

### III. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

The Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA) spells out the necessary labeling requirements for most foods.

#### *Allergens*

As some people are allergic to certain food ingredients, called allergens, all foods containing more than one ingredient either have to be properly labeled on the package or come with a list of ingredients clearly listing the allergens contained within the product.

People who are allergic to these food ingredients will have major reactions to eating them; this reaction can lead to death.

There are 8 major allergens listed by the FDA:

1. Wheat
2. Soy
3. Eggs
4. Dairy (Milk and milk containing products)
5. Peanuts
6. Tree Nuts (Almonds, Walnuts, Pecans, Coconut, etc.)
7. Fish
8. Shellfish (Shrimp, Lobster, Crab)

Therefore, these products need to be stored separately, when not frozen, from other products.

You cannot accept any products that are not clearly labeled as to their contents unless the donor can provide you with a list of ingredients or an allergen statement.

If a donor is only donating commercially packaged foods, additional steps for labeling will not be necessary. However, if a donor is donating foods they prepared then the foods will need to be safely packaged (refer to handling and storage requirements Pages 4-10) and labeled with the following five components deemed to meet Feeding America's food safety standards:

1. The name and location of food bank.
2. The name and location of donor.
3. The food description.
4. The date of donation.
5. Allergen disclaimer statement.

Feeding America recommends that the donor use pre-printed labels with blanks for the food description and donation date.

The table below outlines labeling requirements for each food type:

	Prepared Foods	Packaged Foods	Fresh Produce
<b>Sources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hotels</li> <li>- Restaurants</li> <li>- Commissaries</li> <li>- Foodservice Facilities</li> <li>- Bakeries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National and local donors</li> <li>- National and local vendors</li> <li>- Retail store donations</li> <li>- Reclaim and food drives</li> </ul>	Any donor or vendor of fresh produce
<b>Examples of foods</b>	Prepared meat, poultry entrees, pasta, pizza, vegetables, chilled foods, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canned, boxed, or packaged foods</li> <li>- Bagged cut produce</li> <li>- Dairy</li> <li>- Raw shell eggs</li> <li>- Meat, poultry, and fish (fresh and frozen)</li> <li>- Packaged/bagged produce</li> </ul>	Whole produce in bins and bags
<b>Label requirement</b>	Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA) does not apply.	Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA) applies.	Fair Packaging and Labeling Act (FPLA) does not apply.
<b>Feeding America compliance requires the label to state</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The name and location of food bank (pre-printed)</li> <li>2. The name and location of donor</li> <li>3. The food description</li> <li>4. The date of donation</li> <li>5. Allergen disclaimer statement (pre-printed)</li> </ol> <p><b>WARNING!</b> <i>This container holds rescued food! This food may contain, have come into contact with, or have been produced in a facility which also produces milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, almonds, pecans, hazelnuts/filberts, pistachios, cashews, coconuts, pine nuts, macadamia nuts, and/or Brazil nuts), fish, shellfish (crab, crawfish, lobster, shrimp, mussels, and/or oysters), wheat, soybeans, and/or sesame seeds</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The common or usual name of the product</li> <li>2. The name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor</li> <li>3. The net quantity (weight) of the contents</li> <li>4. The common or usual name of each ingredient, listed in descending order of prominence</li> </ol>	No label required
<b>Comments</b>	Label is applied to all containers.	These products are assumed to have the proper retail label already on the packaged product when they are received by the member.	