

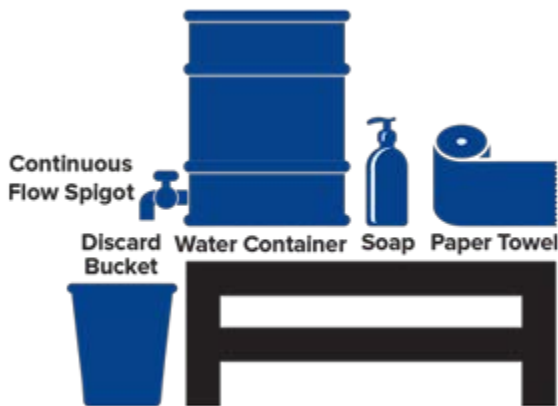
Handwashing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of germs that can cause foodborne illness. Temporary Food Stands are required to have an appropriate handwash station during operation for food handlers to wash hands frequently and effectively.

The handwash station should be the first thing you set up and the last thing you take down.

**Gloves, wet-wipes or hand sanitizers are not substitutes for handwashing.**

A properly equipped handwash station must be in place **every time** your temporary food stand is operating. Put the handwashing sink in a place that is easily accessible to all employees who are working with food. The station must include:

- Hot water
- Water container with continuous flow spigot
- Catch basin for wastewater
- Liquid hand soap
- Single use paper towels
- Wastebasket



Portable handwash stations are available for purchase or you can build one yourself.

If you build one yourself, be sure all materials are food grade and you must:

- Keep the water hot – use an insulated container that will keep the water hot for the duration of your event or have a way to heat the water onsite.
- Use a continuous-flow spigot – have a hands-free spigot that can remain locked open while washing hands. A container with a push-button spigot can be retrofitted by replacing it with a continuous flow spigot.

**Wash hands frequently while preparing food, and always wash your hands:**

<b>After:</b>	<b>Using the restroom</b>
	<b>Coughing or sneezing</b>
	<b>Smoking</b>
	<b>Handling money</b>
	<b>Eating or drinking</b>
	<b>Handling raw food</b>
	<b>Handling trash</b>
	<b>Touching your hair/face/body</b>
<b>Before:</b>	<b>Starting to prep food</b>
	<b>Putting on gloves</b>
	<b>Touching clean items</b>

Know ahead of time where to dispose of the wastewater. Dirty water needs to go into an approved wastewater system. **Do not dump it on the ground or down storm drains.**

If you have questions about building a handwash station, contact the Food and Lodging Program at 802-863-7221 or [FoodLodging@vermont.gov](mailto:FoodLodging@vermont.gov).

## Proper Hand Washing Procedure

