




JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT


P.O. BOX 307, 415 HEALTH DEPARTMENT RD, MURPHYSBORO, IL 62966-0307

PH: 618-684-3143 FAX: 618-684-6023

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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August 31, 2018

As you may be aware, in 2016 the State of Illinois adopted the 2013 US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code, and local health departments are required to begin enforcement of that code by January 1, 2019. Jackson County Health Department (JCHD) recently received word that the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is in the process of amending the Illinois Food Code to incorporate the 2017 FDA Food Code, which is the most current published version from FDA. IDPH anticipates adoption of the rulemaking and switch to the 2017 FDA Food Code by late 2018 or early 2019.

In order to avoid potential confusion, and leave those we regulate in limbo, JCHD will implement the 2017 FDA Food Code on January 1, 2019, pending approval by jurisdictional authorities. This action will eclipse enforcement of the 2013 FDA Food Code for only a short time before IDPH moves to the 2017 FDA Food Code.

You should be aware of requirements under the 2017 Food Code that may require updated policies, procedures, or training by your establishment. These include the following:

- The "Person in Charge" (PIC) is the individual present at a food establishment who is responsible for the operation at the time of inspection. All PICs at Category I & II (high and medium risk) facilities shall be required to be Certified Food Protection Managers (CFPM). In short, every shift manager at Category I & II establishments will be required to have food manager certification.
- Persons in charge shall inform employees of their responsibility to report certain health conditions that may impact the transmission of disease, and are excluding or restricting employees according to the Food Code.
- Establishments must have written procedures detailing the specific action employees must take to respond to vomiting or diarrheal events.
- Inspection violations will no longer be considered "Critical" or "Non-Critical". Violations will be fall into the categories of "Priority", "Priority Foundation", or "Core". See box below for details.

Jackson County Health Department complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATTENTION: Language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-618-684-3143.

Jackson County Health Department cumple con las leyes federales de derechos civiles aplicables y no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, edad, discapacidad o sexo.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-618-684-3143.

Jackson County Health Department postępuje zgodnie z obowiązującymi federalnymi prawami obywatelskimi i nie dopuszcza się dyskryminacji ze względu na rasę, kolor skóry, pochodzenie, wiek, niepełnosprawność bądź płeć.

UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1-618-684-3143.

“Priority” items are a measurable action that directly eliminates or reduces a hazard associated with foodborne illness prevention. For example, food employees shall keep their hands and exposed portions of their arms clean.

“Priority Foundation” items are specific actions to support or enable a priority item. For example, soap must be provided for effective hand washing.

“Core” items usually relate to general sanitation, operational controls, equipment or structure design, or general maintenance and repair. For example, a hand washing sink shall be constructed to be easily cleanable.

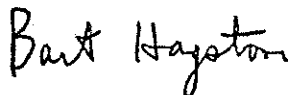
JCHD will no longer be able to award an inspection score. Items on the food establishment inspection report shall be marked as in compliance, out of compliance, not observed, or not applicable. Violations that are corrected on-site during the inspection, or are repeat violations, will continue to be indicated on the inspection report.

In order to provide food establishment management with the tools needed to successfully implement the 2017 Food Code in their establishments, JCHD is providing the following materials and training:

- Web page with links to useful resources, including 2017 Food Code and copy of new inspection report form. Visit www.ichdonline.org and see the “Food Code Updates” link on the right hand side.
- A presentation aimed at food service managers to cover significant changes in the Food Code and the opportunity to ask JCHD food inspectors questions about the code in a non-regulatory setting. Select from any of the three sessions, to be held at Jackson County Health Dept., rear building:
 - Thursday, November 8 from 2:00-3:00pm;
 - Tuesday, November 13 from 9:00-10:00am;
 - Monday, November 19 from 2:00-3:00pm.

We appreciate the efforts of all food service establishments to understand and implement the 2017 Food Code. Please feel free to contact your JCHD inspector with any specific questions at 618/684-3143, ext. 128.

Respectfully,



Bart Hagston, Director
Environmental Health Division

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