

# Wisconsin Food Code FACT SHEET



## #6: Employee Hygiene

### The Importance of Proper Hygiene

*Employees can prevent foodborne illness by practicing good personal hygiene. Good personal hygiene includes: maintaining fingernails, wearing hair restraints/proper clothing, minimizing jewelry worn, and eating/drinking/using tobacco in designated places only.*

#### Fingernails

Fingernails must be kept trimmed and clean. Wearing fingernail polish or artificial fingernails when working with exposed food is not allowed unless the food employee is wearing gloves.

#### Hair Restraints

Food employees are required to wear hair restraints such as hairnets, hats, and beard nets that are effective in keeping their hair in control.

#### Proper Work Clothing

Food employees must wear clean outer clothing to prevent contamination of food, equipment, utensils, linens, and single-service and single-use articles.

Personal clothing and other personal items must be kept away from food-handling and storage areas. Use lockers, dressing rooms or dressing areas, or other designated places.

#### Wearing of Jewelry

Jewelry should be limited to a plain-banded ring only. Medical alert identification tags are permitted as necklaces.

#### Eating, Drinking & Using Tobacco

Employees must eat, drink or use tobacco only in designated areas where contamination of food, equipment, utensils, linens, and single-service and single-use articles cannot occur. A food employee can drink from a closed beverage container (i.e. a cup with a lid and straw) if the container is handled to prevent contamination.



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