



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

November 2021

Funding Award Announced

Just after we sent the September newsletter, [USDA NIFA announced the awardees for the Food Safety Outreach Program](#). The NCR FSMA Center was one of the regional centers to be funded for the next three years. Three other projects from the North Central Region also received funding. Congratulations Betty Feng (Purdue), Byron Chaves (University of Nebraska), and Jeff Mears (Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council)!

Fall Professional Development



Thank you, Phil Tocco, Annalisa Hultberg, Kristin Krokowski, Kristin Esch, Alison Work, and Heather Borden, for planning the fall professional development. It was great to gather online and hear updates for Produce Safety Alliance trainers. You can find more information on sanitary design on [Chris Callahan's website](#).

NCR FSMA Annual Conference

We're planning another virtual annual conference for March 1 and 3, 2022, 9am-4pm Central time. It's not too late to volunteer to plan the conference, please [contact Angela](#) to get involved.

Cardboard Box Use



At a recent meeting, the issue of [reusing cardboard boxes](#) was discussed. Following the meeting, Kristin Esch, from the FDA, wrote up an in-depth answer, and you can read it on the NCR website.

Success Stories



Two new success story has been added to the NCR FSMA website. Read about how [Lincoln University Cooperative Extension assisted Nhia Xiong](#), a first-generation Hmong refugee and grower in Missouri.

You can also read about the [Food Safety Bites podcasts](#) that offer growers a platform for farmers to access produce safety information in a consistent, accessible format. Thirty-four podcasts have been recorded, which add up to almost seven hours of content.

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.

Meetings for special populations

We're getting people together who work with similar populations across the region. If you work with that population, please contact Ellen for the call information. If you work with a group that isn't listed and would like to meet with people at similar organizations, please let us know. All times are Central time.

- Refugee farmers: Nov. 3 at 2:00
- Urban growers: Nov. 8 at 2:00
- Underserved growers: Nov. 9 at 2:00
- Small processors: Nov. 10 at 10:00
- Tribal growers: Nov. 10 at 2:00

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 (September through August). If not all the funds have been requested by July, states may apply for additional stipends.

Webinars from partner organizations



The FDA and Stop Foodborne Illness, a non-profit public health organization, are collaborating on a webinar series that explores food safety culture, one of the core elements in FDA's New Era of Smarter Food Safety initiative.

The series, entitled "[Collaborating on Culture in the New Era of Smarter Food Safety](#)," begins on Thursday, November 4, 2021 from 9:30 to 11:00 am Central time. This first session is called "Key Concepts in Addressing Food Safety Culture as a Science – Not a Slogan."

Join Washington State University for a [webinar series- FSMA 101 for Organic Processors](#). In this 4-part series, trainers will walk through the different compliance categories of FSMA for food processors as well as review what each category of businesses needs to do to comply. Most of the content in this series is applicable to food processors across the United States. A small portion of the content will address state-specific food safety regulations.

Dr. Suslow will be speaking at the CONTACT Produce Safety Webinar Series. "[Adjacent Land Use Risk... Done Talking About It? Ready To Do Something?](#)" will be held Nov. 4, at 2:30 Central. Site and situational-specific data on adjacent land use risks remains incomplete to provide industry with clear and sensible Best Practice guidance and metrics for preventive controls and standards for verification of mitigation measures.

FDA New Era of Smarter Food Safety Summit on E-commerce was October 19, 20, and 21. Watch the replays at:

- Day 1 October 19, 2021 <https://youtu.be/I9ZhRSzG8Bk>
- Day 2 October 20, 2021 <https://youtu.be/370-3gDPnAs>
- Day 3 October 21, 2021 <https://youtu.be/UK5-Z0y7QMM>

Produce Safety Alliance Updates

If you are interested in being part of the Produce Safety Alliance's efforts to reach Spanish-speaking growers, you can sign up for [email updates](#).

The PSA training remote delivery policy has been extended through December 31, 2022.

Job Openings

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences is seeking full-time Education and Training Specialists who will be part of a state-wide team responsible for coordinating, conducting and documenting training activity related to implementation of the FSMA PSR. One position will be located in Gainesville, and the other position will be based in [Lake Alfred, FL](#). (The position in Gainesville hasn't been posted yet, but you can search for it from the Lake Alfred link soon.)

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 November 18. We will be discussing impacts and how to measure them. We will utilize breakout rooms so people can discuss either PSA or FSPCA training. Please bring your ideas concerning knowledge assessments, how to measure impact from the yearly/supervisor trainings, or assessment ideas that have worked for other programs. We look forward to a discussion where lots of people share ideas.

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:



Billy Mitchell (Local Food Safety Collaborative) and Anita Adalja (National Young Farmers Coalition) presented about the resources their organizations have developed. You can find their sign builder tool, podcasts, and information on writing a food safety plan in the Chat from the meeting. You'll also find people's comments about how much they like the resources.

You can [listen to or watch the recording](#) in the Box. 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, November 5**. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

State employees responsible for farm inventories have scheduled their next call for **Friday, November 19**, at 9:00 am Central time. Please contact [Ellen](#) for call information or if you have a topic you'd like to discuss.

Upcoming PSA Courses

Illinois remote: Nov. 4 & 5

Iowa in-person: January 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: October 28 & November 4

Michigan remote: Nov. 16; Jan. 25

in-person: Jan. 11

Nebraska in-person: November 8

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: Nov. 8, 16, 17, and 30; Dec. 7, 13, and 15; Jan. 18 and 19; Feb. 8
FSVP: Nov. 4; Jan. 13; Feb. 16

Iowa: PC Animal Food: Nov. 2

Kansas: PC Animal Food: Nov. 2

Michigan: PC Human Food: Nov. 3 and 8
FSVP: Nov. 9; Dec. 6; Jan. 18

Nebraska: PC Human Food: Nov. 29
PC Animal Food: Dec. 13

Ohio: PC Human Food: Dec. 14

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Nov. 9; Dec. 13; Jan. 18

Online: PC Human Food: Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 22, and 30;
Dec. 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 20, and 28; Jan. 4, 10, 11, 17, 25, and 26;
Feb. 1, 8, 14, 15, 21, and 23; Mar. 8, 16, 21, 25, and 31; April 25
PC Human Food in Spanish: Nov. 1, 8, and 15
PC Animal Food: Nov. 1, 10, 15, 24, 29, and 30; Dec. 1; Jan. 3 and 14;
Feb. 4, 7, and 16; Mar. 7, 11, and 29; Apr. 4
FSVP: Nov. 5, 8, 10, and 23; Dec. 2, 7, 8, 15, and 17; Jan. 18 and 20;
Feb. 2, 10, and 23; Mar. 15, 22, and 24; April 12

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

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2018-2024 Funding

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2021-2024 Funding

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