

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraising BBQ

The Bunnings Sausage Sizzle is a popular fundraiser for schools and community groups because they're low cost to set up, easy to organise and fairly straightforward to run. But there are sausage sizzles and then there are Bunnings sausage sizzles, where the concept is turned up to satisfy a captive audience of hungry do-it-yourself-ers. It's such a classic, it now even has its own meme!

Anyone who's visited a Bunnings on a weekend has no doubt seen a community group out the front manning the sausage sizzle. As far as venues go for a sausage sizzle, the high volume of foot traffic can easily lead to a high turnover of snags, drinks and dollars raised.

However, the phenomenon that is the **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle BBQ fundraiser** sausage sizzles is also highly sought after by community groups and can book out months in advance. Thomas from NSW says her local Bunnings has a three-year waiting list, however for Ree & her T1D daughter Ruby in Grafton the wait is more likely measured in weeks than months.

To apply you will need to contact the person in charge of activities at your local Bunnings. Often, the process involves a written request on DANII Foundation letterhead, then, if you are successful in securing a date, you will be provided with an information pack (or be asked to attend an information evening) that will detail;

- Items that Bunnings will provide (normally BBQ, gas, and shade cover)
- Items that you need to provide (such as gloves, serviettes, wipes, disinfectant spray, BBQ tools etc)
- Catering requirements (suggested amounts of sausages, bread, sauce and drinks) and
- Logistical needs (OHS guidelines, council food handling requirements, insurance)

Bunnings do their best to make it easy for you to hold a sausage sizzle, however they may put a limit on the number of people who can safely work in the BBQ area, plus they may set prices for sausages and drinks so that regular shoppers have a fair expectation of what to pay.

So, how much can you expect to raise at a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle?

The success of your sausage sizzle can be impacted by the weather, the season, and the size of the Bunnings store; as such the amount your sausage sizzle will raise will vary between locations.

Melanie, from Poowong in VIC, made \$1,700 one year and \$700 the next from their groups sausage sizzles, and whilst other groups have raised just a couple of hundred dollars, there are rumours of some groups raising over \$2,700.

Jane in VIC knows that the amount of funds raised can also vary depending on how much of the food you are able to get donated, so as soon as you have a date finalised then it's a good idea to approach your local supermarkets, butchers and bakeries and ask them if they will donate some (or all) of the goods you need.

It's also important to remember to ask your local Bunnings if there are any council restrictions or OH&S requirements you will need to meet (just to be on the safe side).

Three helpful tips from people who have held a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle BBQ Fundraising are:

- Cook onions (they're strong smell attracts hungry people)
- 2. Stay in mobile contact with the next roster of volunteers (in case you need extra supplies picked up)
- Wherever possible have sausage sizzles on Saturdays over Sundays or weekday evenings (as 3. they're more successful).

For more information on how your community group can organise a Bunnings sausage sizzle, contact your local store or visit the Bunnings website.





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