

Lincoln County Health Department



Newsletter – (Spring, 2018) Environmental Health

607 N. Sales St, Suite 101, Merrill, WI 54452

<http://lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com>

The Lincoln County Health Department is a leader in public health by promoting optimal health and safety through prevention, protection, and intervention.

2017 Environmental Health Program Highlights:

With your help, our health inspectors make sure the food that is being served is safe to eat, lodging is maintained, pools are safe, and other licensed establishments are following the written rules.

- 325 licensed establishments and 325 annual inspections occurred in 2017.
- 18 complaints regarding food & other licensed establishments were investigated.
- 60 inspections of temporary vendors and 5 temporary campground inspections were conducted.

Special Event Campground

Do you want to have campers at your establishment during a special event such as 4th of July celebration or Fall Ride? If you plan to offer camping or are already a campground and will be offering additional camping in a non-permitted areas of the land a separate special event campground permit is required.

Contact us prior to the event to schedule an inspection to avoid being fined for not having a permit.



Smoke Alarms for Lodging

- 1) Provided and functional in every guest room and living area sleeping room within a guest suite.
- 2) Do not need to be interconnected.
- 3) Alarms that are more than 10 years old or past the manufactures' date, shall be replaced with new, tamper proof alarms.

Lodging- Testing of Fire Alarms

Provided:

- Required in hotels, except those where guest rooms have exterior exits and the building is three or fewer stories.

Tested:

- An annual, third party, fire inspection should be available to your inspector.
 - a) Test conducted within previous 12 month period.
 - b) Test conducted by a professional fire and safety inspector.
 - c) Test shall be comprehensive and cover all aspects of the fire alarm system.
- An internal fire alarm monthly testing log shall be kept and maintained by the operator.

Test record should include:

- a) Person conducting test
- b) Date of test
- c) Corrective Action if necessary



Tattoo & Body Artists

Your work is a living display of your unique ability, but in creating your art you may come in contact with your client's blood. Human blood can carry viruses that may be dangerous to your health.

Hepatitis B is one of those viruses. Hepatitis B is spread by direct contact with human blood that contains the virus.

Hepatitis B can live for at least seven days in dried blood left on surfaces, needles or equipment. This means you can still be exposed to the virus long after the infected person has left. If you contract the virus, Hepatitis B can cause life-long illness. Training will provide the latest information on how to reduce your risk of exposure to hepatitis B and other blood borne diseases. For more information on viral hepatitis visit: www.cdc.gov/hepatitis.

Pool Fecal Accident Reporting

Have you had a fecal accident in your pool? Have you filled out the correct paperwork and sent it in? **Pools are required to fill out and send in fecal accident reports and injury/illness reports to the Health Department with each monthly report.**

Forms can be obtained by contacting the Lincoln County Health Department or by visiting www.lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com and choosing Environmental Health- License inspections, codes and handouts.

Mail, fax or scan reports to:
Meghan Williams
607 N. Sales St. Suite 101
Merrill, WI 54452
(fax) 715-536-2011
mwilliams@co.lincoln.wi.us



Exit Requirements Tourist Rooming House (TRH)

Do you meet the exit requirements for your TRH built after 1980?

Exits from first floor:

- 2 exit doors are required, unless structure is less than 400 square feet

Exits from second floor:

- 2 exits are required
- 1 must be a stairway that leads to the first floor or discharge to grade.

Exits from Loft:

- If loft exceeds 400 square feet, one stairway exit is required
- If loft is less than 400 square feet, a stairway or ladder may be utilized

Exits from Basement and Ground Floor:

Each basement used for sleeping shall meet at least 2 of the following:

- A door to the exterior of the building
- A stairway or ramp that leads to the floor above
- A stairway that leads to the garage provided the garage has an exit door other than the overhead door
- An egress window that complies with window exiting requirements, located in EACH bedroom

Top 3 Violations in Food Establishments & How to Avoid Them

1) No test strips provided to check sanitizer concentration.

*Whether you use a dish machine or not test strips must be available to check the concentration of the sanitizer in the dish machine and also any buckets or spray bottles for cleaning tables.

2) No date marking or items have exceeded the date mark.

* Date marking provides a consistent way for all staff to know when the food was prepared or when the food must be used by. It is important to check these dates daily and discard any old food.

3) No thermometer or thermometer not working.

*Each piece of equipment used for cold holding should be equipped with a thermometer that displays the temperature of the equipment. Further, a thermometer for measuring the temperatures of food should be accessible and accurate.

QI Project

A Quality Improvement (QI) project was conducted last year to improve our system of following up with establishments complying with the certified food manager (CFM) policy.

In 2016, the average number of follow ups before a CFM was obtained for a new establishment was 3.8 with one establishment requiring 10 follow ups before obtaining a CFM. The average number of follow ups before a CFM was obtained for an existing establishment was 4.1 with one establishment requiring 11 follow ups.

In 2017 a CFM follow up average was one, for both new and existing establishments.

With the new policy put out by DATCP, the enforcement has become stricter and contributed to greater compliance; thus reducing the amount of time staff must spend on CFM compliance.



Meghan Williams
Registered Environmental Health Specialist
715-539-1364
mwilliams@co.lincoln.wi.us



JoAnne Lund
Environmental Health Technician
715-539-1379
joanne.lund@co.lincoln.wi.us