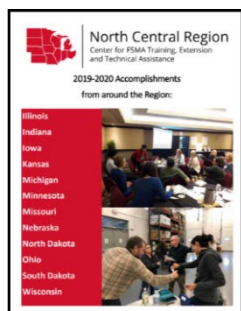


# North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension  
and Technical Assistance

August 2020



## Reporting Book

---

The [2020 NCR Reporting Book](#) was recently released. Celebrate the accomplishments in all twelve states and read success stories from around the region. This updated link should work if you don't have a Box account.

Would you like printed copies of the book to share around your state? [Let us know](#) and we'll mail them to you.

## FSOP Virtual Sharing Conference

---

### Food Safety Outreach Projects Virtual Sharing Conference

**August 18 - 19 (12:00-4:00 pm Central time, each day)**

This two half-day virtual meeting is a collaboration between the Lead Regional Coordination Center, four regional centers, and USDA NIFA to highlight Food Safety Outreach Programs throughout the country. This meeting is required for FSOP recipients. Everyone is welcome to register and attend. [Register for the conference here.](#)

## Federal Updates

---

The FDA released a [summary of its COVID-19 response](#) in early July.

On July 10, the FDA released information about [resuming domestic inspections](#), with an emphasis on risk assessment.

At the end of July, the FDA announced a [new protocol for the development and registration of treatments for pre-harvest agricultural water](#).

## Job Opening

---

The Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety (NECAFS) seeks a full-time, work from home [Research Specialist](#) to coordinate and administer several activities of the regional Preventive Controls for Human Foods Workgroup and national produce safety evaluation efforts.

## Reviewers Needed

---



Reviewers are needed for add on materials through the NCR. Compensation is provided. If you would be willing to be part of the review process, [please fill out this survey](#) and let us know your areas of expertise. You will be contacted when an add on is submitted in your area.

## Partner Updates

---

The Produce Safety Alliance recently [released their training numbers](#) through June 2020, including 61 remote courses and 7 online courses.

Do you have team members who need to attend a PSA Train-the-Trainer course? Would it be helpful for these TtT events to be regionally-based? [Contact Don Stoeckel](#) with your thoughts.

The National Young Farmers Coalition and the Local Food Safety Collaborative are still looking for growers to be part of their online focus groups. [Contact Billy Mitchell](#) with questions.

## Produce Safety Alliance Temporary Policy

---



The PSA is [temporarily allowing remote delivery](#) of PSA Grower Training Courses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy will be in effect until *December 31, 2020*, with the potential for extending this date pending updates on the pandemic. PSA will rigorously review course evaluations under this temporary policy. PSA reserves the right to revise or rescind the remote delivery option for individual trainers or teams should evaluations indicate this is in the best interest of training participants.

## 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. The review process is free for any group or organization who is developing an alternate curriculum. It is designed to be a clear process to help developers meet the equivalency standards.

Organizations can start the first stage when they have descriptions of the proposed learning objectives and learning activities. Find out more on the [Alternate Curriculum](#) page on the NCR FSMA website. 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 20**. We'll be discussing how we can collaborate on offering Produce Safety Alliance Grower Trainings at the beginning of the meeting and then everyone will have a chance to share ideas and ask questions.

Here are some thoughts from Don Stoeckel:

In recognition of the ongoing situation with COVID-19 and associated restrictions, in late July the Produce Safety Alliance extended the Temporary Remote Delivery Policy through December 31, 2020. The North Central Regional FSMA Center, Produce Safety Alliance, and other collaborators would like to take a few minutes to discuss some related topics as we all prepare education and outreach plans for fall 2020.

If you would like to participate, please fill out [THIS QUALTRICS survey](#) by 18 August.

During the listening session we will briefly discuss data from the survey, share efforts by NCR, PSA, PSN, and other organizations to support training programs across the North Central region, and explore potential avenues for enhanced multi-state collaboration on Remote Delivery PSA courses.

The following topics are discussed in the Qualtrics survey:

- **Demand** for PSA Grower Training courses by your produce farms (growers, harvesters, and packers)
- **Benefits** to consolidating effort, across State-level teams, perhaps in the form of collaborative Remote Delivery courses
- **Barriers**, potential or known (e.g., State CAP funds used to support expenses for participants from other states, coordination of planning effort, other administrative challenges)?

Thank you for taking the time to consider these questions; we look forward to working together toward an efficient and effective 2020/2021 outreach season.

**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 16 call where we discussed the focus groups the National Young Farmers Coalition/Local Food Safety Collaborative are hosting, the Train-the-Trainer events the Produce Safety Alliance is hosting, and a few other topics, you can [catch up on our website](#).

The **meeting for inspectors/state regulators** happens the first Friday of the month at 9:00 am Central time. State government staff take turns leading a discussion, and there's time to share what's happening in your state and ask questions. The next meeting is scheduled for **Friday, August 7**. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

The **meeting about farm inventories** for state government employees is happening on **Friday, November 20**, at 9:00 am Central time. If you are charged with developing or maintaining the farm inventory in your state, please plan to join the call. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

## Funding Available

---



If you're an NCR partner (someone who attends listening sessions, engages with the Center, etc.) and would like to take an online professional development course (such as the online PSA course), please let [Ellen](#) know. We have funding available to help cover this cost. These funds are not available to growers unless they have been involved in the NCR FSMA.

## Educational Add On Updates

---



### New Resource from the NCR FSMA

[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.

### New Resources from our partners

UMN Extension horticulture team has created a series of [short COVID-19 videos](#) to provide science-based information on transmission of the disease and how to reduce risks on farm and at farmers' market settings. They were made to be very short, and the intended audience is small farmers in any agricultural sector, especially farmers who are not native English speakers. Find links to the videos in English, Spanish, and Hmong on our website.

"On-Farm Produce Safety for Small Growers in the Age of COVID-19" is a webinar available from Michigan State University in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

**Have a new resource you created?** Let us know and we'll highlight in the next newsletter and on social media.

## Upcoming PSA Courses

---

Ohio: in-person course on August 12

Online course: begins every two weeks

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

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

## Upcoming FSPCA Courses

---

Illinois: PC Human Food: Aug. 4, 10, 25, and 26; Sept. 7, 8, 14, 23, and 28; Oct. 5, 12, 13, 20, and 28; Nov. 3, 4, 16, and 30; Dec. 1, 7, 8, and 14.

PC Animal Food: Oct. 19.

FSVP: Aug. 11 and 31; Sept. 21 and 22; Oct. 8 and 20; Nov. 17 and 19; Dec. 10.

Iowa: PC Human Food: Sept. 14; Dec. 7.

Minnesota: PC Human Food: Oct. 21.

Nebraska: PC Human Food: Dec. 2.

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Aug. 4, 10, and 18; Oct. 6; Nov. 4 and 10; Dec. 8.

Online: Human Food: Aug. 3, 5, 8, 12, 18, 19, 24, 26, 27, and 28; Sept. 1, 2, 13, 23, 25, 26, and 28; Oct. 2, 7, 13, 20, and 26; Nov. 4, 11, and 30; Dec. 1, 2, and 18.

PC Animal Food: Aug. 3, 9, 11, and 12; Sept. 8; Oct. 5, 12, and 14; Nov. 2 and 16; Dec. 7.

FSVP: Aug. 10, 18, and 26; Sept. 22; Oct. 13; Nov. 10.

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

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Visit our website](#)

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](mailto:ncrfsma@iastate.edu).

Sincerely,

NCR FSMA Training Center Team

Angela M Shaw, Project Director (FDA Center)

Anirudh R. Naig, NCR FSOP Coordinator

Ellen Johnsen, Project Manager

Joe Hannan, Project Director (USDA Center)

Arlene Enderton, Project Evaluator

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to [www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext).