



# Office Hours

Division of Food and Recreational Safety, Bureau of Meat and Poultry Businesses (BMPB)

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (DATCP)

February 23, 2024

# NEWS!

Division of Food and Recreational Safety Administrator announced!

- Adam Brock starts Monday, February 26





# STAFFING UPDATES

## New Faces

- Jason Blashka - Meat Safety Supervisor – Circuit I
- Dr. Clayton Apgar - Meat Safety Veterinarian
- Crystal Oxborrow - Food Scientist - Adv.
- Anna Martin - Food Scientist - Adv.

## Current Vacancies

- Regulatory Specialist – SE WI
- Meat Safety Inspectors



# COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR BMPB INSPECTOR

- Take advantage of your weekly meetings with your Meat Safety Inspector.
  - Ask questions, discuss production updates (products, dates), Bureau updates, changes in directives, previous Memoranda of Interview (MOIs), or Noncompliance Records (NRs).
  - Provide updates on status of open NRs.



# RESPONDING TO A NR

- A noncompliance record (NR) is a document communicating when a regulatory requirement has not been met.
- Establishments are expected to take appropriate measures to address the NR in a timely fashion.
  - Some things, like collecting cold spot data or making a repair, can take time.
  - Share your plans with your inspector and provide regular updates.
- Appealing the decision is an option.
- Don't ignore.



# APPEAL PROCESS

- File an appeal without fear of retaliation.
- Appeal process follows the chain of command.
- Provide a written appeal with a rationale for why the noncompliance is not accurate or consistent with applicable regulations.
- All enforcement actions can also be appealed.

## Chain of Command

1. Meat Safety Inspector who made the finding
2. Circuit Supervisor
3. Regional Manager
4. Bureau Director
5. Administrator

[Appealing Inspection Decisions | Food Safety and Inspection Service \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov)



# CHANGES TO CONDEMNED ANIMAL TESTING PROGRAM

- USDA-APHIS has an ongoing, comprehensive surveillance program to detect bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).
- Central nervous system (CNS) signs
  - Circling
  - Blindness
  - Head tilt
  - Abnormal posture
  - Incoordination or difficult in rising
  - Tremors
  - Ataxia (incoordination)
  - Nystagmus (abnormal eye movements)
  - Head-pressing



# CHANGES TO CONDEMNED ANIMAL TESTING PROGRAM

- Animals exhibiting CNS signs as confirmed by a veterinarian will be condemned.
- APHIS will continue to cover the testing costs associated with the program.
- Establishment and/or animal owner will be responsible for any transportation and disposal costs.
  
- What to do?
  - Do not accept these animals!





# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## Humane Handling Institute (UW-River Falls)

### Effective and Humane Restraint and Stunning

- April 4-5, 2024
- April 18-19, 2024

### Building a Robust Systematic Approach to Animal Welfare

- February 29-March 1, 2024
- May 2-3, 2024

[Humane Handling Institute](#)



# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



- UW-Madison Basic HACCP Training – May 29-30, 2024
  - \*Tuition reimbursement available
- Request outreach and education sessions
  - EIAOs can provide outreach on regulatory requirements.
  - Veterinarians can provide outreach on humane handling.
  - Outreach is to provide information and answer questions, different from consulting, training, or writing plans.



# Questions?



## Bureau of Meat and Poultry Businesses

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