

North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

March 2020

Register by March 9 for the NCR FSMA Annual Conference



Register by March 9 for the second [annual NCR FSMA Center conference](#) in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, scheduled for April 1-2, 2020. The optional tour of Superior Fresh (an aquaponics facility) is currently full, but we can add your name to the waiting list. The room block is available at the Lismore Hotel. To make reservations, call 715-835-8888 and then press 1. Find a [tentative agenda](#) on the website.

Don't forget to sign up for the lightning round talks and poster presentations. We have set aside more dedicated time to allow everyone to visit the poster displays this year. If you did not sign up when you registered, [contact Ellen](#) to get on the list. We would love to highlight the great work that you and your organization are accomplishing!

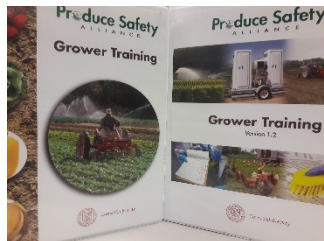
Annual Evaluation Report

Read the [annual evaluation report](#) on our website and get caught up on how we have been assessing our work.

Federal Agency Updates

- As Dr. Deirdra Chester will be on detail this spring, Dr. Jodi Williams will assume the role as the FSOP program area contact until Dr. Chester's return. The [Awards Management Division](#) is also available to answer questions about the Food Safety Outreach Program.
- Information about the [Food Safety Outreach Competitive Grants](#) was posted on February 21, 2020. Applications are due April 7. The Food Safety Outreach Program will build upon the national infrastructure, with a sustained focus on delivery of customized training to members of the target audiences. Awardees will develop and implement food safety training, education, extension, outreach and technical assistance projects that address the needs of owners and operators of small to mid-sized farms, beginning farmers, socially-disadvantaged farmers, small processors, or small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers.

Produce Safety Alliance Manuals- new versions



Do you have a handful of leftover PSA manuals, version 1.1? Do you need a few more to have enough for a class? We hope to organize a manual swap at the annual conference, to make sure more manuals get used. If you would like to participate, please [fill out this survey](#) by March 20. We will coordinate who should bring which manuals to Eau Claire to make a trade. Many apologies to anyone who is flying and finds it is not feasible to participate in this project.

Spanish-language Train-the-Trainer

Minnesota is hosting a two-day Spanish-language PSA Train-the-Trainer (TTT) course on April 18 and 19. This is the first public Spanish-language TTT course in the country; please help spread the word to any and all individuals and organizations who might be interested in participating. The course will be in Falcon Heights, on the border of Saint Paul. Registration is \$70 and includes a manual, lunch on both days, and a certificate of attendance from AFDO. Online registration is available at psp.tix.com. A Spanish-language blurb is below; contact Alexandra Cortes for a Spanish-language flyer or more information – 651-895-0315, producesafety.mda@state.mn.us

Curso Capacitando al instructor de la Alianza para la inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos-PSA

Fecha: sábado 18 & domingo 19 de abril (8:00am – 17:30pm (sábado) y 16:30pm (domingo))

Lugar: Falcon Heights, Minnesota (en la frontera norte de San Pablo)

Inscripción: psp.tix.com

Costo del curso: \$70 (incluye su constancia de finalización del curso, materiales impresos y almuerzo)

Temas del curso: Este curso *de dos días* proporcionará información detallada sobre las Buenas Prácticas Agrícolas (BPA), los requisitos de la Norma de inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos de la Ley de Modernización en la Inocuidad de los Alimentos (FSMA), y una revisión de los siete módulos del currículo de capacitación para productores de la Alianza. También abarca los principios de la educación para el adulto, el desarrollo de relaciones de colaboración y expectativas de los capacitadores.

Preguntas: Alejandra Cortés, Departamento de Agricultura de Minnesota, 651-895-0315, producesafety.mda@state.mn.us

Reporting Book

We are assembling a booklet to highlight all of the excellent work each state is accomplishing. Thank you to everyone who already sent in their statistics and stories. If you have not had a chance to do so, please let us know what you would like included on your state page. Please send the information to [Ellen](#).

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 each) are 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.

Peer Mentorship Program

Want to learn new skills to use in your role as a trainer? Looking to expand your knowledge in a particular area? The Center has a new trainer peer mentorship program. Contact Angela for more information or apply for the program on our [website](#). Each pair will meet virtually and at least once in person. Eight stipends (up to \$1000 each) are available each year to cover travel expenses for the two people to meet. Four are still available for this budget 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.

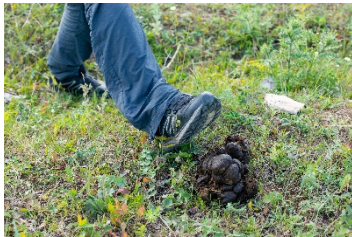
Professional Development Travel Funds

In support of professional development and our mentorship program, we are offering stipends (up to \$750 each) for educators and inspectors to travel to state (cannot be in your employment state), regional, and national produce safety conferences for professional development. You will be expected to have a goal for your travel and report back impacts after the travel. Contact Angela for more information or apply for the program on our [website](#). All funds are distributed on a first come, first served basis. Four are still available. These funds cannot be used for attending NCR FSMA annual conference.

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 March 19. Brandon Carpenter, from Iowa State University, will be speaking on keeping animal scat out of produce production areas.

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 February 20 meeting on well inspection and safety, you can [catch up](#) on our website.

The online meeting for inspectors/state regulators happens the first Friday of the month. 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 be discussing record keeping requirements on March 6.

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

Please click this URL to start or join. <https://iastate.zoom.us/j/628849382>

Or, go to <https://iastate.zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID: 628 849 382

Join from dial-in phone line:

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

Meeting ID: 628 849 382

Upcoming PSA Courses

Illinois: Mar. 10 and 28
Indiana: Mar. 20; Apr. 7
Iowa: Mar. 3 and 26
Kansas: Mar. 19; May 29
Michigan: Mar. 19, 25, and 26
Minnesota: Mar. 10 and 19; Apr. 9 and 14
North Dakota: May 16
Ohio: Mar. 17, 19, 25, 26, and 31; Apr. 8 and 15

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: Mar. 11, 16, and 25; Apr. 13 and 21; May 4; June 8; July 13
FSVP: Apr. 14
Iowa: PC Human Food: Apr. 24; June 11; July 10
Kansas: PC Animal Food: Mar. 17
Michigan: PC Animal Food: Apr. 21; July 28
FSVP: July 8
Minnesota: PC Human Food: Mar. 30; Apr. 15
FSVP: Mar. 31
Nebraska: PC Human Food: May 27
PC Animal Food: May 19
Ohio: PC Human Food: Mar. 23; May 12
Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Apr. 1; May 12 and 19
PC Animal Food: Mar. 10
FSVP: June 23
Online: Human Food: Mar. 23 and 25; Apr. 14, 15, 22, 24, and 27; May 6, 15, and 26;
June 3, 10, 12, and 18; July 13 and 17
PC Animal Food: Mar. 2, 9, and 17; Apr. 6 and 21; May 11; June 8
FSVP: March 17; Apr. 21

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.

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

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