

## Eggs Labeling Requirements

### Minimum Labeling Requirements:

Shell eggs must be labeled with the name and address of producer or distributor, and grade or size (if graded under supervision of a regulatory agency). New cartons can be obtained from several sources, are more attractive and naturally present a stronger marketing advantage.

Used cartons can be employed, provided they comply with the following:

- USDA shield must be obliterated
- Original plant code, expiration/sell by date must be obliterated
- Original trade name/address must be obliterated
- The name and address of the current producer or distributor must be included on the carton and clearly legible (a phone number for consumer's is highly recommended)
- The Safe Handling Statement must be clearly legible

This statement must appear on the label prominently, conspicuously, and in a type size no smaller than one-sixteenth of one inch. The statement must appear in a hairline box and the words "safe handling instructions" must appear in bold capital letters.

<p><b>SAFE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS:</b> To prevent illness from bacteria: keep eggs refrigerated, cook eggs until yolks are firm, and cook foods containing eggs thoroughly.</p>
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The surface of the egg should be cleaned in an approved manner; that will remove dirt and debris without damaging the egg's natural coating. It is recommended that dirty eggs be gently brushed.

**Eggs that are not subject to USDA inspection and regulation cannot be sold to other retail establishments or food service establishments.**

### Sizing and Grading:

Eggs cannot be sold as graded eggs or sized eggs unless those eggs originate from a USDA or state inspected grading facility using USDA grading and sizing guidelines.

### Handling:

Shell eggs must be kept refrigerated and maintained at a temperature at or below 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

For further information on the safe handling of eggs:

***“Guidance for Industry -Food Labeling: Safe Handling Statements, Labeling of Shell Eggs; Refrigeration of Shell Eggs Held for Retail Distribution - Small Entity Compliance Guide”*** at <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/eggsguid.html>

Questions regarding the sale of eggs at retail or wholesale should be directed to:

Department of Consumer Protection Division of Food and Standards  (860) 713-6160 FAX: (860) 713-7237	Connecticut Department of Agriculture Bureau of Inspection and Regulation Agricultural Commodities  Phone: (860) 713-2513 Fax: (860) 713-2515
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