



News Release

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Food Safety Task Force Meeting

The Northeast Colorado Health Department (NCHD) protects our communities from environmental hazards through focused efforts on food safety, water and air quality, and zoonotic disease. The largest program is the Retail Food Safety Program. Our staff covers over 400 restaurants, grocery stores, schools and other facilities that store and/or serve food throughout our six county health district. Inspections are performed twice a year on most facilities. The purpose of the inspections is to ensure there are no violations that could contribute to foodborne illnesses. It is important that foods are cooked and stored at appropriate temperatures, and that all facilities are clean and sanitization procedures are being followed, that food service staff are practicing good personal hygiene, and that all equipment is kept in working order. NCHD also participates in the education of food service staff across northeast Colorado by offering ServSafe Food Handler and Manager Trainings.

NCHD will be hosting a Food Safety Task Force meeting on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 1 p.m. at our Sterling office (700 Columbine Street). There will be a presentation and discussion about the new rating/scoring system as well as the

new criteria for food safety awards that have gone into effect in 2020. All interested parties are welcome to attend this meeting.

Every April we recognize the food establishments within our jurisdiction for providing the public with safely prepared food and maintaining a high standard of food safety. There are three categories of award winners. First, there are full service facilities that conduct food preparation, cooling, reheating and hot and cold holding of potentially hazardous foods. Second, there are limited service facilities that conduct food preparation, limited cooling, reheating and hot and cold holding of potentially hazardous foods. Finally, there are non-profit and public service facilities that operate as a public school, senior center or other public entity. We sincerely appreciate the hard work of all operators that put the health of their customers first.

NCHD will be hosting a ceremony for Food Safety Awards and Public Health Shining Stars at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at our Sterling office (700 Columbine Street). Please plan to join us for this celebration of Excellence in Public Health across northeast Colorado!