

August 2018 Newsletter



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

Center Updates

- **Evaluation report available:**

An executive summary, Long-Term Impact of the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training, is now available on our [website](#). The summary includes results of follow-up surveys sent to growers 12 months after completion of the Produce Safety Alliance course.

- **Resources available for use:**

- Checklist for Preventive Controls Human Food and Good Manufacturing Practice. Available on the [NCR FSMA website](#).
- [Practical Record Keeping](#): A tool to aid growers in determination of qualified exemption and documentation.
- [Interactive quizzes](#) are on the NCR website for those who make Value Added Products and wish to test their knowledge about FSMA requirements. Click on the above link and scroll down to “Value Added Agriculture.”
- [GAP training videos](#) in Hmong (with English subtitles).
- Checklist for Retail Purchasing for Local Fresh Produce. This document provides foodservice buyers with assurances that produce was handled safely. Available on the [NCR website](#).
- Check out our new videos on [Cleaning a Walk-In Cooler](#) and [Cleaning and Sanitizing Crates](#) from Iowa State University through FDA grant (1U18FD005810-01)

- **In late July, the FDA returned these educational add on’s after their review.**

Resources should be available for use soon:

- On-Farm Training Guide for Employees and Volunteers
- U-Pick Guidance
- Wildlife Management Guidance
- Domestic Animal Guidance
- Practical Record Keeping: Pre-Harvest Checklist
- Guidance for Bodily Fluid Clean Up on the Farm
- Biological Soil Amendments (Compost) Guidance
- FSMA Guidance for Orchards and Vineyards

- Value Added Products Fact Sheets: Frozen and Dehydrated Foods; Fermented Foods; Jams and Jellies; and Pickled Vegetables

Upcoming Events

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Courses

- Upcoming Grower PSA courses to be held in the North Central Region:
 - Illinois: August 13
 - Missouri: August 23, December 7
 - Nebraska: November 9
- Contact your State Lead about honorarium opportunities to attend a PSA Course.
- Check out the Calendar for postings of PSA courses offered nationally.
- Find a list of registered PSA Trainers.

Food Safety Preventive Control Alliance Courses (FSPCA) in NCR

- Upcoming FSPCA Courses in the North Central Region
 - Illinois: PC Human Food: Aug. 7, 13, 21, 22, and 28; Sept 24 and 26; Oct 2 and 22; Nov. 6, 13, and 14; Dec. 3. PC Animal Food: Sept 18; FSVP: August 23.
 - Iowa: PC Human Food: Sept. 21 and Dec. 3.
 - Kansas: PC Human Food: Aug. 13-15
 - Michigan: PC Human Food: Sept 25
 - Minnesota: PC Human Food: Aug 29; Sept 11; Nov 7. FSVP: Sept. 13
 - Nebraska: PC Human Food: Sept. 19
 - Ohio: PC Human Food: Sept 12.
 - Wisconsin: PC Human Food: August 21 and 28; Sept. 5; Oct. 2; Nov. 28.
 - Online: Human Food: August 21 and 24; Sept. 6 and 18; Oct. 8 and 12; Nov. 5, 12, 13, 14; Dec. 11 and 12. FSVP: Aug. 8. PC Animal Food: Nov. 19
- Contact your State Lead about an honorarium to attend a FSPCA Course.
- Check out the calendar for postings of FSPCA courses offered nationally.

Updates from the FDA

- FDA Adds New States to Cooperative Agreement Program to Support Produce Safety
The FDA announced in mid-July that they had signed new cooperative agreements with Hawaii, Kentucky, Mississippi and American Samoa, as well as renewed agreements with 43 other states, in support of efforts to implement the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.
In this third year of the State Produce Implementation Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP), awardees are being provided with the resources to formulate and implement produce safety systems; develop and provide education, outreach, and technical assistance; deliver produce safety training; recruit personnel; and develop inventories of farms covered by the Produce Safety Rule to target outreach, education and inspection activities.
- The FDA recently released fact sheets on Equivalent Testing Methodology for Agricultural Water in English and Spanish and for Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origins.

Resources from other agencies

The Produce Safety Alliance recently published tips for a successful PSA Lead Trainer Application.

Updates from the USDA

- AMS released this [FAQ document](#) about the Harmonized GAP Program Aligning with FDA Food Safety Rule

Job Openings

- NIFA is currently recruiting for the position of [Deputy Director of the Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition](#).
- UCONN is currently looking for a [Food Safety Extension Educator](#).
- The [University of Tennessee](#) currently has two positions in food safety open.
- Iowa State is hiring an [Extension Program Specialist II or III](#) (Produce Food Safety Educator).

Updates from the Other Centers

- **North East Center:** Find a blog post on [greens spinners](#) from NECAFS's Chris Callahan on the University of Vermont website.
- **Southern Center:** Find a list of [upcoming trainings](#) in the Southeast on their website.
- **Western Center:** Because the Western region covers drastically different climates, they've divided the Center into [smaller areas](#). Find out more on their website.
- **Tribal Center:** Janie Hipps from the [Tribal Center](#) will be leading a training in the NCR this fall on how best to lead food safety trainings on Tribal lands. More information will be available soon.
- **Local Food Safety Collaborative:** They are working with local partners to promote [Field Days and PSA Trainings](#) to their members.
- **National Coordination Center:** You can read an [NCR success story](#) on the NCC's website.

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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,

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