



# North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension  
and Technical Assistance

## August 2023

### Upcoming NCR FSMA Events

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The [Fall Professional Development event](#) will be October 3-4, in Jefferson City, MO. Everyone who works with the Produce Safety Rule (educators and regulators) is invited! Join the group for 1.5 days of hands-on activities and discussions to prepare for the winter PSA training season. Some of the sessions will be recorded and shared later, if you can't attend in-person.

Registration will open soon.

### FDA Updates

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In a [video and infographic](#), the FDA provides an overview of the traceback process used to examine the complex path of food as it travels through the supply chain and how that information is used during a foodborne outbreak.

### New Resource Developed

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Check out the new podcast, [Mountain Time Almanac](#), from Bear Butte Gardens! The USDA organic-certified, small family farm is owned and operated by Michelle and Rick Grosek. Together with their employees and South Dakota State University Professor and Extension Horticulture Specialist Rhoda Burrows, they are talking produce safety and what it means on their farm. The farm utilized an NCR FSMA stipend for new resource development to purchase the necessary equipment.

How could the NCR FSMA stipends expand your work? Let Ellen know what ideas you have to develop new resources for under-served audiences in the region.

### Announcements from our partners

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A PSA Advanced Trainer Workshop has been scheduled for October 17-19, in Geneva, NY. Please [sign up for updates](#), if you'd like more information about the event.

Season Three of the CONTACT Team's Produce Safety Webinar Series will begin this fall. ***“Root Cause Analysis (Part 1: What & Why; Part 2: How/Real World Applications)”***, will be held Sept. 7 and Oct. 5, at 2:30 pm, Central time. This webinar is free and registration is required.

## NCR FSMA Evaluation Project

One of the objectives of the no-cost extension for the second round of NCR FSMA funding (2018-2021) was a long-term behavioral change study of participants who took the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training, four to six years after taking the course.

The results have been published as "Produce Safety Alliance Training: Long-Term Behavioral Change Study in the North Central Region" in *Food Protection Trends*. If you're a member of IAFP, you can read the article online. Otherwise, you can [read the abstract](#).

## Annual Conference

Would you like to help plan the next annual conference? We'll be meeting online soon to make decide on location and days. Please let Ellen know if you're interested in making those decisions.

## Highlighted NCR FSMA Resource



[Farm Stands and U-Pick Produce Operations](#)- Inviting customers to your farm with a Farm Stand or U-Pick is a great way to engage the public and educate consumers about agriculture in general and specifically, where and how our food is produced. In addition, hosting farm visitors can lead to other business opportunities while providing consumers with fresh fruits and vegetables essential for a healthy diet. However, inviting the public onto your farm brings

additional concerns related to safety (humans and food) and liability. You must make visitors aware of policies and procedures to protect covered produce and food contact surfaces from contamination by people and take all steps reasonably necessary to ensure that visitors comply with such policies and procedures.

## New Resources on the Produce Safety Clearinghouse

A [compilation of existing flood resources](#) has been created for both produce growers and processors. Flooding presents a range of challenges for food growers and processors—including how to ensure safe food production. This resource collection provides a list of information and tools that food producers can refer to when understanding how to respond to flooding, including federal guidance, assessing risk, decision support, and food handling and processing recommendations. While the primary audience for this document is produce growers, there are also resources to support food processors and individuals.

## Funding Available

In the past 2 months, the NCR FSMA has helped a partner attend the IAFP conference; paid for mailing a produce safety newsletter to Plain growers; and bought supplies for a handwashing station to be constructed during a workshop. How can the NCR FSMA expand your work? To access these \$500 stipends for professional development, outreach to underserved communities, or resource development/translation, [apply on our website](#). One of each of these stipends is available to each state, per year of our grant.

## NCR FSMA Meetings

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The [Listening Sessions/ Webinars](#) happen on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. The next meeting is on Thursday, August 17, and we'll have three presenters. Jessica Fish from Cankdeska Cikana Community College will be presenting on their FSOP award-Promoting Safe Practices through Preservation of Food and Native American Culture: Food Safety Through Preservation.

We will also hear from Michelle Grosek about the new podcasts she and her staff have created with Rhoda Burrows of SDSU.

Arlene Enderton will be presenting on the long-term behavior change study.

Update from last month's meeting: Our speaker was unable to attend the July webinar, so we had a short meeting sharing announcements. We will reschedule the talk on controlled environment agriculture.

The meeting for [state inspectors/regulators](#) will be Friday, August 4, at 9am, Central time.

The meeting for [data/inventory/outreach staff](#) will be on Friday, August 18, at 9am, Central time.

The meeting for [program managers](#) will be Tuesday, August 8, at 10am, Central time.

Please contact us if you need call information for any of these meetings.

## PSA Courses

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Kansas and Missouri: Aug. 1 & 3 (remote)

The Online delivery course is offered monthly.

Check out the [calendar](#) of PSA courses offered nationally.

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

## Upcoming FSPCA Courses

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Illinois: PC Human Food: Aug. 16; Sept. 14 and 20; Oct. 23  
FSVP: Sept. 19; Oct. 26

Iowa: PC Animal Food: Aug. 28

Kansas: PC Animal Food: Aug. 22

Michigan: PC Human Food: Sept. 19  
FSVP: Sept. 12

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Aug. 15

Online: PC Human Food: Aug. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, and 30; Sept. 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, and 28; Oct. 2, 3, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, and 30  
PC Human Food (Spanish): Aug. 7, 14, 21, and 28; Sept. 4, 11, 18, and 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, and 30  
PC Human Food (Chinese): Aug. 7, 14, 21, and 28; Sept. 4, 11, 18, and 25; Oct. 2  
  
PC Animal Food Aug. 1, 2, 7, 9, and 23; Sept. 5, 7, 13, 20, 25, 27, and 29; Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11, 24, 25, and 30  
  
FSVP: Aug. 1, 7, 11, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, and 31; Sept. 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 18, 19, 25, 27, 28, and 29; Oct. 2, 9, 13, 10, 16, 17, 19, 23, 27, and 30

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

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Thank you for your continued involvement with the NCR FSMA!

Sincerely,  
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If you'd like to be [removed from the NCR FSMA mailing list](#), please let us know.

