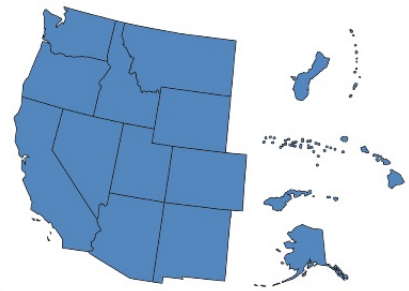


[View this email in your browser](#)

WRRC



Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety

December 2021 Newsletter

Dear WRCEFS Community,

Below you will find information related to upcoming potential trainings for our region, webinars and course offerings, the add-on peer review process, funding opportunities, job opportunities, and updates from our national partners and alliances.

Time Sensitive Announcements

1) *We want to hear from you!* As we look ahead to 2022, we want to know what training events and opportunities you would like WRCEFS to bring to the region. To best understand your (and your stakeholder) training needs, please fill out a quick Qualtrics survey by clicking the "Go to Training Needs Survey" button below.

[Go to Training Needs Survey](#)

2) *New Tracking Documents Available:* For FSOP grantees and others who send us training data, we have developed an easier way

for you to send us information about your activities. You can now use this Digital Cover Page, which is now available in Qualtrics. Every time you administer a training, please use this Qualtrics link or complete the traditional cover page document and email to wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.

Qualtrics Link: https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2nOpLGmNDztXcoK

3) FSOP grant proposals are due December 16th (see Funding Opportunities section below for more details). As before, each successfully funded project must develop a communication plan to interact with their respective Regional Centers. We are glad to work with you on that and to offer letters of support as requested. Please contact Stephanie Brown (stephanie.brown@oregonstate.edu) regarding letters of support.



Proposed Changes to Ag Water Requirements

On December 2nd, the FDA published a proposed rule that would revise subpart E of the FDA FSMA Produce Safety Rule to change certain pre-harvest agricultural water requirements for covered produce other than sprouts. Under this proposal, farms would be required to conduct annual systems-based agricultural water assessments to determine and guide appropriate measures to minimize potential risks associated with pre-harvest agricultural water. The assessment would include an evaluation of the water system, agricultural water use practices, crop characteristics, environmental conditions, potential impacts on source water by activities conducted on adjacent and nearby land, and other relevant factors, such as the results of optional testing. For more information, please visit the FSMA [Proposed Rule on Agricultural Water](#) webpage and the [Federal Register proposed rule](#) webpage.

Image credit: Pixabay, Joseph Fulgham, 2019



Funding Opportunities

1) USDA NIFA FSOP Grants

The request for applications for the FY2022 Food Safety Outreach Program has been released. Applications are due back to USDA by **December 16th, 2021**. To review the RFA, please use this link: <https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/rfa/FY22-Food-Safety-Outreach-FSOP-RFA-508.pdf>

Image credit: Pixabay, Nattanan Kanchanaprat, 2017

Important Information for Current and Future FSOP Grantees

As a reminder, FSOP grantees are expected to work with the Western Regional Center during the duration of their grant.

A communication plan to interact with your respective Regional Center should be part of your project.

What Your Regional Centers Need from You (also good to consider for your new grant proposals!):

- Evaluation is a required component of leading FSOPs.
- Including an evaluation expert on your team is recommended.
- Evaluation should track participation, outputs, knowledge gain, practice change, and success stories. **Templates are available for recording/reporting this information.**

As per the FY22 RFA, please note: "the Project Director for the Community Outreach and Collaborative Education and Training Project teams will be responsible for attending annual meetings. During the meeting, Project Directors will report on the progress of their projects, share updates on modified training materials or curricula, and report on interim programmatic outcomes." You will be invited to share your work in both the national FSOP Project Directors meetings (in the years when these are scheduled) and your

respective Regional Center's Annual Meetings.

*For newest grantees (FY 21), a more detailed email including the above mentioned documents will be sent later this month.

If you have questions about evaluation reporting, please contact Stephanie Brown (stephanie.brown@oregonstate.edu)

PRODUCE SAFETY RULE

PILOT CLEANING AND SANITIZING WORKSHOP

Timeline: Three weeks

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays from January 11 to 27, 2022

Time: 10 AM - 12 PM PST (1 - 3 PM EST)

Virtual Workshop, Zoom Platform

Pilot Workshop: Six modules will be delivered as 2-hour sessions each Tuesday and Thursday from January 11 to 27, 2022. Some short, recorded sessions will also be provided for participants to view in advance of these modules.

Target Audience for this Pilot Workshop: Personnel who lead or perform cleaning and sanitization activities (including monitoring and verification) on farms covered by the Produce Safety Rule.

Registration: Participation in this pilot is free for those in the **qualifying target audience** committing to **attend all 6 sessions, to complete viewing of all recorded sessions on time, AND to provide comprehensive and constructive course feedback.** There are no prerequisite requirements for attending; however, registration will be limited to registrants that meet the Target Audience description. Attendance will be capped at 35 participants.

Registration Link: <https://pilot-cleaning-and-sanitation-workshop-january2022.eventbrite.com>

Questions: wrcefs@oregonstate.edu



Photo Credit: Oregon State University, Kovacic Lab, 2020.

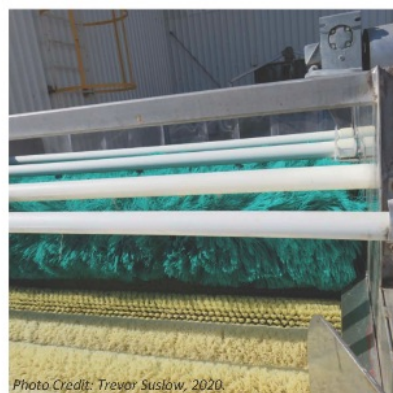


Photo Credit: Trevor Suslow, 2020.

Workshop Topics

- Food Safety Basics
- Cleaning
- Sanitizing
- Produce Safety Rule Overview
- Identification and Evaluation of Potential Hazards
- Establishing a Cleaning and Sanitizing Program

Workshop partners:



PSR Pilot Cleaning and Sanitizing Workshop

The FDA, National Farmers Union, Produce Marketing Association, United Fresh Produce Association, and Western Regional Center to

Enhance Food Safety are hosting a pilot cleaning and sanitizing workshop from January 11-27, 2021. The course will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM - 12 PM (PST) virtually through Zoom. [This pilot is free to attend, but registration is limited to those that fit the target audience.](#)

The target audience is personnel who lead or perform cleaning and sanitization activities (including monitoring and verification) on farms covered by the Produce Safety Rule.

Please share this information with produce growers that fit the target audience in your region. To register, please use this link: <https://pilot-cleaning-and-sanitation-workshop-january2022.eventbrite.com/>



Webinar Series: FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors

The CCOF Foundation and partners are launching their first FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors webinar series this fall. Although some content will be state specific (California and Washington) or specific to organic processors, the majority of the content is applicable to all food processors.

For more details and to register for these webinars, please visit the [FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors](#) webpage.

Webinar Topic and Times:

Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs)

Washington- December 14, 2021 1:00-2:30 PM (PST)

California- December 15, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)

Image Credit: Pexels, picjumbo.com, 2015



PSR BSAAO Virtual Workshop Series

The New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Agriculture, and the FDA are hosting a virtual Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origin Workshop in January 2022. This workshop will be divided into four sessions that will meet every Thursday (January 6-27th) from 1:30 - 4:30 PM Mountain Time

(12:30 - 3:30 PM PST).

This workshop is free for all participants.

For more workshop information, please view the [event flyer](#).

To register, please [click here](#)!

If you have any questions, please contact [Emily Russell](#) or [Alexa Johnson](#).

[Image credit: Riled Up Goats, 2021](#)



Farm Walks Podcast is Back for Season 2!

Tilth Alliance and WSU Food Systems have collaborated to bring their annual farm walks as a virtual listening experience. With the mission of education for farmers, by farmers, this podcast provides new, beginning, and existing farmers with education, advice, and mentorship from experienced farmers, agricultural and food systems professionals, and WSU Extension Specialists. To join in on the weekly walks, check out the farm walks website <https://www.farmwalks.org/>.

Photo credit: Riled Up Goats, 2021

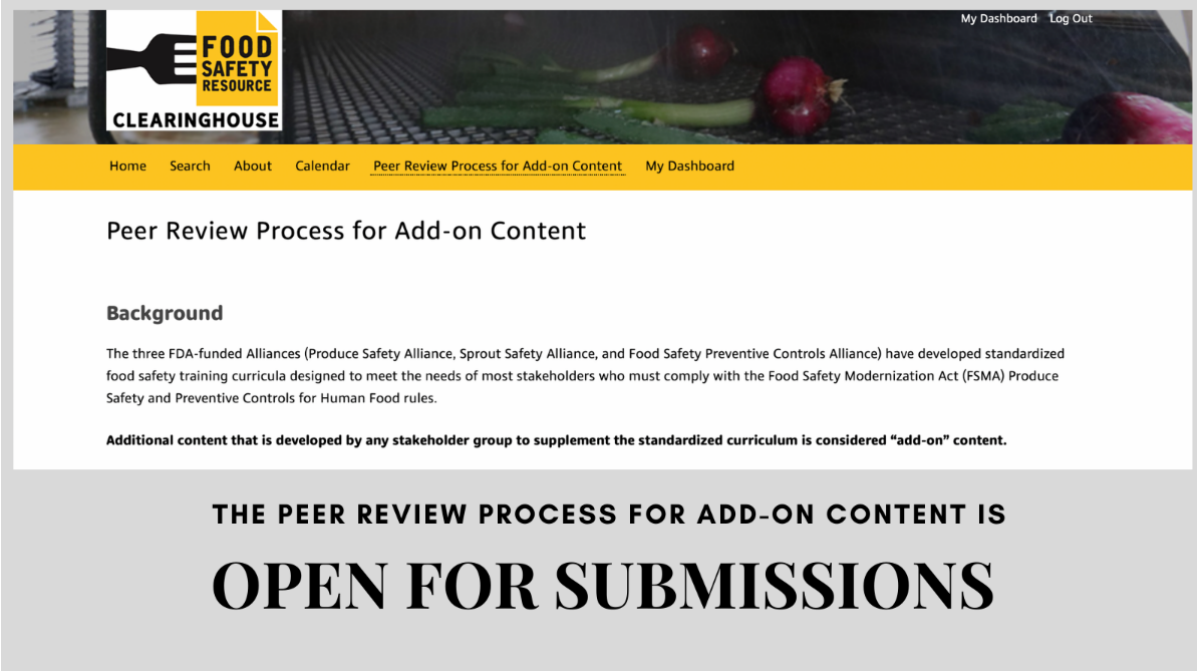
Save the Date:

Pacific Fisheries Technologist Conference

The Pacific Fisheries Technologist Conference which will be held in Newport, OR on Feb 20-23, 2022.

To view the call for papers, please click [here](#).

To view the President's invitation, which includes more conference details, please click [here](#).



The screenshot shows the top of the Food Safety Resource Clearinghouse website. The header includes a logo with a fork and the text 'FOOD SAFETY RESOURCE CLEARINGHOUSE'. Navigation links include Home, Search, About, Calendar, Peer Review Process for Add-on Content, and My Dashboard. The main content area is titled 'Peer Review Process for Add-on Content' and includes a 'Background' section. The background section text reads: 'The three FDA-funded Alliances (Produce Safety Alliance, Sprout Safety Alliance, and Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance) have developed standardized food safety training curricula designed to meet the needs of most stakeholders who must comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety and Preventive Controls for Human Food rules. Additional content that is developed by any stakeholder group to supplement the standardized curriculum is considered "add-on" content.' Below this, a large grey box contains the text: 'THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS FOR ADD-ON CONTENT IS OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS'.

Add-on Peer Review Process- Now Open

The Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety in collaboration with the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety (NECAFS) has been working on a peer review process for add-on content that will be facilitated through the Clearinghouse.

Add-ons are material(s) in addition to standardized curricula that are

developed and delivered pre-course, during a course, or post-course as a standalone.

We are excited to announce that the peer review system is **open and accepting submissions**. *At this time, only resources in English are being accepted for peer review.* Additional detailed instructions and guidance on the peer review process are available on the [Clearinghouse website](#) and [WRCEFS website](#).



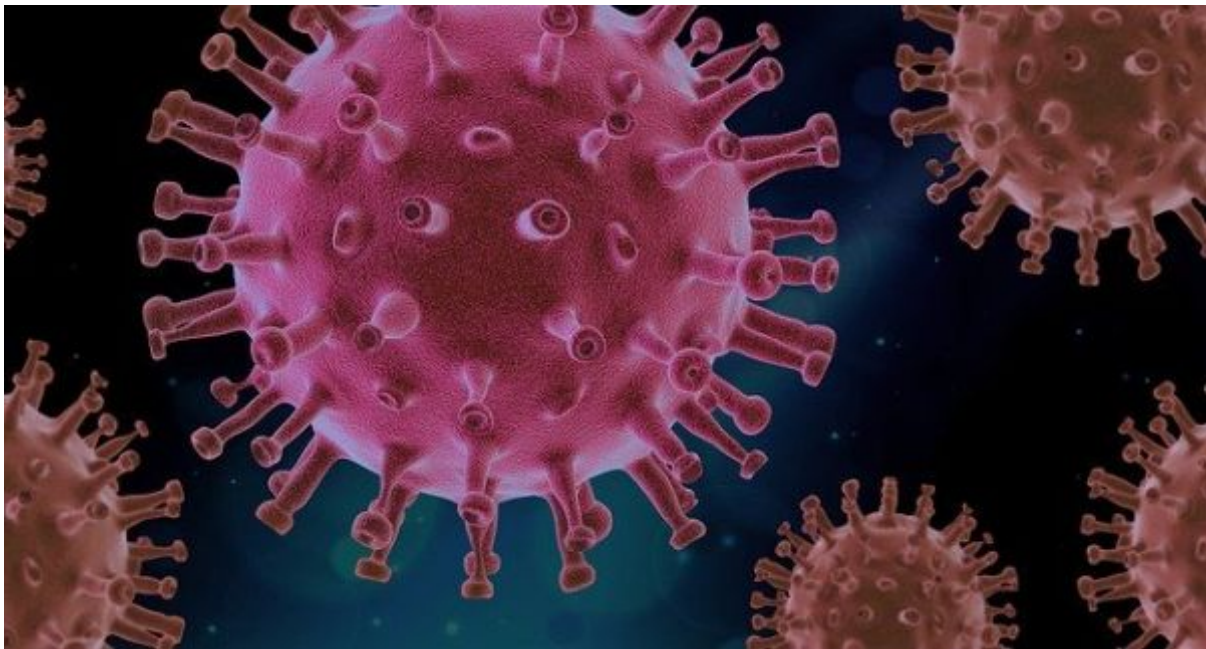
WRCEFS FSPCA PCHF and PSA Training Information

Collecting data during remote trainings can be challenging. A fillable PDF version and Qualtrics survey version of the PSA and FSPCA PCHF pre-/post-tests are now available. If interested, please email Stephanie Brown at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu to obtain a copy. There

are also polling options available in Zoom for capturing this information. If you have any specific questions on Zoom polling options, please contact us at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.

If you are capturing these data, please share with WRCEFS.

For any remote and in-person courses, (whether or not you are administering the pre/post-tests) please continue to share all cover sheets and attendance rosters with WRCEFS. On the cover sheet, please indicate if the training was delivered remotely or in-person.



COVID-19 Resources

1) WRCEFS COVID-19 Webpage

The OSU team has created a page on the WRCEFS website dedicated to COVID-19 and food safety resources. We currently have many fact sheets, social media images, and links to other federal and state-specific websites and resources for viewing.

If you have made any fact sheets, documents, or websites related to

food safety and COVID-19 and want these shared within the Western region, please email us at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.



Training and Resource Updates

1) **New-** PSA has extended its temporary remote delivery policy for the PSA Grower Training and PSA Train-the-Trainer courses to **December 31, 2022** due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

2) **New- Upcoming PSA Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Courses:**
Reminder: As of October 1, 2021, all individuals interested in enrolling in a PSA TTT Course must have attended at least one registered PSA GT Course. Successfully completing an in-person, online, or remote PSA Grower Training Course meets this requirement. All trainings listed below are \$350 to attend.

Remote delivery course | NY, USA: 2/14/2022 - 2/17/2022
Course #: [NY-220214-TRRD – Registration Information](#)
Training Language: Spanish

Remote delivery course | NY, USA: 3/7/2022 - 3/10/2022
Course #: [NY-220307-TRRD - Registration Information](#)
Training Language: English

3) **Spanish-language Produce Safety Educator's group launch.**

PSA is launching a Spanish-language Produce Safety Educator's group. Similar to the English Produce Safety Educators' Group, the Produce Safety Educators' Group in Spanish has the purpose of keeping PSA Trainers, PSA Lead Trainers, PSA Trainers-of-Trainers and produce safety educators, specifically those who are focused on produce safety outreach and extension, up to date on the latest educational resources, training opportunities, regulatory updates, and produce industry initiatives.

PSA will host monthly webinars, which are expected to last one hour and will be held via Zoom. The first webinar discussed the PSA, its policies, and relevant training updates.

This group is open to anyone interested in produce safety education but may be most relevant to PSA Trainers and Lead Trainers conducting trainings in Spanish as well as extension educators from the United States and Latin America.

To sign up for the listserv, click here:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/pgfGEaT/PSA>.

To learn more about the group, please visit:

<https://es.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/recursos/grupo-de-educadores-sobre-la-inocuidad-de-los-productos-agricolas-frescos-en-espanol-notas-y-recursos-de-las-reuniones/>.

4) Remote and in-person grower trainings are being offered throughout the Western region. To see a complete listing, please visit the PSA or WRCEFS websites.

Job Opportunities

1) Produce Safety Alliance- Northwest Extension Associate

The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA), is a collaborative project with the USDA and the FDA to provide educational outreach assistance to fresh produce growers and packers, including grower cooperatives, to increase their understanding of the critical role they play in public health by implementing food safety practices on the farm and in packinghouses.

As a key member of the PSA team, the Northwest Regional Extension Associate (REA) will be responsible for planning, organizing, instructing, and evaluating PSA training programs for produce growers, extension educators, and regulatory personnel in their region. Due to extensive national and international collaboration established by the PSA, it is anticipated the NW REA will interact with a diverse population of individuals and groups with specific emphasis in the Northwest including, but not limited to, State Departments of Agriculture personnel, commodity groups, Land-Grant University personnel, and the Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety (WRCEFS) collaborators. The NW REA will facilitate and provide leadership for in-person meetings as applicable, conference calls and webinars, and be directly involved in training other individuals to use the developed PSA curriculum; provide continual feedback to PSA leadership through preparation of regional impact reports, training evaluations, and outreach activities; and participate in weekly PSA team calls. Must be willing to travel regionally and nationally a significant amount of time (~50%) pending COVID-19 control, including non-traditional and weekend work hours. This position will be located in the Northwest U.S. with exact location being flexible within the northwest part of the 15 states and territories of the Western Region. **This application closes on January 3rd, 2022.**

To learn more about the position and to apply, please

visit: <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/18731>

2) Education and Outreach Coordinator - Commercial Produce Safety Program

The University of Idaho is hiring an Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Commercial Produce Safety Program. This position is a grant funded, 4-year position as a Commercial Produce Safety Program Education, Outreach and Technical Assistance Coordinator. The Coordinator will be responsible for planning, organizing, instructing, and evaluating Produce Safety Rule training programs and technical assistance for produce growers, Extension Educators, and regulatory personnel statewide. This will include Outreach and Education (70%), Program Evaluation and Reporting (20%) and Program Planning and Implementation (10%).

This position is funded by the United States (US) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through a cooperative agreement with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) to address statewide outreach, education and technical assistance related to the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.

To view more details about the position and apply, please visit: <https://uidaho.peopleadmin.com/postings/33658>

If you have questions, please contact Ariel Agenbroad (ariel@uidaho.edu).

3) Education/Training Specialist II

The University of Florida Produce Safety Extension Team has a job opening! The successful applicant will be responsible for coordinating, conducting and documenting training activities related to implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce

Safety Rule in the State of Florida. This includes organizing and teaching the Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) standardized curriculum as a lead trainer, leading, and participating in the on-farm readiness review program (OFRR), conducting general Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs programs), and generally supporting the food safety extension efforts for growers. This key position works closely with Food Safety Extension colleagues, County Extension personnel, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) personnel, and growers and other stakeholders to advance food safety in the Florida produce industry. **The position closes on December 20, 2021.**

To learn more about the position and to apply, please visit: <https://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/en-us/job/519061/educationtraining-spec-ii>

Members



FACES OF WRCEFS

Faces of WRCEFS

On the Faces of WRCEFS section of the WRCEFS website, you can find staff spotlights, featuring our leadership team and partners. The goal of Faces of WRCEFS is to highlight the diverse expertise of our regional leaders by showcasing their stories and work related to the Food Safety Modernization Act.

WRCEFS Communication

Website

Website content is constantly being added so please continue to check back with us to find new resources, training opportunities, and more!

Social Media

Follow us on Social Media! We have WRCEFS accounts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)! We will be posting updates, regional spotlights, and upcoming training opportunities on a weekly basis. We will also be sharing this information on the WRCEFS website. If you have anything that should be shared with the WRCEFS community, please contact Stephanie Brown (wrcefs@oregonstate.edu).

Stay safe!



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wrcefs@oregonstate.edu

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