



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

December 28, 2010

NAME
ORGANIZATION
ADDRESS
CITY, PA ZIP

Dear Mr./Ms/Dr. Last Name:

Food safety in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania took an important step forward last month with the signing of Act 106 of 2010. Act 106 amends the 1945 Public Eating and Drinking Place Act and the 1994 Food Act, providing for changes in licensing and regulation of retail food establishments in Pennsylvania.

Act 106 clarifies and strengthens oversight of food safety inspections for all retail food facilities and restaurants. Implementation of Act 106 ensures that all consumers have the potential to benefit from uniform inspections and inspection reports made easily available to the public.

The new law takes effect on January 22, 2011, and it brings with it some changes for inspections completed by local health officers and Local Health Departments. Enclosed is a fact sheet providing additional insight on Act 106, but there are a few key changes we would like to highlight:

- Act 106 uses the most recent edition of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Food Code to guide its regulatory framework.
- All inspection reports must be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture within 30 days of completion for posting on www.EatSafePA.com.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will no longer license or inspect retail food facilities in a local health jurisdiction.
- Each retail food facility must have one certified food employee who is accredited (and maintains accreditation) by a nationally recognized program; this person is to be the designated "person in charge" during the facility's hours of operation.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will be hosting regional workshops to provide an overview of Act 106 and implementation of the new law. A list of all workshops is enclosed with this letter along with contact information. Attendance at this meeting for local health officers and Local Health Departments is strongly encouraged.

Protecting Pennsylvania's more than 12.7 million citizens and the many consumers who visit our state each day is a shared effort that impacts all of us. Your assistance in implementing Act 106 is critical, and much appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Russell C. Redding
Secretary of Agriculture

Michael K. Huff
Acting Secretary of Health

Enclosures



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Bureau of Food Safety and Laboratory Services
Act 106 Implementation Regional Workshops**

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will be hosting regional meetings across Pennsylvania focusing on the implementation of Act 106, which amends the 1945 Public Eating and Drinking Place Act and the 1994 Food Act, providing for changes in licensing and regulation of retail food establishments in Pennsylvania. The new law takes effect on January 22, 2011, bringing with it some changes for inspections completed by local health officers and Local Health Departments.

To ensure that implementation is seamless for all inspectors, workshops will be held to review the law and its new requirements.

Workshop Location	Date and Time	Phone Number
PA Dept of Ag Region 2 Office 542 County Farm Road Montoursville, PA	Tues., January 11 th 10 a.m.	(570) 433-2640
PA Dept of Ag Region 3 Office 113 State Route 92 South Tunkhannock, PA	Wed., January 12 th 10 a.m.	(570) 836-2181
PA Dept of Ag Region 4 Office 6 McIntyre Road Gibsonia, PA	Thurs., January 13 th 10 a.m.	(724) 443-1585
PA Dept of Ag Region 5 Office 1307 7 th Street Altoona, PA	Fri., January 14 th 10 a.m.	(814) 946-7315
PA Dept of Ag Region 1 Office 13410 Dunham Road Meadville, PA	Tues., January 18 th 10 a.m.	(814) 332-6890
PA Dept of Ag Building 2301 N. Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA	Thurs., January 20 th 10 a.m.	(717) 346-3223
PA Dept of Ag Region 7 Office 1015 Bridge Road Collegeville, PA	Fri., January 21 st 10 a.m.	(610) 489-1003

For more information on Act 106 or these regional workshops, please contact Bobby McLean with the Bureau of Food Safety and Laboratory Services at (717) 370-1297.