



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

December 2021

NCR FSMA Annual Conference



Mark your calendars for the NCR FSMA virtual annual conference on March 1 and 3, 2022, 9am-4pm, Central time. We plan to have multiple sessions for people who work in different areas of produce safety. **We need more volunteers for the planning committee**, please [contact Angela](#).



Success Stories

Read our latest success story on our Impacts website. We currently have twenty success stories on our website. Each story shares how an individual has been impacted by the work of our partners and makes the case for continued funding for projects around our region. There are stories from almost every state, so if you'd like one added from your state, please let us know and we'll help write a story.



Many farmers have asked Iowa Valley RC&D for guidance on how to set up a low cost, food safe, GAP certifiable, and efficient space for washing and packing produce. With funds from the North Central Region Center for FSMA Training, Iowa Valley designed and constructed a [temporary pack shed structure](#) and created an instructional building guide to enable anyone to construct the pack shed on their own.

Do you have a great story about the impact your work is making? We would like to highlight it. You can write the story or NCR FSMA staff can write it for you. Unfortunately, all the stipends for writing success stories have been awarded. If you've been in contact with Ellen about writing a story, you will receive the stipend, but we have not budgeted for more in the future.

Update from the Long-Term Behavioral Change Study:



The Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Iowa State University has approved the upcoming long-term behavioral change study. Led by Arlene Enderton, this study will evaluate what behavioral changes have occurred with growers who took the Produce Safety Alliance training in 2017 and 2018 (the first 2 years of the offering). This will require time for Interview Question Development, Human Subject Approval, recruitment of participants, and interviewing at least 50 growers. This estimate is based on Produce Safety Alliance Grower training number of 860 participants and a 5% interview rate. The research team will be reaching out to lead trainers in all 12 states soon to start the process of recruitment. If you desire to assist with this project or need more information about this project, please contact ncrfsma@iastate.edu.

Funding Available

Funds are available to pay for educator/regulator professional development and for the trainer sharing program. In most cases, the NCR FSMA will reimburse you for expenses after the event. *** Updated policies for the new grant: Stipends are \$500 each for the professional development funds and trainer sharing program. Each state may apply for one stipend for each program per year. If not all the funds have been requested by July, states may apply for additional stipends.

[USDA NIFA Food Safety Outreach Program](#) has released the [RFA](#) for Fiscal Year 2022. The range of awards is listed as \$80,000-\$550,000 with estimated total funding of \$10,000,000. Applications are due December 13. If you need a letter of support, please contact, ncrfsma@iastate.edu by December 6.

Partner Webinars

The [CONTACT Team](#) (based at the University of Florida) is delighted to bring you “Agricultural Water Treatment: It's not rocket science... or is it?”, on December 3 at 2:30 pm Central time. This webinar will feature Dr. Channah Rock with two other professionals who have been in the trenches of water treatment: Lupe Camarena and LaTaunya Tillman. This live, one-hour presentation/panel will be followed by 30 min Q&A. This will be a reoccurring, monthly Produce Safety Webinar Series.

This webinar is free. [Registration is required.](#) Produce safety industry, government, and academia are encouraged to attend.

During the FSMA Collaborative Forum Call on November 22, there was a presentation from the FDA Produce Safety Education and Outreach Workgroup on the Produce Safety Knowledge Gaps (Data Set). [Watch the webinar](#) with the passcode below.

Passcode: k0*L1n8y

Join University of Minnesota Extension and farmer trainer partners for on-farm food safety educational opportunities this winter. They will be offering [GAPs Half-Day Training Courses](#) and [One-Hour GAPs Deep-Dive Webinars](#).

Upcoming NCR FSMA Meetings



The **Listening Sessions/ Webinars** happen on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. The next meeting will be on December 16. Luke LaBorde, from Penn State Extension, will be sharing resources for working with Plain Growers.

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:

We discussed regional evaluation projects for grower educators and processor educators at the most recent listening session. You can [watch the recording](#) in the Box. We only recorded the joint beginning of the conversation, not the breakout rooms with the different educators. Contact us if you need access.

The meeting for state inspectors/regulators happens the first Friday of most months 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 group will meet next on **Friday, December 3**. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

State employees responsible for farm inventories have scheduled their next call for **Friday, December 17**, at 9:00 am Central time. Please contact [Ellen](#) for call information or if you have a topic you'd like to discuss.

A meeting for program managers has been scheduled. If you oversee the CAP grant in your state and didn't receive the invitation, please be in touch.



Upcoming PSA Courses

Iowa in-person: Jan. 27; March 8

Iowa/Nebraska/North Dakota/South Dakota remote: December 14; Feb. 9 & 16; April 5 & 6

Kansas in-person: January 7

Kansas/Missouri remote: Jan. 25 & 27

Michigan in-person: Dec. 6; Jan. 11; Feb. 1

Michigan remote: Jan. 25; Mar. 8 and 22; Apr. 26

Online course: begins every three 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: Dec. 1, 7, 13, and 15; Jan. 10, 18, 19, and 26; Feb. 7, 8, and 28; Mar. 1, 7, and 30; Apr. 4 and 25; May 9 and 25; June 6

PC Animal Food: Apr. 19

FSVP: Jan. 13 and 25; Feb. 16; Mar. 3, 15, and 23; Apr. 28

Iowa: PC Human Food: Dec. 7; Jan. 12; Feb. 9

PC Animal Food: Dec. 8; Jan. 11 and 18; Feb. 15

FSVP: Dec. 2; Feb. 9

Michigan: PC Human Food: Mar. 22

FSVP: Dec. 6; Jan. 18; Feb. 23

Nebraska: PC Animal Food: Dec. 13

Ohio: PC Human Food: Dec. 14

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Dec. 13; Jan. 18; Feb. 22; May 17

Online: PC Human Food: Dec. 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 20, 27, 28, and 31;

Jan. 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, and 26; Feb. 1, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, and 23;

Mar. 2, 8, 14, 16, 21, 25, 29, and 31; April 12, 13, and 25; May 5, 12, 18, and 23

PC Human Food (Spanish): Dec. 6, 13, 20, and 27

PC Human Food (Chinese): Dec. 6, 12, 20, and 27

PC Animal Food: Dec. 1; Jan. 3 and 14; Feb. 4, 7, and 16;

Mar. 7, 11, and 29; Apr. 4; May 9; June 6

FSVP: Dec. 2, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 17, and 28; Jan. 18 and 20;

Feb. 2, 9, 10, and 23; Mar. 15, 22, and 24; April 12; May 17

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

2018-2021 Funding

Anirudh R. Naig

2018-2024 Funding

Angela M Shaw,
Project Director
Arlene Enderton
Ellen Johnsen

2021-2024 Funding

Byron Chaves
Dan Fillius
Kathiravan Krishnamurthy
Phil Tocco

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