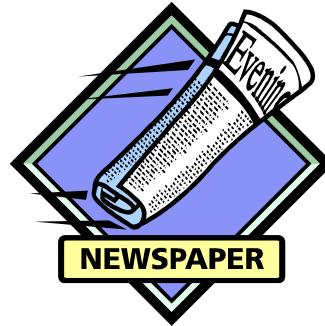


Food Service Quarterly Newsletter

October - December 2008



The LMAS District Health Department is proud to present this quarter's newsletter. Inside you will find information on Manager Food Safety Education, National Food Safety Education Month, and Consumer and Industry Education Fees. We hope that you find the following information beneficial.





Manager Food Safety Certification

As we are all hopefully now aware, the State of Michigan passed a new Food Law that as of April 1, 2008 went into effect. One of the new requirements under section 289.2129 of the Michigan Food Law of 2000, as amended, is that every licensed food service establishment in the State of Michigan shall employ a minimum of one (1) managerial employee who is currently certified in a food safety program that has been accredited by the American National Standard Institute by June 30, 2009 with the exception of the following types of establishments:

- ❑ A mobile food establishment
- ❑ Operating under a temporary food service establishment license
- ❑ A special transitory food unit
- ❑ A vending machine location

Beginning this fall the LMAS District Health Department will be running ServSafe® Certification classes in each of its counties. The ServSafe® Food Safety Manager's Certification course is just one of the three accredited programs that is recognized by the State of Michigan. The first class to be held will be on October 15, 2008 on Mackinac Island. The following is a list of classes that are still open for registration:

- ❑ **Schoolcraft County (Manistique)**
November 3, 2008 at the Comfort Inn in Manistique. Registration Deadline October 17, 2008.
- ❑ **Mackinac County (St. Ignace)**
November 12, 2008 at the Econo Lodge in St. Ignace. Registration Deadline October 24, 2008.
- ❑ **Alger County (Munising)**
December 10, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Express in Munising. Course announcements and registration will be mailed out the end of October.
- ❑ **Luce County (Newberry)**
January 14, 2008 at the Health Department office in Newberry. Course announcements and registration will be mailed out in November.

In order to help our establishments meet this new requirement, the LMAS District Health Department will be charging only the cost of the course materials (textbook, answer sheet, and exam booklet). The registration fee for these classes for a limited time is **\$65**. Announcements/registration forms are currently being sent to the establishments located within the county of the class due to space restrictions. The Luce County class announcement/registration will be sent out to all establishments within our jurisdiction. If you are unable to attend the class scheduled in your county please contact Staci at (906) 643-1100 x 133 to obtain class availability and registration information for other classes.



National Food Safety Education Month

This past September marked the fourteenth annual National Food Safety Education Month sponsored by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. This year's theme was "Take Action to Prevent an Allergic Reaction." This month long event was broken down into five weeks, concentrating on a different aspect of preventing allergic reactions each week.

- ❑ Week 1: Know the most common food allergies.
- ❑ Week 2: Communicating with the customer.
- ❑ Week 3: Avoiding cross-contact.
- ❑ Week 4: When mistakes happen.
- ❑ Week 5: Symptoms of allergic reactions.

Although the month of September and National Food Safety Education Month are over it is never too late to work on training with your staff. Short, easy activities to help educate about preventing food allergy reactions are available on the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation's web site at www.nraef.org/nfsem. Use these activities as handouts for employees. Be creative and make it fun for all to get involved!

All activities are based off of the NRAEF's ServSafe® food safety training program.



Did You Know?

Were you aware that every year as part of your food service establishment-licensing fee you pay the State of Michigan a \$3 Consumer Education Fee and a \$2 Industry Education Fee? This money is appropriated each year to grant applicants for education projects within the food service industry. The LMAS District Health Department will once again be applying for this grant money to cover the cost of one employee from each establishment to take the ServSafe® Food Safety Manager's Certification course. The LMAS District Health Department can use your help in this effort. We ask that you contact your respective State Senator and/or State Representative listed below to request their assistance in ensuring that some of this grant money come back to the owners/operators of the Food Service Industry in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Luce, Alger, & Schoolcraft Counties:

- Senator Michael Prusi
P.O. Box 30036; Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-7840
senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov
- Representative Steven Lindberg
P.O. Box 30014; Lansing, MI 48909
1-888-429-1377
stevenlindberg@house.mi.gov

Mackinac County:

- Senator Jason Allen
P.O. Box 30036; Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-2413
senjallen@senate.michigan.gov
- Representative Gary McDowell
P.O. Box 30014; Lansing, MI 48909
1-888-737-4279
garymcdowell@house.mi.gov