

FIND NEW RESTAURANTS BEFORE THEY OPEN

How to use the Permit Lead Finder — about 5 minutes, no tech skills needed.

Every new restaurant needs its grease trap pumped before it can open its doors. The hard part is finding those restaurants before another hauler does. This tool finds them for you. Here's how it works, step by step.

WHAT YOU NEED: A computer or phone, and a free AI account (Claude, ChatGPT, or Perplexity). That's it.

1 Type in your city and state.

Pick how far back to look — 30 days is a good start. Then click FIND PERMIT LEADS.

2 Read the message box.

A green check means we found building permits — real kitchens being built right now, pulled straight from your city's records. Each one shows the address, what's being built, and the owner's name when the city lists it. Didn't find any? That's normal — most cities don't share their records this way. Just move on to Step 3.

3 Run AI Prompt 1 to find restaurants coming to town.

Click COPY PROMPT. Then paste it into Claude, ChatGPT, or Perplexity — and make sure web search is turned on. The AI checks the news, new liquor license filings, and job postings. It hands you back a list of restaurants that haven't opened yet.

4 Pick one and run AI Prompt 2.

Found a restaurant you want? Type its name and address into the box. The prompt fills itself in. Copy it, paste it into your AI, and you get two things back: the owner's contact info, and a short email and text message that are ready to send.

5 Send it the same day. Then keep watch.

The earlier you reach out, the better your shot at the account. After that, use the one-click searches at the bottom of the tool once a week — five minutes every Monday keeps new leads coming in.

WHY THIS WORKS

A restaurant can't open without a working grease trap — the health inspector makes sure of it. If you show up while the walls are still bare, you're not selling. You're solving a problem they don't even know they have yet. That's how you win the account before anyone else calls.

TWO QUICK TIPS

- No luck this week? Widen the time window to 60 or 90 days, or run the tool for the next town over.
- One phone call beats ten searches: ask your county health department for new food permits each week.