

EXPIRATION DATES GUIDE

Food Bank of Delaware

BEVERAGES

BEVERAGES	EXTENDED DATE
Juices	1 year
Gatorade	1 year
Hi-C	1 year
Drink Boxes	1 year
Powdered Milk	6 months
Condensed Milk	1 year
Cocoa mix	1 year
Kool-Aid/Lemonade	1 year
Coffee	2 years
Tea	18 months
Soda Pop	1 year
Bottled Water	
Instant Breakfast	6 months

Pasta

& RICE

PASTA/RICE	EXTENDED DATE
Pasta	1 year
Flavored Pasta	6 months
Rice	1 year
Flavored Rice	6 months
Stuffing Mix	1 year
Dried Potatoes	1 year
Canned Potato Salad	1 year
Macaroni and Cheese	1 year

Dry shelf-stable food items do not become unsafe after lengthy storage
 -FSIS Webmaster

Breakfast

BREAKFAST CEREAL	EXTENDED DATE
Cold Cereal	6 months
Hot Cereal	6 months
Pancake Mix	1 year
Biscuit Mix	1 year
Grits	1 year

SNACKS & DESSERTS	EXTENDED DATE
Chips	1 year
Cake Mix	1 year
Muffin Mix	1 year
Brownie Mix	1 year
Cookies	6 months
Crackers	6 months
Pudding	6 months
Jellies/Jams	1 year
Candy	6 months
Breakfast Bars	6 months
Poptarts	6 months
Marshmallows	6 months
Popcorn	1 year
Gelatin	1 year

SNACKS & DESSERTS

FRUITS	EXTENDED DATE
Canned Fruit	1 year
Applesauce	1 year
Fruit Pie Filling	1 year
Raisins	6 months
Dried Fruit	1 year

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Condiments

CONDIMENTS	EXTENDED DATE
Pickles	1 year
Catsup	1 year
Mustard	1 year
Relish	1 year
Frosting	1 year
Semi-sweet Chocolate	1 year
Unsweetened Chocolate	1 year
Chocolate Syrup	1 year
Brown Sugar	6 months
Confectioners Sugar	1 year
Granulated Sugar	1 year
Vanilla	1 year
Molasses	1 year
Shelled Nuts	6 months
White Flour	6 months
Cornmeal	1 year
Cornstarch	1 year
Coffee Lightener, Dry	1 year
Artificial Sweetener	1 year
Honey	1 year
Marshmallow Cream	6 months
Mayonnaise	6 months
Bacon Bits	6 months
Vinegar	1 year
Salad Dressings	6 months
Salad Oils	1 year
Gravy Mixes	1 year
Chili/Cocktail Sauce	1 year
Canned Mushrooms	1 year
Olives	1 year
Seasonings	6 months
Cranberry sauce	1 year
Parmesan Cheese	1 year
Romano Cheese	1 year

Tomato Products

TOMATO PRODUCTS	EXTENDED DATE
Includes all Tomato Products but Tomato Soup and Tomato Juice	1 year
Glass Jars	1 year
Plastic Jars	1 year
Canned Tomato Product	1 year

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Meats &

ers

MEATS & DINNERS (PROTEIN)	EXTENDED DATE
Tuna	1 year
Chili	1 year
Spam	1 year
Microwave Dinners	1 year
Salmon	1 year
Corned Beef	1 year
Chicken	1 year
Canned Spaghetti	1 year
Sardines	1 year
Peanut Butter	1 year
Dried Beans	1 year
Refried Beans	1 year
Pork & Beans	1 year

SOUP	EXTENDED DATE
Canned Soup	1 year
Soup Starter	1 year
Ramen Noodles	1 year

Soup

PERSONAL HEALTH ITEMS
 Cannot be used beyond the code date.
 Please dispose 2 months **BEFORE** the expiration date!

FBD Sorting Guidelines

It is important we provide high quality food to the agencies of the food bank. Please inspect all items using the following guidelines.

CANS

1 year past expiration date

Throw away cans exhibit the following:

- Dents on the seam of the can (different than the seam of the wrapper)
- Dents producing sharp edges
- Tomato or Pineapple products with any significant dent
- Bulges to the top or bottom of the can
- Rest which cannot be wiped off

DRY GOODS

6 months past expiration date

If the product is exposed in any way, throw it out.

If the product is in two separate containers (such as cereal), check the inner seal before disposing. If inner seal is in tact, the product is salvageable.

GLASS JARS

1 year past expiration date

Check the pop-top; if seal is broken, throw away.

PLASTIC JARS

1 year past expiration date

Check seal; similar to glass jars

- ▶ Products with stained labels should be discarded.
- ▶ Many items will not have dates. In this case, look at the item (label and condition) and ask yourself, “ Would I eat an item from this container?”

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Food Marketing Institute

www.fmi.org/consumer/foodkeeper/search

America's Second Harvest (Mark Biewald)

www.secondharvest.org

www.insidesecondharvest.org

United States Department of Agriculture (FOOD SAFETY)

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