

The following cRc restaurants have arranged to have a sukkah up for **Chol HaMoed Sukkos**. It would be advisable for the consumer to confirm with the restaurant prior to making the trip.

EJ's Pizzeria	9149 N. Gross Point Skokie, IL 60076	(224) 534-7215
Emma's Bagel Café	9306 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, IL 60077	(847) 673-3030
Evita Argentinian Steakhouse	6112 N. Lincoln Avenue Chicago, IL 60659	(773) 463-8482
Great Chicago	3149 W Devon, Chicago, IL 60659	(773) 465-9030
Main Pizza/ Chalavi	2931 West Touhy, Chicago, IL 60645	(773)-338-9640
Milts BBQ For The Perplexed	3411 North Broadway Chicago, IL 60657	(773) 661-6384
Mizrachi	215 Skokie Valley Road, Highland Park, IL 60035	(847)-831-1400
Prime Deli & Restaurant	4224 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55416	(952) 303-5813
Sandwich Club	4507 W. Oakton Skokie, IL 60076	(847) 677-6020
Shallots	7016 Carpenter Road, Skokie, IL 60077	(847) 677-3463
Slice of Life/ Hy Life Bistro	4120 W. Dempster Skokie, IL 60076	(847) 674-2021
Taboun	8808 N. Gross Point Rd Skokie, IL 60077	(847) 965-1818

In previous years, the cRc has recommended certain readily available **fencing material** (commonly sold in Home Depot) to be used for *schach* and provided detailed instructions on how to place them on the sukkah. However, based on feedback from consumers on the sturdiness of those materials and how they were being used, we have determined that there is a reasonable chance that some people will end up not having kosher *schach* (since the fencing material could become invalidated if a few of the reeds break) unless they place multiple layers of fencing on top of their sukkah. Accordingly, we are no longer issuing specific recommendations of fencing material. Instead we suggest that if you choose to use these fencing mats that you add additional *schach* (e.g. added layers of these mats, bamboo poles, evergreen or other tree branches) to ensure the fulfillment of the *halachic* requirement of "more shade than sunlight." Also, any fencing mats should be placed perpendicular to the *schach* support beams in order to avoid *ma'amid* issues, as we have explained in previous years.

**Hadassim** are an integral part of the Arba Minim. Among the Torah requirements for Hadassim is that they be "Meshulash," that the leaves grow in sets of three leaves in line with each other, for the length of the Hadas, i.e. 3 Tefachim (approximately 11 inches, according to haRav Moshe Feinstein). If that is not available, as long as more than half of the length has leaves which are Meshulashim, the Hadas may be used. Most Hadassim sold nowadays, come packaged and graded, with a Hechsher on the package. Examining many of these packages, it has been found that often the Hadassim contained are substandard. While the situation in Chicago has recently improved, to the credit of many local vendors, there may still be some substandard Hadassim being sold locally. Therefore, it is important to remain vigilant. What to look for: When buying Hadassim, the leaves should grow in sets of threes over the entire length of each branch, or at least a minimum of three Tefachim (9.6 to 12 inches, depending upon whose Psak is followed). Other Le'chatchila requirements of the Hadas to be aware of: a) the leaf at the tip should be intact; b) the leaves should be fresh and green; c) the sets of leaves should overlap each other; d) the leaves should lie on the stem.

The cRc is now certifying as kosher **Earth Burger Restaurant**, located at 60 East Broadway, Bloomington, Minnesota 55425 (in the **Mall of America**). Please note that although it is a vegetarian restaurant, the cRc is certifying it as Kosher - Dairy Equipment due to one ingredient that is labeled as D.E. by its certifying agency.

Please note that **Starbucks** has greatly reduced their kosher program for their bases and related ingredients. Therefore, the kosher approved items at Starbucks are now limited. Approved items can be found on the cRc website and app. Items no longer approved include Frappuccinos, Mocha, and Caramel Sauce.

In the **cRc Starbucks Guide** there is mention of removing the “shot divider” when ordering certain drinks. To better assist those who are unfamiliar what a shot divider is, we have now added pictures and an explanation to help ease your ordering experience at Starbucks. This can be found at: <http://www.crcweb.org/ShotDivider.pdf>.

Regarding using **Starbucks Via**, some have ruled that it is permitted to use this product on Shabbos, but after carefully considering the issues, Rav Reiss Shlit”a has ruled that it should not be used on Shabbos, unless one uses a *kli shlishi*.

As part of our effort to assist consumers in finding kosher liquor, the cRc has now split the **cRc liquor recommended list** into two – **Certified** and **Approved**. Due to constant changes in the industry, certified products are preferable. Please check out [www.ASKcRc.org](http://www.ASKcRc.org), and search for your favorite products.

As seasons change, and imported produce increases, the cRc is constantly reviewing and updating the **infestation levels of insects** in produce sold in local stores. For copies of this list or to obtain a silk cloth (known as a “thrip cloth”) please call the cRc offices. The cRc is also offering the opportunity for training of small groups in Bedikas Toleyim. Please call (773) 250-5483 or email Rabbi Langer at [ylanger@crcweb.org](mailto:ylanger@crcweb.org). All fruit and vegetable information can be found at <http://www.crcweb.org>.

As a reminder, the cRc wants to inform all those that rely on the cRc list of recommended kosher agencies ([http://www.crcweb.org/agency\\_list.php](http://www.crcweb.org/agency_list.php)) to keep in mind that many times the recommendations do not extend to **Pesach Hotels**. Each hotel and its hashgacha should be independently reviewed annually despite any previous approvals.

The cRc recommends the following **Ricola** cough drop products with or without a certification on the packaging: Ricola Honey Herb (Lozenge), Ricola Lemon Mint (Lozenge), Ricola Natural Herb (original) (Lozenge), Ricola Sugar-Free - Lemon Mint and Mountain Herb (Lozenge).

Effective immediately, **Traverse City Whiskey Co.** (Traverse City, MI) is no longer certified by the Chicago Rabbinical Council. This includes all Traverse City Whiskey Co. products.

Effective immediately, all products manufactured by **Conca D’Oro - Ciro** (Woodside, NY) are no longer being certified by the Chicago Rabbinical Council. This includes any product bearing the cRc logo.

Effective immediately, all products manufactured by **All Puree LLC** (Middlehope, NY) are no longer being certified by the Chicago Rabbinical Council. This includes any product bearing the cRc logo.

Due to improper handling after product was manufactured, a number of bags of **Streit’s Egg Noodles** have been found to be infested. Any bag with a best buy date of December 2019 or earlier should be returned to the store for a refund.

Most “**I Can’t Believe It’s Not Butter**” vegetable oil spreads contain dairy ingredients and bear an OU-D. Some varieties are pareve and bear a plain OU. One pareve variety, called “The Light One”, correctly bears a plain OU on the container itself, but mistakenly bears an OU-D on the lid. This product is pareve.

**Cape Cod White Cheddar and Sour Cream Potato Chips** incorrectly bears a plain OU; however, the product is dairy as listed in the ingredient panel.

**Brooklyn Brine Barrel-Cured Garlic Dill Pickle** contains a non-kosher ingredient and bears an unauthorized OU.

**GoLightly Sugar-Free Hard Candy Just Chocolates** sold at Dollar Tree stores has mistakenly been labeled as Kof-K D.E. In fact, it is certified as Dairy, as it contains butter in the ingredient panel.

The OU will no longer certify **Tree Top Cranberry Juice Cocktail**, as the formula has changed. Always check each label to make sure it is correctly certified.

**Sugar-Free Tums** are Kosher Pareve despite the lack of symbol on the label. This is a new item recently released. Future labels will bear the Diamond -K symbol.

All seasoned varieties of **Pringles Potato Crisps** that in the past were certified plain OU (pareve) are now changing to OU-D. Those that state **milk, whey, or lactose** in their ingredient listing will be truly dairy. If none of those ingredients are listed, the OU-D designation is due only to dairy equipment. (This is true even though the allergen statement after the ingredient listing states “Contains Milk & Wheat Ingredients”.) Older cans that still bear a plain OU are pareve. When checking the ingredients, be aware that seasoned varieties now divide the ingredient listing into two paragraphs – “Ingredients” and “Contains 2% Or Less Of”. Some varieties list dairy only at the end of the second paragraph, e.g. BBQ (whey) and Honey Mustard (lactose). The “Original” (unseasoned) varieties - regular, Lightly Salted, and Reduced Fat - will remain plain OU (pareve).

**Pringles new Extra Hot Potato Crisps** contains whey and is certified OU-Dairy. Some cans with Spanish text mistakenly bear a plain OU without the “D”.

In certain models of **KitchenAid refrigerators** with a STAR-K-certified Sabbath Mode, after a power failure, the refrigerator recovers but is not in Sabbath Mode. Even if the display reads "SAB", a light turns on when the door is opened. The models that are affected are KRFF507ESS, KRFF507EBL, KRFF507EWH, and KRFF707ESS. If you have one of these models, please email [info@star-k.org](mailto:info@star-k.org) (preferred) or call the STAR-K with your specific model and serial number (found on a sticker on right interior wall of the refrigerator).

**Cap'n Crunch Touchdown** cereal is labeled OU-D, but in fact, its true status, at the present time is Dairy Equipment.

**7-11 Coco Paleta Coconut & Cream Bar** and **7-11 Fresa Paleta Strawberry & Cream Bar** are labeled with a plain OU symbol. However, these products contain dairy, as indicated in the ingredients and allergen statements.

Due to technical error, **Uno Bar and Look Bar**, manufactured by Anabelle Candy Co., Inc., have been inadvertently labelled as D.E. These chocolate bars are dairy.

The following **Snyders of Hanover** products are labeled OU-D, but are, in fact, at the present time DE (Dairy Equipment): **Gluten-Free Pretzels, Mini Pretzels Fat Free, Any Unflavored Pretzel, Braided Twists Pumpernickel & Onion, Broken Olde Tyme Pretzels, Cinnamon Sugar Pretzel Poppers, Cinnamon Sugar Sweet Pretzel Pieces, Corn Tortilla Chips, Firecracker BBQ Pretzel Pieces, Gluten-Free Mini Pretzels, Gluten-Free Pretzel Sticks, Honey Mustard and Onion, Honey Mustard & Onion Nibblers Gluten-Free, Honey Wheat Braided Twists, Honey Wheat Sticks, Jalapeno Flavored Sourdough Hard Pretzel Pieces, Korn Krunch BBQ, Korn Krunch Hot Chili Lime, Mini Pretzels, Mini Pretzels Fat-Free Unsalted, Natural Garden Veggie Sticks, No Salt Round Pretzel Snaps, Old Fashioned Dipping Stick Pretzels, Peanut Butter Pretzel Sandwiches, Plain Pretzels, Pretzel Pieces, Hot Buffalo Wing Pretzel Pieces, Sweet Chili, Salted Olde Tyme Pretzels, Sourdough Hard Pretzels, Sourdough Nibblers, Pretzel Poppers, Pretzel Rods, Pretzel Snaps, Pretzel Spoonz, Corn and Restaurant Style Tortilla Chips.** Dairy equipment products may be eaten after meat but not with meat.

The following **Diet Coke** flavors are OU certified: **Feisty Cherry, Ginger Lime, Twisted Mango, and Zesty Blood Orange.**

**Coca Cola Freestyle Machines** enable the consumer to mix a variety of soft drink flavors to his/her own personal choice. All flavors available in the freestyle machines in the United States and Canada are products of the Coca Cola Company. The OU has confirmed that they are all kosher and pareve. Amongst the flavors certified for Freestyle are: **Barq's, Diet Barq's, Caffeine-Free Coca-Cola, Caffeine-Free Diet Coke, Coca-Cola, Coca-Cola Zero, Diet Coke, Dasani Flavors (All), Dasani Sparkling (All), Fanta, Fanta Zero, Fuze Lemon Black Tea, Glaceau Fruitwater, Hi-C, Lemon Tea, Master Pour Black Cherry, Mello Yello, Mello Yello Zero, Minute Maid Lemonade, Minute Maid Light Lemonade, Pibb Xtra, Pibb Zero, Powerade (All), Powerade Zero (All), Seagram's Diet Ginger Ale, Seagram's Ginger Ale, Sprite, Sprite Zero, Vitamin Water.** The following flavors are also available for mixing with the above: **Cherry, Fruit Punch, Grape, Lemon, Lime, Orange, Peach, Raspberry, Strawberry, and Vanilla.**

**Unflavored Orange Pekoe** or **Green Tea Leaves** (including **matcha**) or **tea bags** are acceptable without certification, if they contain no other ingredients. Flavored or herbal tea leaves or bags require kosher certification. Earl Grey

with bergamot oil is acceptable without certification, but Earl Grey tea with bergamot flavor requires kosher certification. All of the above is limited to tea leaves and tea bags. All prepared (liquid) tea or instant tea powder sold in retail containers requires kosher certification.

The OU does not certify **First Street Marinara Sauce with Real Romano Cheese**. Some cans were printed with an unauthorized OU symbol.

**Nori Seaweed Sheets** – a number of Nori brands have recently been recalled, although they bear a kosher symbol, due to either infestation or unauthorized use of the symbol. The following list (with lot numbers usually ink-jetted on the bag or package) is what is being recalled: 1) **Sweet City** – Star-K symbol. Two recalled lots: 092520 and 131820 2) **China Mehadrin** – CRC (Hisachdus) symbol. One recalled lot: 3200/02426 1803 3242618043 2018 5A3B 3) **Sushi Metzuyan** – Star-K symbol. One recalled lot: 121919 4) **Nantong Huaxin Seaweed** – All bear an unauthorized Kof-K symbol. Those with k#3646 should be considered not kosher 5) **Ushia Sushi** – All bear an unauthorized Star-K symbol and should be considered not kosher 6) **Sushi Maven** - Volover symbol. All lots recalled except two: Best by Date: 09/30/2019 may be used and Best by Date: 01/10/2019 may be used.

The Orthodox Union does not certify **Iberia Extra Virgin Olive Oil with Balsamic Vinegar**. Some bottles were labeled with an unauthorized OU symbol.

**Be Pop Microwave Popcorn** and **Popcorn Bars** bear an unauthorized OK kosher symbol. This company and its products are not certified by OK Kosher Certification.

**Futter's Nut Butters** products bear an unauthorized Earth Kosher symbol and are not certified by Earth Kosher.

**Keebler Ready Crust Mini Graham Cracker Pie Crusts** is certified OU Pareve and correctly bears a plain OU on the individual packages. The outer case (of 12 packages) bears a plain OU on one side but mistakenly bears an OU-D on the other side.

All flavors of **Salt Water Taffy** sold by **Taffy Shop** bear an unauthorized OK Kosher symbol on the packaging. This company is not certified by OK Kosher Certification.

**Catawba Mints** sold at **Family Dollar** is not OU certified. Some packages mistakenly bear an unauthorized OU.

The new **Canada Dry Ginger Ale with Lemonade** and **Crush Watermelon** sodas are certified as kosher pareve.

Some varieties of **Nature Valley Granola bars** are not certified and do not bear the OU kosher symbol. Please check each package for the symbol.

The OU does not certify any **PuraGenX** products. Some **PuraGenX** products are sold on internet marketplaces, and images of some of their products have an unauthorized OU.

The OU certifies **Earnest Eats Coconut Warrior Oatmeal** and **Mighty Maple Oatmeal** as OU-Dairy. These products contain dairy as indicated in the ingredients. Some labels bear the OU symbol, without the “D” dairy designation.

To receive email kashrus alert please sign up at: <http://bit.ly/GetAlerts> Please visit [www.askcrc.org](http://www.askcrc.org) where kosher consumers can check the kosher of all ingredients and medicines. Alerts are compiled from [www.Kashrut.com](http://www.Kashrut.com) and kashrus agencies' websites.