



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

January 2023

Survey Response Needed



What professional development do you need? What topics would you like to see covered at our webinars, conferences, and meetings? Please let us know by [filling out the survey](#).

Please let us know what you think by January 27.

Advanced PSA Training

Would you be interested in attending an Advanced PSA Training, held in the North Central Region? The event is a three-day training, not including travel time. Registration would be approximately \$1000. Travel, lodging, and food would be extra on top of the registration fee.

If you are interested in attending, would you be willing to serve on a planning team? This would include attending the Advanced PSA training being held in February, down in Florida and being part of the set up and clean up team (arriving a day early and staying a day late).

We are trying to determine if there is enough demand to hold the training in our region, so [please let us know](#) either way. Thanks!

Annual Conference

The NCR FSMA annual conference will happen March 15-16, in Eau Claire, WI.

A farm tour of [Superior Fresh](#) will happen on the morning of March 15. Space is very limited, so please register quickly if you are interested in attending. Once you've registered for the conference, you'll receive an email that includes how to sign up for the farm tour.

[Registration is now open](#). Registration costs \$75. The registration deadline is Friday, February 17. When you register, you will have the opportunity to sign up to share a poster, a lightning round talk, and about the work you are doing with under-served groups. (You can change your mind about these until late February.) You will also be asked which breakout session you'll be most likely to join. (You can also change your mind about that one at the conference.)



We will be meeting at the Lismore Hotel, in Eau Claire, WI, where we had planned to hold the April 2020 conference. Rooms are available for \$149/night. Please book your rooms by February 11 to take advantage of the conference rate. Each individual guest must make a reservation through the property front desk by calling 715-835-8888 option (0) for guest services or [booking online](#), with group code NCF. If using the website, click on "Special Rate" after you enter the dates and before you click "Room Rates." Be sure to enter the code in the box labeled "Group Code" and not "Promotional Code." Guests making such reservations must identify themselves as members of Group.

What's New on the Produce Safety Clearinghouse?

Did you know that you can [sign up for a weekly email](#) that includes all the new content on the Produce Safety Clearinghouse?

[Food Safety in Blessing Boxes](#)- Many communities have Blessing Boxes, Parking Lot Pantries, or similar efforts to offer easy access to foods and other items for people in need, which helps improve food security. Such boxes also are convenient places for people to donate food and other items. However, because these pantries are normally outside and subject to extreme temperatures in various seasons of the year, not all foods are safe to donate. It is critical that foods available through "Blessing Boxes" are as safe and nutritious as possible to truly be a blessing to those using the boxes.

This resource was put together by members of the NCFSEN group.



Highlighted NCR FSMA Resource

[FSMA Compliant Thermophilic Composting](#) is another of the NCR FSMA resources that were developed in 2018. Learn more about biological soil amendments of animal origin in this document.

Federal Updates

If you missed the FDA [webinar on the Food Traceability Final Rule](#) from December 7, you can watch the recording.

USDA's largest annual gathering, the [2023 Agricultural Outlook Forum](#), will happen February 23-24. The "U.S. Agriculture: Seeds of Growth Through Innovation," Forum will focus on the role of innovation in driving agricultural growth while ensuring sustainability. There are a small number of food safety workshops during the event. Registration is required to attend in-person or virtually. There is no cost to attend virtually.

On the last day of the 2022 Senate calendar, [Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban was confirmed](#) as the USDA's Under Secretary for Food Safety.

Funding Available

The NCR FSMA budgeted funds to support professional development, outreach to underserved communities, and resource development/translation. To access these \$500 stipends, [apply on our website](#). One professional development stipend is available to each state, per year of our grant. If you accessed those funds between September 2021 and August 2022, you can apply again.

Events Sponsored by our Partners

The [Food Safety Summit](#) will be May 8-11, in Illinois. The Food Safety Summit draws leaders and key stakeholders from government, regulatory and academia community as well as growers, processors, retailers, distributors, foodservice, testing laboratories, importing/exporting, law firms, and other food safety professionals.

The next [CONTACT Produce Safety Webinar](#) will cover “The Future is Now: How Data Sharing Enhances Food Safety.” The webinar will be on January 12, at 2:30pm, Central time. This webinar will feature speakers from IFPA, Western Growers, Creme Global and the industry who are active in the space of data sharing.

The [Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association](#) is holding its annual conference January 16-17, in Columbus, OH.

The [Indiana Horticultural Conference and Expo](#) will be held January 23 & 24 in West Lafayette.

The Nebraska MEP, the UNL Food Processing Center and Nebraska Extension are sponsoring this [series of Online Food Safety Courses](#) with Dr. Byron Chaves. Current Good Manufacturing Training; Principles of Pathogen Environmental Monitoring; Principles of HACCP for Food Manufacturers; and Applications of HACCP Principles for Juice Processing are all being offered.

NCR FSMA Meetings

The [Listening Sessions/ Webinars](#) happen on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. At the January 19 meeting, we will hear from our mini grant awardees.

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

The meeting for [state inspectors/regulators](#) will be Friday, January 6, at 9am, Central time.

The meeting for [data/inventory](#) will be Friday, January 20, at 9:00 am, Central time.

The meeting for [program managers](#) will be Tuesday, January 10, at 10:00 am, Central time.

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

PSA Courses

Iowa (in-person): Jan. 11; Feb. 8

Iowa/Nebraska (remote): Jan. 24 & 26

Michigan (remote): Jan. 13 and 23; Feb. 13; Mar. 13

Minnesota (in-person): Jan. 26

Minnesota (remote): Feb. 14 & 15; Mar. 9

North Dakota (in-person): Mar. 30

Ohio (in-person): Jan. 24 and 28

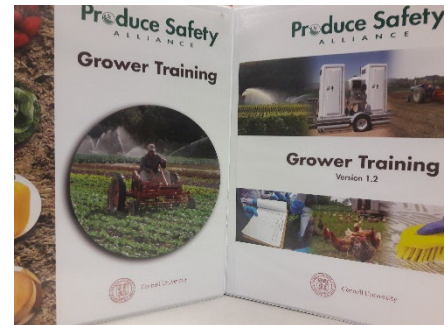
Wisconsin (in-person): Jan. 24; Feb. 28

Wisconsin (remote): Jan. 16 through March 13

Online course: begins once per month.

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

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



Upcoming FSPCA Courses

Illinois: PC Human Food: Jan. 10 and 25; Feb. 7 and 15; Mar. 22; Apr. 18 and 19
FSVP: Jan. 17 and 19; Feb. 14

Iowa: PC Animal Food: Feb. 6

Michigan: PC Human Food: Jan. 9, 11, and 24
PC Animal Food: Feb. 13
FSVP: Jan. 10; Mar. 21

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Feb. 14; Apr. 18

Online: PC Human Food: Jan. 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, and 30;
Feb. 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, 22, 27, and 28;
Mar. 1, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, and 31;
April 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 28
PC Human Food (Spanish): Jan. 2, 9, and 16

PC Animal Food: Jan. 2, 10, 18, 23, 25, and 31; Feb. 6, 8, 13, and 22;
Mar. 6, 9, 22, and 29; Apr. 3, 10, 12, 17, and 26
FSVP: Jan. 2, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 20, 23, 25, 26, and 27;
Feb. 6, 10, 13, 14, 16, 24, and 28; Mar. 6, 9, 14, 16, 24, and 30;
Apr. 3, 14, 20, and 28

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

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Thank you for your continued involvement with the NCR FSMA!

Sincerely,
NCR FSMA Training Center Team
Angela M Shaw
Arlene Enderton
Ellen Johnsen

Byron Chaves
Dan Fillius
Kathiravan Krishnamurthy
Phil Tocco

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