

## Low Rating for One Food-Serving Establishment in Town, Top Ratings for Two Others

**Author :** David Gurliacci

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One Darien food-serving establishment received the lowest rating ("C"), and two others each got the highest rating ("A") in the latest town food inspection reports released by Darien Health Department.

The three inspections were conducted between Aug. 2 and 9.

### Most Recent Inspection Results

Here's an alphabetical list of the most recently released results of Darien health inspections (an explanation for each part of the list, including links, is just below the list).

- Keep in mind that a food-serving establishment with a history of good ratings may occasionally get a poor inspection rating, occasionally the best do, and every restaurant normally gets a few things wrong:
- **Embody — 380 Heights Road — [Aug. 2](#) — [Town Rating: C](#) — State Score: 85** — *Inspector's Remarks: "No documentation of training during inspection; no food thermometer available; storage of eggs over ready-to-eat foods; not using sanitizer bay, only washing in soap; wiping cloths left on counters; juicer left unclean: sanitize, mold grow[ing] on wall of ice machine; food contact surfaces unclean: food debris/sticky; no covered waste basket for ladies; fruit flies and flies present (back door propped open when inspection started)." — Inspector's Comments: "Dating system for food in the grab-and-go case made in New Canaan???? [Bain-marie](#) at 45 to 46 degrees (product temperature). Please watch this fridge. Foods past the expiration date should be discarded (yogurt tubs). DO NOT BLOCK the front service hand sink! Shifted boxes and trash receptacle during inspection to allow for better access."*
- Mama Carmella's — 1981 Post Road — Aug. 9 — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 94
- Shake Shack — 1340 Post Road — Aug. 9 — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 94

In the list of health inspection results above, information is listed by name, address, date of inspection, Darien rating, state score, inspector's comments that led to the state rating and additional remarks on the inspection report.

Dates link to the food establishment's inspection report referenced here (when available, sometimes it takes a while to get posted online), and Darien's own A/B/C ratings link to a Web page showing several of the restaurant's recent inspection ratings.

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**See also:**

- [Our previous article](#) showing restaurant inspection ratings (Aug. 7)
- [Darien Health Department Starts Letter Grades for Food Service Inspections](#)

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For restaurants and other food-serving establishments rated "C," and for some others of interest to the public (like schools) additional information is given. When we provide that information here, then words within brackets ("[ ]") have been added for clarity by Darienite.com; semicolons like this (";") separate individual comments by the inspectors. Each comment is about a particular violation that triggers a point deduction from a perfect state score of 100.

## **How Darien's Restaurants Are Rated**

Restaurants in town are rated under the Darien Health Department's own A/B/C ratings system. Health inspectors also use the state health code regulations to score restaurants, with a perfect score set at 100, and demerits (of 1 to 4 points each) for various code violations.

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The Darien system takes into account problems that are ongoing, so a restaurant scoring higher than others on the state scale may actually get a lower score on the Darien scale.

You can find the past several inspection ratings under the Darien ratings system for food-serving establishments [on this website](#), and now you can also find copies of inspection reports, including state health code scores in the same place.

Any establishment actually deemed unsafe can be closed by the town Health Department until violations are fixed. Town Health Director David Knauf says that has never happened in the time he's been with the department.