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News for Darien

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Restaurant and a Country Club Each Get Lowest Health Inspection Rating of 'C'

Author : David Gurliacci

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Two places to eat in Darien received the lowest grade of "C" in health inspections, according to the most recently released reports from the town Health Department.

In the nine reports released this week by the Health Department, five others received the top rating ("A") and two more received "B" ratings. For a full list of food-serving places inspected and their scores, see the list further down in this article.

The nine health inspections were conducted from Aug. 23 to 30 and included all of the country clubs in town that serve food.

Most Recent Inspection Results

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

— Bodega Taco Bar — 980 Post Road — [Aug. 29](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 93

— Center Street Public House — 22 Center St. — Aug. 28 — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 93

— Country Club of Darien — 300 Mansfield Ave. — [Aug. 30](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 97

— Country Club of Darien Satellite Kitchen — [Aug. 30](#) — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 97

— **Hibachi Sushi Ya — 111 Old Kings Hwy. North — [Aug. 25](#) — [Town Rating: C](#) — State Score: 84** — *Inspector's Remarks: "Using a cell phone on the line with gloved hands, task changes with kitchen staff and serving staff, no hand washing, rinsing gloved hand at three-bay sink-- training?; sanitizer buckets at different strengths; unclean utensils from previous day: knives, slicer, blender, mold growth on ice cream scoop and bucket; ice scoop stored on top of ice in bin; food frozen in grocery bags; no bleach test strips; dessert spoons stored incorrectly (service area/on freezer); fruit flies observed in prep area, ware-wash and dry storage areas; walls in prep, bar and service areas unclean."* — *Inspector's Comments: "Discussion with owner: Training documentation with emphasis on hand washing required. Invoice for fruit flies? Current rating NOT posted, log for sushi rice maintained."*

— Tokeneke Beach Club — 4 Butlers Island (Main) Road — Aug. 28 — [Town Rating: A](#) — State Score: 93

Wee Burn Country Club — 410 Hollow Tree Ridge Road — Aug. 25 — [Town Rating: B](#) — State Score: 92

Wee Burn Country Club Satellite Location — 410 Hollow Tree Ridge Road — Aug. 25 — [Town Rating: C](#) — State Score: 92 — *Inspector's Remarks: "Cooling unit at far end of cook line not maintaining safe temperatures. Items inside [are] 49 to 52 degrees. Ambient temperature [is] 50. All items removed; no thermometer in cooling unit in question; no sanitizer at cook line or prep areas; wiping cloths not kept in sanitizer between uses; fruit flies present near mop sink.* — *Inspector's Comments: "Will follow up Monday, Aug. 28 about cooling unit. Refrigeration company called."*

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.

See also:

- [Our previous article](#) *showing restaurant inspection ratings (Aug. 24)*
- [Darien Health Department Starts Letter Grades for Food Service Inspections](#)

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 deduction of one or more points 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.