

# Retail Food for Thought

#### **ABOUT US**

The Retail Food For Thought is a newsletter written by inspectors from the Retail Food Program within the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA).



#### **MANAGING PESTS**

Many pests such as rodents, flies and cockroaches can cause food contamination and get customers sick. There are control measures that owners of retail mobile food establishments should take to help prevent pests from making your mobile establishment their home. Remember that pests are looking for food, shelter and water so keep areas CLEAN and follow the guidance below.

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## **CLEAN**

your area before, during, and after events to prevent attracting pests.

### LOOK

for evidence of pests, entry points, and harborage areas such as tall grass and nearby debris. Е

## **EXCLUDE**

pests by sealing holes and gaps and providing adequate protection such as screens and approved pest control devices. A

#### **AVOID**

storing food in conditions that would attract pests such as in uncovered containers and on the floor. N

#### NOTIFY

management and contact a pest control specialist immediately if pest activity or signs of pest are identified.

## THINKING ABOUT OFFERING FOOD SAMPLES?

Offering food samples with a retail mobile food handler license is possible if you have obtained prior approval and have the necessary equipment to handle the food safely. Food establishments that want to begin offering food samples or that will be changing their processes or facilities will need to contact the MDA in advance.

If you are planning to begin offering food samples and you have not been approved to do so in the past, contact your inspector for prior approval. Plan review may be required for facility or menu changes. Once you have been approved to offer food samples, follow the Retail Sampling Guidelines by scanning the QR Code:

For facilities and equipment specific to your retail mobile food handler license, visit: www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/temporary-food-establishments

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North St. Paul, MN 55155-2538

Food & Feed Safety Main Line 651-201-6027 MDA.FFSD.Info@state.mn.us Plan Review New Construction or Major Remodels 651-201-6194

MDA.Plan.Review@state.mn.us

Licensing & Registration 651-201-6062 MDA.Licensing@state.mn.us Food Complaints 651-201-6064

Reporting Foodborne Illness 1-877-FOOD-ILL

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www.mda.state.mn.us/retailnewsletter

**Tell Us What You Think**Survey link to a quick 5 minute survey:

