



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

August 2019

Save the Date for the Next Annual Conference

Save the date for the 2020 Annual Conference scheduled for April 1-2, in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Funds Available

Trainer Sharing Program

Are you short a trainer for your class? Do you need someone to fill in for a couple of modules? We can help. The Center has funds to bring in trainers to your state to ensure every farmer has an equal chance to attend a class near them. Contact Ellen for details or [formally request trainer sharing funds](#) through our website.

Funding is available to support sending a lead trainer of the Produce Safety Alliance grower training, Preventive Controls Human Food training, or other food safety certified program training in the absence of lead trainers.

Twelve travel stipends (up to \$500) will be available each year. All funds are distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Funding can be requested for a niche population training, but not for an individual company.

Mentorship Program

Would you like assistance getting caught up with the Produce Safety Rule? Would you like to train with experienced trainers to gain experience teaching the Produce Safety Alliance Curriculum, The Preventive Controls Rule, or the Sprouts Rule? The Center is creating a new trainer mentorship program. Contact Angela for more information.

[Apply for the program here.](#)

Each pair will make a 6 to 9 month commitment to meeting monthly online and once in person. Eight stipends (up to \$500) are available each year. All funds are distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Participants are expected to attend a pre-program webinar and program evaluation. Each mentoring pair will establish their own goals for the match.

NCR Training Blast Off



Start the training season off right! Join us for 1.5 days of advanced practical learning among PSA Trainers and Lead Trainers in the NCR. The [NCR Training Blast Off II](#) will be held October 9 and 10, 2019, at the Good Acre food hub in St. Paul, MN. Gain technical knowledge, share best-practices and prepare for the 2019/2020 Grower Training season. Networking, updates and recent developments, hands-on

experience and demonstrations for enhanced understanding of post-harvest water quality management make up this fantastic event. [Register](#) to attend either in-person or via Zoom. There is no cost to register. In-person attendees are responsible for their own food, transportation, and lodging.

Inspectors' Meeting

A meeting is being planned to help inspectors create consistency across state lines. Join other Departments of Agriculture staff in Hancock, WI, on August 6-7, 2019. The event will run from noon August 6 and will conclude around 4:00 pm on August 7. Contact [Shawn Bartholomew](#) for more information.

Event is limited to 35 people and [registration](#) is required. It's not too late to sign up.

There is no cost to attend, but participants will be responsible for their own food, transportation, and lodging. Lunch is provided on August 7.

Alternate Curriculum

Is your alternate curriculum ready to be reviewed? Are you in the beginning stages of developing a new curriculum? The NCR FSMA, in conjunction with the Lead Regional Center, the FDA, the USDA, and other partners, has developed a review process. You can start the first stage when you have descriptions of the proposed learning objectives and learning activities. You can [submit an individual module or an entire curriculum](#).

Contact [Angela](#) with questions.

Upcoming NCR FSMA Meetings

The Listening Sessions/ Webinars happen the third Thursday of every month at 2:00 Central time. Join us for the next meeting on August 15.

Don Stoeckel from the Produce Safety Alliance will be speaking on the science behind the water requirements. He will discuss methods used, such as Colilert™ and EPA Method 1603, as well as where the numbers 126 and 410 came from. If time and interest align, he could dive into murkier content such as current understanding of when ground water becomes surface water (transfer and storage in containments) or other questions you may have.

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

[Join the meeting.](#)

Or, go to <https://iastate.zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID: 845 702 039

Join from dial-in phone line:

Dial: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 845 702 039

Update from the last meeting:

If you missed the July 18 meeting where Kaiping Deng shared about the Sprout Safety Alliance [you can find a recap on our website.](#)

Upcoming Events

Abstracts for the [Urban Food Systems Symposium](#) set for June 4 - 6, 2020, in Kansas City, MO, are now being accepted. The abstract submission deadline is 5 p.m. CST, November 1, 2019. The symposium brings together researchers, not-for-profit administrators, community organizers, extension professionals, students, and others, to share and gain knowledge on urban food systems and agriculture and their role in global food security. The focus is on climate change; nutrition and human health; food production and distribution in cities; urban planning and development; food security; food policy and advocacy; international perspectives; community engagement; and urban planning and economic development.

Federal Updates

In early July, the FDA and USDA released their "[Robust Strategy to Prevent Illnesses Caused by Cyclospora.](#)"

In mid-July, the USDA announced [\\$16 million in funding](#) to support socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers. "All farmers and ranchers deserve equal access to USDA programs and services," said Mike Beatty, director of the USDA Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement.

Educational Add On Updates

Highlighted Resource



[Bodily Fluid Clean up on the Farm](#). Excerpt: All bodily fluids are considered potentially infectious. In order to be safe, assume that all bodily fluids will make you sick. Examples of bodily fluids include vomit, diarrhea, feces, urine, blood, and saliva.

You should notify a supervisor responsible for food safety on the farm whenever you see bodily fluids in the field. Always ask for help if you are unsure how to safely clean up bodily fluid and/or feces.

If you have any open wounds or cuts, you must make sure they are fully covered with an impermeable cover (bandages/gloves/dressings), that will stay on firmly.

If you have symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea, you must never handle produce or food contact surfaces (packing lines, harvesting equipment, buckets, bins, etc.). This could cause cross-contamination to make other people sick or contaminate food contact surfaces and produce.

Find suggestions for safely handling bodily fluids on food contact surfaces, in the field, and on clothes.

Resources being edited by the subgroups

- **FSMA Summary for Midwest Hops Growers:** This document is to assist those who grow Hops with compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule.
- **On-Farm Training Guide for Employees and Volunteers:** This is a flip-chart that can be used as a training guide for employees and volunteers on produce farms. It is broken into Pre-Harvest, Harvest, and Post-Harvest activities and can be used in one session or multiple sessions.

Success Stories

Read about the [work of Cal Jamerson](#) and how he is working with a hydroponic lettuce and herb greenhouse in Kansas to implement food safety practices in their business. This article is published by Morning Ag Clips.

Upcoming PSA Courses

- Indiana: Aug. 5
Kansas: Aug. 2 and 26; Sept. 6; Oct. 3; Nov. 8 and 15
Missouri: Nov. 13
Nebraska: Nov. 15

Check out the [Calendar](#) for postings of PSA courses offered nationally.

Find a list of [registered PSA Trainers](#).

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Upcoming FSPCA Courses

- Illinois: PC Human Food: Aug. 6, 7, 12, 20, and 27; Sept. 16 and 18; Oct. 1 and 21; Nov. 4 and 5; Dec. 9
FSVP: Aug. 8 and Oct. 24
- Indiana: PC Human Food: Nov. 12
- Iowa: PC Human Food: Aug. 12; Sept. 30; Dec. 2
- Kansas: PC Human Food: Aug. 13; and Oct. 22
FSVP: Aug. 20
- Michigan: PC Human Food: Sept. 18
FSVP: Oct. 10
- Minnesota: PC Human Food: Sept. 11 and 23
FSVP: Sept. 26
- Nebraska: PC Human Food: Aug. 14 and Oct. 21
PC Animal Food: Jun. 25
- Ohio: PC Human Food: Aug. 14
- Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Aug. 7; Sept. 4; Nov. 5
- Online: Human Food: Aug. 9 and 13; Sept. 18, 20, and 24; Oct. 9, 10, 23, 24, and 25; Nov. 7, 20, and 21; Dec. 12
PC Animal Food: Aug. 1; Sept. 3; Oct. 21

Check out the [calendar](#) for postings of FSPCA courses offered nationally. Check out the [calendar](#) for postings of FSPCA courses offered nationally.

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Thanks for your continued interest in the North Central Region Center for FSMA Training, Extension, and Technical Assistance as we develop the necessary foundation for future collaboration. If you have specific questions or feedback, please email ncrfsma@iastate.edu.

Sincerely,

NCR FSMA Training Center Team

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