoor merchandise and pushcarts. The program ensures that the sidewalk encroachments do not conflict with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements; it is not intended to stifle commerce. If you choose to encroach in the city's sidewalk in any of the following ways, you will be required to obtain a permit.

Definitions

Outdoor Dining Area - an area in front of or adjacent to a restaurant and located on a public sidewalk or square where tables, chairs or benches are placed for dining purposes.

Outdoor Merchandise Area - an area in front of or adjacent to a retail business where merchandise is located on a public sidewalk for the purpose of displaying, exhibiting, or selling merchandise.

Pushcart - a wheeled cart which may be moved by one person without the assistance of a motor and which is designed and used for displaying, keeping or storing any food, beverages or other articles for sale by a vendor. Pushcarts are only allowed in the Central Business District and in Biltmore Village.

Other Considerations

- Signage is not a part of the sidewalk encroachment permit and must be applied for separately.
- The permit year runs from July 1 to June 30. Permits may be applied for at any time but the application fee is not pro-rated based on the date of application.
- Outdoor dining or merchandise might increase the fee for your privilege license. Contact Customer Service at 251-1122 to inquire.
- Outdoor dining must have Health Department Certificate and ABC Permit (if serving alcohol).

How To Apply

Turn in application, attachments and encroachment agreement (if applicable) along with application fee to the Permit Center at 161 S. Charlotte Street. You will receive a response within 10 working days.

Contact Information

Shannon Morgan
Development Review Specialist
828-259-5829, smorgan@ashevillenc.gov

Applications are available on the city's website
www.ashevillenc.gov

Type "sidewalk encroachments"
in the Search window.

Application Requirements

Permit Type	Permit & Attachments	Encroachment Agreement	Certificate of Insurance	Health Dept. Certificate	ABC Permit
Outdoor Dining < 30 sq. feet	Yes	Only if anything attached to sidewalk	Yes	Yes	If alcohol is served
Outdoor Dining > 30 sq. feet	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	If alcohol is served
Outdoor Merch. < 30 sq. feet	Yes	Only if anything attached to sidewalk	Yes	No	No
Outdoor Merch. > 30 sq. feet	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Pushcarts	Yes	Yes	Yes	If serving food	Alcohol sales not permitted from pushcart