

Tips

The Food Safety Newsletter for Brown, Nicollet, Watonwan and Cottonwood Counties

Brown-Nicollet Environmental Health

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In This Issue:

TIMELY

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Information for
you and your
family

1. Who needs a flu vaccine?

- a) You
- b) You
- c) You
- d) All of the above

Even healthy people can get the flu.
Protect yourself and your loved ones.
Get vaccinated.



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**Annual
Mandatory
Licensing**

Meeting

TIMES and LOCATIONS

**SAVE THIS
INFORMATION!**

Insert—Sample Survey

Time to start thinking...

Timing is Everything!

You guessed it! It is time for our Annual Licensing Meetings.

The timing is great!

This is a great time for us to learn together.

We will have an opportunity to discuss the most impactful changes proposed in the revision to the Minnesota Food Code.

This is a time for you to give us your best ideas and comments.

As part of this Newsletter, you will find a sample of a survey that will be distributed at the meetings this November. We would like you to think about these questions and your answers before you come to the meetings. After you have completed the survey, close to the end of the meeting, completed surveys will be collected. Those who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for a prize to be awarded at the end of the meeting.

Timing is everything...

Come to the meetings on time....

Think about the Survey questions ahead of time...

Learn about changes that will affect your business in time to meet the new requirements!

See you there!

Flu Season and Peak Norovirus Season is coming.....

Late Fall and Winter is the Peak TIME of Year for Norovirus Infections and Influenza

Noroviruses are the most common cause of food related illness in Minnesota, and reported outbreaks tend to peak at this time of year and into the winter months.

Symptoms of a norovirus infection often include vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, headache and body aches. The key to prevention in our homes, schools, day care centers, assisted living facilities, nursing homes and food establishments is SIMPLE....

1. Stay home if you are ill and have symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea;
(REMEMBER to Report Employee Illnesses to our office as REQUIRED)
2. Wash your hands properly and frequently;
3. Don't prepare foods for others at home or in the community....and remember

There is no vaccine for norovirus (it is not the FLU)!

SO.... Stay home and wash your hands!!!

And speaking of the FLU....Another concern this fall and winter is the spread of influenza. Influenza (the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness. Serious outcomes of flu infection can result in hospitalization or death. Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications. So....to fight the FLU.....



Your city or county
public health department

Find a Flu Shot Clinic near you at
www.mdhflu.com



Mandatory Licensing Meeting Times and Places

Each year every licensed food establishment in Brown, Nicollet, Cottonwood or Watonwan County is required to send at least one owner or manager to one of the following Licensing Meetings. Please review the following schedule of meeting times and places and **make plans now to attend one of these meetings.** You will be receiving your Food/Beverage License Application for 2017 at these meetings.

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 1:30pm—3:00pm

Nicollet County Health and Human Services Building
Lower Level— Minnesota River Room (**NOTE: NEW LOCATION**)
622 S. Front Street—St. Peter, Minnesota

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 9:30am—11:00am

Windom Community Center—Room 105
1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive—Windom, Minnesota

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 1:30pm—3:00pm

Watonwan County Human Services Building—Community Room
715 2nd Ave. S.—St. James, Minnesota

Thursday, November 3, 2016 1:30pm—3:00pm

New Ulm Community Center
600 S. German Street—New Ulm, Minnesota

NOTE: Schools and those establishments licensed as Limited Food Establishments or Service Kitchens **are not** required to attend, but are welcome if they would like to participate.

REMEMBER

You only need to attend one meeting.

If you have questions please call Marcy at 507-934-7092

In the event of inclement weather...if schools located in the town where the meeting is scheduled to take place are closed for the day, our meeting (s) will be cancelled for that day.

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St. Peter, MN 56082

URGENT INFORMATION
In this Newsletter!!!
Annual Licensing Meeting
Schedule

NOTE: Registration Information for the next Certified Food Manager Class and Certified Food Manager Renewal Class will be distributed at these meetings and also on our website.