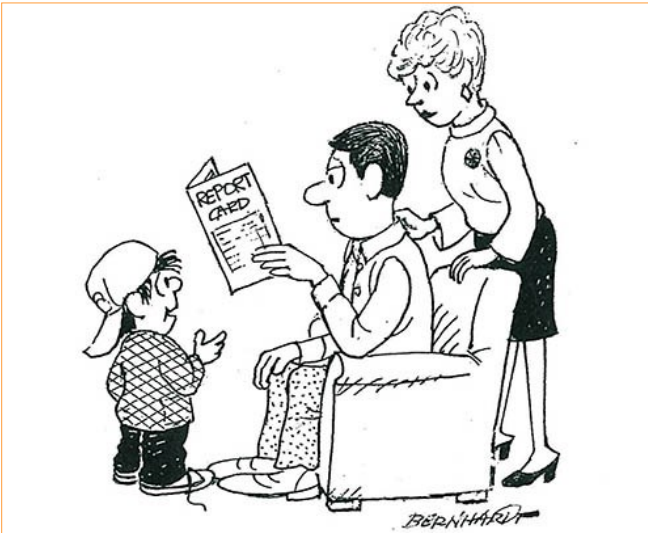


A Taste of What's Happening

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3 FALL 2018

Grades- A Thing of the Past?

I recently attended parent-teacher conferences for my children. Their school adopted a new policy a couple years ago. In standard education, a student takes a test and receives a grade. If the student does not understand the concepts on the test, they fall further behind in their studies because they never understood the previous concept. The new policy allows a student to take the test and if the test score reveals a lack of understanding (aka gets a bad grade), the student is allowed to take extra steps, study more, and retake the test until the concept of the topic is understood. The teachers are less concerned with grades and more focused on better learning.



"You said we learn from our mistakes, so I must be learning a lot."

While discussing this system with a teacher, I realized the new food code will be a similar concept. The new code focuses on ensuring all food handlers understand the basic steps of preventing a foodborne illness. Instead of having a pass/fail system with grades based on observations only, the new way will incorporate observations, documentation, and demonstrations that lead to a better understanding of how the establishment is operating. Much like the teachers, health inspectors will be focused on better learning. With less focus on getting an "A" grade card, our hope is to switch the focus to "We know how to prevent foodborne illness!"

Sallie Dolan

Inside this issue:

New Terminology	2
Electronics Recycling	2
Allergen Training	2
New Illinois Food Code	3
Test your Knowledge	4
Important Changes	4
Suggestions?	4

Vermilion County Health Department



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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FOOD PROGRAM STAFF

To reach an inspector, please call (217) 431-2662 :

- Environmental Health.....Ext. 5
- Dan Balgeman, Environmental Health Director.....Ext. 245, dbalgeman@vchd.org
- Jana Messmore, Food Program Supervisor.....Ext. 306, jmessmore@vchd.org
- Sallie Dolan.....Ext. 303, sdolan@vchd.org
- Ashley Kotcher.....Ext. 248, akotcher@vchd.org
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?????

Questions regarding the food program? Call 217-431-2662, Option 5 and speak with us.

New Illinois Food Code

The Vermilion County Health Department will begin implementing the new Illinois Food Code on

January 1, 2019.



Go to www.vchd.org to check out our latest website updates.

New Terminology **FDA**

means the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

FOOD-CONTACT SURFACE

means

- 1) A surface of EQUIPMENT or a UTENSIL with which FOOD normally comes into contact; or
- 2) A surface of EQUIPMENT or a UTENSIL from which FOOD may drain, drip, or splash:
 - a) Into a FOOD, or
 - b) Onto a surface normally in contact with FOOD

Electronics Recycling Collection

The Vermilion County Health Department in connection with Bryant Industries and Danville Area Community College will offer a one day electronics collection.

The event will be held at **2000 E Main Street, Danville** from **9:00am-11:00am** on **Saturday, October 27th.**

It is open to all residents of Vermilion County (ID required). Call 217-431-2662 Option 5 for more information.



Renewal Packets

You will receive your renewal packets by the middle of November. If you do not receive yours by 11/20, please contact us at 217-431-2662 Option 5.



REMINDER

Completed applications and payment are due by

4:00pm on Monday, December 17, 2018.

A \$25 late fee will be assessed for applications received after this date.

REMINDER CALLS

VCHD will use the State of Illinois Rapid Electronic Notification (SIREN) to generate automated reminder calls regarding 2018 renewal due dates. Follow the prompts to listen to the message.

Allergen Training

As of July 1, 2018, all Certified Food Protection Managers (CFPM) at high risk restaurants must complete an Allergen Training. If you have not completed the training, search online for "ANSI approved Allergen Training" to find a program.



NEW ILLINOIS FOOD CODE: WHAT TO EXPECT

In this issue we will address the following changes:

- ◆ Implementation Date
- ◆ 2017 FDA Food Code vs 2013
- ◆ CFPM Change
- ◆ No More Grades

Implementation Date

The implementation date of releasing the new Illinois Food Code was delayed. The Illinois Department of Public Health made the decision to base the new food code off of the 2017 FDA Food Code instead of the 2013 FDA Food Code.

Vermilion County plans to implement the new Illinois Food Code on January 1, 2019.

2017 vs 2013

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration revises the FDA Model Food Code every four years. Since the implementation date of the new Illinois Food Code had already been delayed it was decided by the State that it made more sense to base the Illinois Food Code off of the 2017 FDA Food Code instead of the 2013 FDA Food Code.


Some of the changes to the 2017 FDA Food Code are minor such as changing “fruits and vegetables” to “plant foods”. However, a change in the section regarding the Person In Charge (PIC) now requires the PIC to also be a Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) in all establishments except those that pose a minimal risk (low risk).

Of the 483 food establishments in Vermilion County, the 255 medium risk establishments are affected by this change.

CFPM Change

When the new Illinois Food Code is implemented, all food establishments will be required to have a designated Person In Charge (PIC) during routine inspections. The PIC must be able to answer questions specific to the establishment. Depending on what category of food establishment you have will determine the responsibilities of the PIC.

- ◆ LOW RISK- A designated PIC must be on duty during operating hours. The PIC does not have to be a Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM).
- ◆ MEDIUM RISK- A designated PIC must be on duty during operating hours. The PIC must be a CFPM.
- ◆ HIGH RISK- A designated PIC must be on duty during operating hours. The PIC must be a CFPM. In high risk restaurants, all CFPMs must also have Allergen Training.



Did you know there are 483 permitted food establishments in Vermilion County?

No More Grades

The use of any kind of scoring system with the new food code is strictly prohibited by the Illinois Department of Public Health.



VERMILION COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Test Your Knowledge?

According to the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN), how many Americans have food allergies?

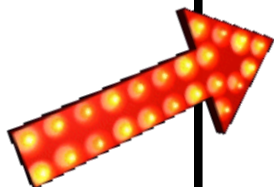
- A. 5 million
- B. 15 million
- C. 20 million
- D. 40 million

Answer: B Researchers estimate that up to 15 million Americans have food allergies including 5.9 million children.

Public Health is Priceless!



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Suggestions?

If you have an idea for an article or topic of interest that you would like covered in the newsletter please let us know. Topic ideas or articles written by readers are welcome too.

Send your article or idea to Sallie Dolan at: sdolan@vchd.org

Calendar of Events

- October 26, 10:00-2:00- Flu Clinic at VCHD
- October 30, 9:00-12:00- Flu Clinic at VCHD
- October 27, 9:00-11:00 - Electronics Collections at DACC
- November 12- VCHD closed (Veterans Day observed)
- November 20- Renewal Packets should be received
- November 22 & 23- VCHD closed (Thanksgiving)
- December 17, 4:00- 2019 Applications and payment due
- December 25- VCHD closed (Christmas Day)
- January 1 -VCHD closed (New Year's Day)
- January 1- New Illinois Food Code goes into effect