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How Health Inspectors Rated Restaurants and Other Food Serving Places in Darien

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Here's how Darien restaurants and other food-serving places fared in the six inspection reports, most recently released by the Darien Health Department.

The six inspections of food-serving establishments, released Thursday, took place from Oct. 4 to 15 with five getting an "A" rating, one getting a "B." None received the worst rating, a "C."

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.

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Here's an alphabetical list of the most recently released health inspection results (an explanation of how this list is put together is immediately below it):

—The Depot — 25 Heights Road — [Oct. 23](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 100

—Dunkin Donuts — 967 Post Road — [Oct. 11](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 95

—Darien Butcher Shop — 13 Grove St. — [Oct. 4](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 93

—Heights Pizza — 882 Post Road — [Oct. 11](#) — [Town Rating: B](#) — State Score: 91

—McDonald's — Darien South rest stop, Interstate 95 — [Oct. 12](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 95

—Taco Bell — Darien South rest stop, Interstate 95 — [Oct. 15](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 94

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.

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 (";") separate individual comments by the inspectors. Each comment separated by semicolons is about a particular violation that triggers a deduction of one or more points from a perfect state score of 100.

See also:

You can find the past several inspection ratings under the **Darien** ratings system for food-serving establishments along with copies of inspection reports, including state health code scores [on this website](#).

- [Our previous article](#) showing restaurant inspection ratings (Oct. 10)
- [STAMFORD](#) online health inspection results
- [NORWALK](#) online health inspection ratings ([explanation of ratings](#))

How Darien's Food-Serving Places Are Rated

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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.

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.