



2023



Donated Food Safety Outreach Team

As you may know, the Snohomish Health District has become a part of Snohomish County as of January 1st, 2023. As the Snohomish County Health Department, we will still offer the same services in much the same way as we have before. The Snohomish County Health Department's Donated Food Safety Outreach Team (DFSOT) is still here to serve as your food recovery and food safety partner. We are happy to continue providing education and technical support regarding food safety, which will in turn help increase large corporate donor confidence that could result in more food recovered by Hunger Relief Organizations and more food rescued from landfills.



Food Waste Prevention Week

This year, Food Waste Prevention Week is April 10th through the 16th. The purpose of shining light on preventing food waste is to create a cultural shift in our communities to help save money, reduce the impact on the environment and to address hunger. At www.foodwaste preventionweek.com, you can learn about ways to get involved and show your organization's commitment to reducing hunger in our community.

New Food Code Changes

Almost all [Washington State Food Code](#) (WAC 246-215) changes began March 1, 2022. We have created a [Food Code Updates | Snohomish Health District, WA \(snohd.org\)](#) webpage dedicated to those changes. This is a great place to find new guidance and resources that have been created to help meet new requirements. The changes and updates made to the state food code apply to all food establishments, both DFDOs and permitted facilities. See below for reminders and clarification to those major changes affecting DFDOs now.

New: Certified Food Protection Manager

As of March 1, 2023 the food code requires most establishments to have a Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) as a volunteer or on-staff to provide a role in ensuring food safety. The CFPM must make sure persons in charge are properly trained, procedures are developed, and food safety requirements are understood and followed. If able to ensure

requirements are met, a person may be the CFPM for multiple locations, programs or facilities. Food Banks and Pantries that only serve packaged foods, or re-package non TCS foods, and certain low-risk meal program menus are exempt, but we recommend DFDOs that serve ready to eat meals have a CFPM available. For more information, please see our [AMC Toolkit Certified Food Protection Manager](#).



Clean Up Plan of Vomit and Diarrhea Events

All locations that handle food must have written procedures on how to respond to events that involve the discharge of vomit or fecal matter onto surfaces in areas where food is handled, stored or consumed. The procedures must include specific actions that must be taken to clean and sanitize the area. A Toolkit for creating a plan within your own facility can be found here: [AMC Toolkit - Vomit and Diarrhea Cleanup](#).

Food Worker Health

The Snohomish County Health Department has created Restriction and Notification of Ill Food Workers posters and employee signature handouts to help you meet this requirement in a verifiable way. They are all located on our [Educational Resources](#) page.



Date Marking - Only applies to DFDO Facilities that handle open foods

There are some specific foods that will need to be marked and used within 7 days in DFDO facilities that handle and store open foods for more than 24 hours. Those foods are refrigerated, ready-to-eat, perishable foods that are prepared in-house or in opened packages. For more information, refer to our [Date Marking For Donated Food handout](#).

Communication

The Donated Food Safety Newsletter will be sent out annually to inform you of any big changes or new concepts that apply to food donation facilities. As well as our annual newsletter, timely items will be sent out using an email distribution list throughout the year. Please let us know of any email changes, so we can keep your contact information up to date. Any changes or questions you have can always be emailed to food.safety@snoco.org. We also have a [DFDO and Food Donation](#) webpage. This page provides updates for DFDO's, educational resources like our [Safe Receiving Guide](#) and discusses food donation for businesses and homes.



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