

# Shopping Cart Guidelines

Clean shopping carts play an important role in keeping foods free of contamination and providing customers with an enjoyable shopping experience. As a food facility operator, you are responsible for proper shopping cart maintenance. The information below will help you understand what you are responsible for and how you can meet those responsibilities.

## Responsibilities of food facility operators

- Only use shopping carts for their intended purpose. Do not use carts to collect or transport trash or recyclable materials.
- Monitor shopping carts for cleanliness and functionality. Clean dirty carts and repair or replace broken carts.
- Evaluate retrieved shopping carts. Ensure they are clean and in proper working condition before making them available for customers to use.



## Getting the job done

Making sure the responsibilities above are met takes coordination and planning. The following guidelines will help you get the job done:

- Train all employees to ensure that they do not use shopping carts to collect or transport trash or recyclable materials.
- Establish a cleaning schedule to routinely clean dirty shopping carts.
- Take immediate corrective action to repair or replace broken shopping carts.
- When abandoned shopping carts are returned to the store, clean them before making them available for customers to use.



## Information about retail food inspections

Visit our website at [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh)

By following the above guidelines, you can help provide your customers with sanitary shopping carts.