

This handout has been prepared by the City of Peachtree City to assist citizens and businesses in understanding the requirements and issues related to vendors, peddlers, and solicitors. The following answers were obtained from the Peachtree City Code of Ordinances, [Chapter 58, Peddlers and Solicitors](#), and [Section 908.7](#) of the Zoning Ordinance.

What licenses/permits does the City require for Vendors, Peddlers, and Solicitors?

1. The City requires that you have a current and valid occupational tax permit (business license) from Peachtree City or another city/county/state where the base of operation of the business is located. State permits require a valid state sales tax number issued by the Commissioner of Revenue of the state.
2. In Peachtree City it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business as a canvasser, solicitor, or peddler without first having registered at the Police Department. For more information about a solicitor's permit, contact the Police Department at 770-487-8866.

What are the requirements for obtaining a Solicitor's Permit?

1. Registration Form. Each registrant shall be required to fill out a registration form giving:
 - a) Complete applicant identification. Name, address, phone, email, signature.
 - b) Employer. Name, address, phone, email.
 - c) Products sold. Product name, manufacturer name, description.
 - d) Name of organization he/she is representing.
 - e) Time of operation in the city. Dates, hours.
 - f) Proposed method of operation within the city. Door to door, flyers, etc.
 - g) Any other identification or information as may be required by the Chief of Police.
2. Occupational Tax Permit (Business License). Any person selling or peddling any objects or goods shall possess a valid state sales tax number issued by the Commissioner of Revenue of the state.
3. Evidence of Good Character. The Chief of Police shall make an investigation that includes but is not limited to the police record of the applicant. No permit shall be given to any applicant who has:
 - a) A pending charge or conviction for a crime or moral turpitude.
 - b) An offense involving the elements of assault and battery.
 - c) Evidence of any other action which would constitute fraud and deceit under the laws of the state.
4. Fee. Each registrant shall pay to the Chief of Police of the city a registration fee as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges adopted by the City Council.
5. Permit Available for Inspection. Each person, while peddling, canvassing or soliciting within the limits of the city, shall have the permit available for inspection by any person being solicited or to the Police.

Are there any exceptions to this ordinance?

Yes. Except for the regulations in [Section 58-7](#), the ordinance exempts:

- a) Officers or city/county/state/federal employees, the school system – only when on official business.

- b) Any local non-profit organization such as Boy Scouts, civic clubs, religious, charitable, political, or educational organizations – only when the membership does the soliciting itself; they must be able to verify their non-profit status [Section 58-7\(e\)](#).
- c) Any person selling only agricultural or forestry products or selling food for immediate consumption; however, they must follow [Section 58-7](#).
- d) Any person who conducts business at any industry or association trade show.
- e) Any person selling items at a rummage, garage, antique or similar sale when such person, firm or corporation is a resident of the state of Georgia.
- f) Any person selling such items at a City-sponsored festival or event – only when such person has obtained the necessary approvals from the City to operate at said event.
- g) Disabled or indigent veterans of armed forces; however, they must follow [Section 58-9](#).

Does the City restrict where and when vendors, peddlers, and solicitors can sell?

Yes. The City has the following restrictions as outlined in [Section 58-7](#) of the Code of Ordinances:

- (a) No person shall stand on or adjacent to a street, road, or highway or on rights-of-way within the city limits for the purpose of soliciting employment, business or contributions from the occupant of any vehicle.
- (b) No person shall locate and/or conduct a business from a mobile vehicle or upon the public sidewalks, streets, alleys, walkways, parks, parking lots, rights-of-way, or other public lands of the city or upon state rights-of-way within the city limits.
- (c) The provisions of [Section 908.7](#) of the City Zoning Ordinance, pertaining to outside displays, shall be applicable to any solicitor or peddler.
- (d) No solicitor, peddler, or door-to-door salesperson shall:
 - (1) Call at residences, offices or businesses clearly displaying a sign stating "No Solicitors or Peddlers Invited," "No Solicitation," or using similar language.
 - (2) Engage in door-to-door soliciting at residences on Sundays or other day between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.
 - (3) Enter any private dwelling without the consent of the owner or occupant, or remain there after being requested or directed to leave.
 - (4) Fail to register and carry or produce for inspection a permit when required under this chapter.
 - (5) Make any false or deceptive statement on any registration hereunder.
- (e) A person who is soliciting or selling on behalf of a non-profit organization shall be required to verify the non-profit status of such organization.

Can I sell items/food at the park, the ball fields, along the cart path, at the side of the road/sidewalk?

No. Peachtree City ordinance [Section 58-7\(b\)](#) states:

- *No person shall locate and/or conduct a business from a mobile vehicle or upon the public sidewalks, streets, alleys, walkways, parks, parking lots, rights-of-way, or other public lands of the city or upon state rights-of-way within the city limits.*

Where can I sell items/food in Peachtree City?

Certain City-sponsored festivals and events are open to a limited number of vendors. For more information, including event dates and vendor applications, contact the Leisure Programs Coordinator at 770-631-2542.

Does the City require a child to have a business license and/or health certificate if operating a business?

Yes. The ordinance requires all businesses within the city to have an occupational tax license and health certificate (if required), and it does not exclude businesses run by children. For more information on the occupational tax ordinance, contact [City Hall](#) at 770-487-7657.

Does the City require a Health Certificate if I'm selling food?

Pre-packaged food: No. You do not need a Health Certificate if all the food you serve is pre-packaged (chips, bottled drinks, ice cream bars, etc.) for resale.

- This type of vending is prohibited in Peachtree City unless you are at a City-sponsored event as an approved vendor or at an approved special event as a hired caterer.

Homemade and baked goods: Yes. You do need a Health Certificate from the Department of Agriculture if the food items are homemade meals, baked goods, or other treats (sandwiches, pre-made meals, brownies, bread, cakes, pies, etc.). Please contact the Georgia Department of Agriculture for more information at 1-800-282-5852.

- This type of vending is prohibited in Peachtree City unless you are at a City-sponsored event as an approved vendor or at an approved special event as a hired caterer.

Mobile Vehicle/Trailer and Lunch Wagons: Yes. You do need a Health Certificate for mobile vehicles, trailers, and lunch wagons. Please contact the Fayette County Health Department for more information at 770-631-0734.

- This type of vending is prohibited in Peachtree City unless you are at a City-sponsored event as an approved vendor or at an approved special event as a hired caterer.

Does the City require proof of liability insurance?

Yes. It is required whenever city public parks or facilities are used for special events or rented by groups and individuals. For more information on renting public parks or facilities, contact the Recreation Department at 770-631-2542.

I have a _____ business; am I allowed to sell/solicit in Peachtree City?

1. Pine Straw
2. Christmas Tree
3. Pumpkin
4. Lawn Maintenance
5. Magazine/Book Sale
6. Meat/Seafood Truck
7. Ice Cream Truck
8. Financial Management
9. Furniture/Artwork
10. Work for Hire (Handyman, Roofing, Tree removal, etc.)

No. Peachtree City ordinance [Section 58-7\(b\)](#) states: *No person shall locate and/or conduct a business from a mobile vehicle or upon the public sidewalks, streets, alleys, walkways, parks, parking lots, rights-of-way, or other public lands of the city or upon state rights-of-way within the city limits.*

Furthermore, the outdoor display ordinance ([Section 908.7](#)) limits outdoor sales to only enclosed spaces; for no more than 24 consecutive hours; with no signage that can be seen offsite; and it must be out of any zoning setbacks, buffers, or landscaped areas. The outdoor display ordinance specifies: *Products shall not be sold from any truck or trailer parked or stored in a commercial area unless they are in an area that has been designated for such use on a site plan that has been approved by the planning commission as a part of the site plan review process.*

Unless your business can meet the above requirements or your group is one of those exempted in [Section 58-5](#), you are not allowed to sell within Peachtree City. You may solicit in Peachtree City if you follow the requirements of [Section 58-7](#) and obtain a solicitor's permit from the Peachtree City Police Department.

Do I need a license/permit for my business to be able to buy precious metals and gems?

Yes. The City and State have the following restrictions as outlined in [Title 43, Professions and Businesses, Chapter 37, Dealers in Precious Metals and Gems](#) of the Official Code of Georgia. For more information on engaging in a business as a dealer in precious metals or gems, contact the Peachtree City Police Department at 770-487-8866.

No person shall engage in business as a dealer in precious metals or gems within the City Limits of Peachtree City until he has registered as a dealer in precious metals or gems for each separate place of business. The registration shall be in writing and shall be sworn to or affirmed by the dealer in precious metals or gems.

What are the requirements for obtaining a dealer in precious metals and gems permit?

1. **Registration Form.** Each registrant shall be required to fill out a registration form giving:
 - a) Complete applicant identification including driver's license.
 - b) Authorization for Criminal History Release.
 - c) Complete names, addresses, and ages of all other persons having an ownership interest or actually employed in the business other than publicly held corporations.
 - d) Address of the premises upon which the business is conducted and the zoning and planning classification of the premises.
2. **Business License.** Each applicant for registration shall possess a current business license in the county or municipality or shall pay an initial registration fee of \$25.00 to be retained by the county or municipality to cover the cost of registering such persons. The registration shall be renewed annually upon presentation of a current business license by the dealer or by payment of a renewal fee of \$10.00.
3. **Permanent Records Required.** Every dealer in precious metals or gems shall maintain a book, in permanent form, in which all purchases shall be recorded at the time of acquisition. For record requirements, contact the Peachtree City Police Department at 770-487-8866.

Who has the authority to prevent me from selling in Peachtree City?

Any individual has the authority to ask you to leave if you are violating ordinance [Section 58-7\(b\)](#):

- *No person shall locate and/or conduct a business from a mobile vehicle or upon the public sidewalks, streets, alleys, walkways, parks, parking lots, rights-of-way, or other public lands of the city or upon state rights-of-way within the city limits.*

However, [Section 58-11](#) specifically gives Municipal Code Enforcement Officers and the Police the authority to issue citations.

What is the penalty for violating the ordinance and/or not obtaining a solicitor's permit?

Any violations of the provisions in this chapter shall subject the license or permit to revocation. Each day any violation of this code or any ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, any person violating this chapter shall be punished as provided in [Section 11-1](#). This may include, but not be limited to:

- a) A fine not to exceed \$1,000.
- b) Imprisonment in the City or County jail.
- c) Work and labor on the streets.
- d) A combination of all the above.