

WSGW RADIO PRESENTATION

Saginaw County Foodservice Enforcement Program

September 13, 2016

Our enforcement policy is to provide an orderly and consistent administrative procedure in the initiation of enforcement action against licensed food service establishments.

Routine inspections are typically conducted at a 6 or 12 month frequency, depending on the type and complexity of the food preparation at the facility.

A chronic or repeated violation is one that is observed during a routine inspection, is documented, corrected and repeats at the next inspection.

A continuous violation is one that is documented, persists and is not corrected within the allowed upon or agreed upon time frame.

Our enforcement program focuses on Priority and Priority Foundation violations because they are most likely to cause a foodborne illness if not corrected.

Step 1: If a facility repeats a Priority or Priority Foundation violation, the first step in the enforcement program is for the facility to complete a Risk Control Plan.

A risk control plan is a document that a manager or operator prepares to document how a violation will be corrected, monitored and who will monitor the corrective action.

Step 2: If after a Risk Control Plan is submitted and the violation repeats again, an Office Conference is scheduled.

An Office Conference is a meeting with the establishment owner or designated representative and health department representatives for the purpose of explaining the severity of observed violations, the need for correction, and the consequences of allowing the violation to continue. The purpose of the meeting is to clarify expectations for food protection and sanitation within the establishment.

Step 3: If after an Office Conference is held and the violation repeats again, an Informal Hearing is scheduled.

An Informal Hearing is held to determine correction or compliance schedules and license limitations necessary to ensure compliance with the Michigan Modified Food Code and Food Law and to protect public health. At this point, the facility may be required to hire an independent food safety consultant for a required

number of hours or possibly have their menu limited to a number of items, or limited to suspend certain food processes, e.g., cooling and reheating.

Step 4: If after an Informal Hearing is held and the violation repeats again, a Formal Hearing is scheduled.

A Formal Hearing is held for the purpose of determining whether a food service license should be suspended or revoked; or to determine whether an order from the Health Officer to suspend food service should be relieved.

There are not fines for having violations but there are fees associated for holding Office Conferences, Informal Hearings and Formal Hearings.

Source: SCDPH-Environmental Health Services Division