

WSGW RADIO PRESENTATION

**DOGS ON PATIOS IN
FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS**

JUNE 27, 2017

Patio areas are considered to be part of a food service establishment and under the current Michigan Food Code, dogs (as well as all live animals), are not allowed on the patio of a food service establishment with some exceptions:

- Service animals, as long as they are controlled and do not pose a health or safety hazard.
- Police or security patrol dogs accompanying an officer.

There is a bill introduced that would change a portion of the Food Code and allow dogs on patios. Under the bill, restaurant owners would be able to decide if they wanted to allow dogs on patios or not. If they do allow dogs, the dogs would have to be under control, not contaminate the area, and the facility would have to have a plan in place on how to clean and sanitize the patio if the dog were to go to the bathroom on the patio.

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Source: Michigan Restaurant Association