

## **Wise Notes for Consumers**

**Submitted: 3-23-17**

### **Food Handler's Course**

Foodborne illnesses can be prevented by following simple food safety practices. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Wise County provides a Food Protection Management Training Program that seeks to reduce the risk of food borne illness.

The "Texas Food Establishment Rules (TFER)" was revised and updated and became effective October 11, 2015. A major change in the revision now requires all food employees to complete an accredited food handlers training program within 60 days of employment. The Texas Cottage Food Law also requires that anyone who operates a cottage food business have a food handler card.

Food service employees and those who operate a cottage food business can attend a two hour Food Handler's Class, accredited by the Texas Department of State Health Services, on **Wednesday, April 12** from **2:00 pm to 4:30 pm** at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Wise County office located at 206 S. State Street in Decatur.

This 2 hour course will now be required for all food service employees to help promote the service of safe food. The certificate is good for 2 years and is valid anywhere in the State of Texas. Participants will learn about good personal hygiene, cross contamination and time and temperature abuse.

Contact the Extension office at 940/627-3341 to sign up. The registration fee is \$20.00 and covers course materials and an official food handler card. Registration deadline for the Food Handler certification course is Tuesday, April 11, 2016. Space is limited.

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aide service or accommodation in order to participate in the event are encouraged to contact our office within 5 working days prior to the

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program. Educational programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, national origin or genetic information or veteran status.

The class is taught in English, but Spanish handouts are available if requested in advance.

The Food Protection Management (FPM) Training Program is brought to you by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in cooperation with the Texas Department of State Health Services, and the County Commissioners Court Cooperating.

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