



Crawford County Health Department

202 N. Bline Boulevard
Robinson, Illinois 62454

Phone: 618-544-8798
Fax: 618-544-9398
Website: www.cchd.net

Date: 2-15-2012

Regarding: New Farmer's Market Legislation

The health department received new guidance on prepared (homemade) food items sold at Illinois farmer's markets. A law went into effect on January 1, 2012 requires the following concerning these food items produced in homes.

1. Food that is not potentially hazardous such as baked goods, jam, jelly, preserves, fruit butter, dry herbs and herb blends, or dry tea blends that are intended for residential consumption can be sold by the owner or family member using safe food practices. This list includes:
 - JAMS, JELLIES, PRESERVES: Apple, Apricot, Grape, Peach, Plum, Quince, Orange, Nectarine, Tangerine, Blackberry, Raspberry, Boysenberry, Cherry, Cranberry, Strawberry, Red Currant or a combination of these fruits (Low sugar jams and Jellies must meet specific processing requirements)
 - FRUIT BUTTERS: Apple, Apricot, Grape, Peach, Quince, and Prune
 - BAKED GOODS: Breads, Cookies, Cakes, Pies, Pastries - Pies must be high acid: Apple, Apricot, Grape, Peach, Plum, Quince, Orange, Nectarine, Tangerine, Blackberry, Raspberry, Blueberry, Boysenberry, Cherry, Cranberry, Strawberry, Red Currant or a combination of these fruits.
 - DRIED FOODS: Dried Herbs, Dried Herb Blends or Dry Tea Blends

PROHIBITED ITEMS: Pumpkin Pie, Sweet Potato Pie, Cheesecake, Custard Pie, Cream Pies, as well as pastries with potentially hazardous fillings or toppings. Pumpkin, Banana, and Pear Butters are not allowed. Also, Rhubarb, Tomato, Pepper and Watermelon Jellies and Jams are not allowed. Other items/recipes must be tested and documented by a commercial laboratory (at the expense of the owner/family member) as being not potentially hazardous. Please refer to the IDPH Technical Bulletin enclosed.

2. "Take-n-Bake" products cannot be sold. These items may require temperature control to prevent bacterial growth.
3. The homemade food products listed above may be sold year-round or at indoor farmer's markets.
4. These products cannot be sold at retail outlets including grocery stores or restaurants.
5. There are special labeling requirements for these homemade food items. Please refer to pages 4-5 of the IDPH Technical Bulletin enclosed.



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6. **If you are planning on selling homemade food products, then you must register with the health department in Robinson.** Enclosed are forms that must be filled out and submitted to the health department. The health department is not charging a fee to register. If the health department needs to investigate a complaint or suspected food-borne illness associated with your food products, then a \$50.00 fee would be charged.
7. **One family member must be certified as an Illinois Food Service Sanitation Manager.** Information concerning classes can be found on the health department's website at www.cchd.net or by calling the health department.

Please distribute this information to your vendors at your farmer's market. I have enclosed some registration forms, a Technical Bulletin from IDPH, and guidelines for preserving jams and jellies. If you or anyone has any questions concerning these new requirements, please contact the health department at 618-544-8798. Our hours are Monday through Thursday, 8AM to 5PM.

Sincerely,

Donna Milam
Director of Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness
Crawford County Health Department