National Food Safety Education Month

September is National Food Safety Education Month and FSIS is reminding the public to think about health and safety in the kitchen. Consumers are encouraged to practice behaviors that will continue to help keep them and their loved ones safe from foodborne illness.

“My vision for food safety includes enhancing and emphasizing consumer education,” said USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Mindy Brashears. “Consumers play a vital role in reducing foodborne illness and by providing scientifically accurate and effective food safety information, we can help empower them to adopt and practice safe food handling behaviors in their own homes.”

FSIS resources can teach consumers how to practice the four steps of food safety – Clean, Separate, Cook, and Chill – and reduce their risk of foodborne illness. Families interested in learning about food safety together can find age appropriate food safety lessons on FSIS’ webpage Food Safety Education Resources for Families, by following @USDAFoodSafety on Twitter, and by liking Facebook.com/FoodSafety.gov. Consumers with questions about food safety can call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, in English or Spanish, or email to mphotline@usda.gov. Consumers can also chat live at https://ask.usda.gov.

Reminder: FSIS to Host Webinar on Updates to Guideline for Label Approvals on Sept. 9

FSIS will host a webinar to discuss the 2020 changes to the Compliance Guideline for Label Approval on September 9, 2020, at 1 p.m. ET. This guideline provides information about the types of labels and labeling that need to be submitted to FSIS for approval.

To access the webinar, please go to https://fsis-usda.webex.com/fsis-usda/j.php?MTID=mf4536b3a25a42ebb1c42812399294e9f and follow the on-screen instructions. If a password is requested, enter the password “fsis”. You can also call into the meeting by dialing 888-844-9904 and entering the access code 2956126. For questions, contact Gianfranco Santaliz at 301-504-0878 or gianfranco.santaliz@usda.gov.

Export Requirements Update

The Library of Export Requirements has been updated for the following countries:

Australia
Japan
Jordan
Korea, Republic
Kuwait
Mexico
New Caledonia
Nicaragua
Qatar

For a complete list of countries, visit https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/exporting-products.
Reminder: Upcoming FSIS Public Meetings

FSIS is hosting multiple public meetings in the coming weeks. Below is a list of the upcoming virtual meetings.

- USDA FSIS Virtual Public Meeting: Salmonella - State of the Science (September 22, 2020)
- National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection Public Meeting (September 24 – 25, 2020)
- Food Safety: Consumer Outreach and Education Today and for the Future (October 6, 2020)

Additional information on the upcoming meetings and details on how to register can be found at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/meetings.

Policy Updates

FSIS notices and directives on public health and regulatory issues are available at: https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations. The following policy updates were recently issued:

FSIS Notice 41-20 - 2020 Yearend Closing Instructions

FSIS Notice 42-20 - Changes to Exploratory Poultry Sampling Programs