



## Greene County Public Health

Melissa Howell, MS, MBA, MPH, RN, REHS, Health Commissioner

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# Press Release

For Immediate Release

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## Greene County Public Health Reinforces Commitment To Food Safety During National Food Safety Education Month

**XENIA, OH** – With the holidays lurking around the corner, Greene County Public Health (GCPH) supports and celebrates National Food Safety Education Month (NFSEM) throughout September by showcasing its commitment to food safety education.

“Education has always been one of our primary tools for ensuring safe food at our restaurants, grocery/convenience stores, and food trucks”, said Rick Schairbaum, Food Safety Program Manager for Greene County Public Health. “An inspection may last an hour or two, but a trained employee is always looking out to correct any potentially dangerous situations. This means that an educated workforce is worth far more than several inspections when it comes to ensuring food safety. To that end, we offer several training opportunities throughout the year for food service workers—including ServSafe Manager Certification and Person-in-Charge classes”, he added.

Our professional team is dedicated to continuing food safety education of employees of Greene County food establishments through our ongoing food training program offered throughout the year. To view available classes, registration, and additional information, please visit <https://www.greenecophoh.gov/environmental-health/food-safety/education-and-training>. Additionally, education continues online through our social media platforms, featuring special messages about food safety throughout the month on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Here are some ways you can participate in this month’s recognition:

- Participate in the Collective Day of Action on **Wednesday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>**. The day aims to unite educators, partners, and federal liaisons to create a loud voice across social media channels. Remember to use the hashtags **#NFSEM2025** and **#dayofaction**.
- Post a [food safety tip](#) or [recipe video](#) on social media with the hashtags **#NFSEM2025** and **#foodsafety**.
- Download the safe recipe cookbooks [The Healthy Lunch](#) and [The Safe Recipe Cookbook](#). Share these recipes with your family and friends!

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- Use the [Safe Recipe Style Guide](#) to turn your favorite recipe into a safe recipe.
- Prepare a [safe recipe](#) in person or virtually with family and friends.
- Teach kids and teens how to build safe recipes with the virtual [Safe Recipe Activity](#).

### ***About Greene County Public Health, Environmental Health Food Safety Program***

The Environmental Health Specialists work with all permanent and temporary food operations, groceries, and vending locations in Greene County regarding proper food preparation/handling, sanitation and storage practices. Inspection reports are available on our website at <https://www.gcph.info/environmental-health/food-safety/food-services-inspection>

### ***Services Include:***

- Issuing permanent and temporary food service permits
- Review of building plans for new or renovated food operations
- Standard and follow-up inspections to ensure compliance with proper food preparation, handling, sanitation, and storage regulations.
- Education programs for food operation's personnel on measures to prevent foodborne illnesses.
- Investigation of reports of potential foodborne poisoning
- Investigation of reports of unsafe employee practices, cleanliness of operation, and food handling issues

For more information about Food Safety Education Month, visit [www.fightbac.org/nfsem](http://www.fightbac.org/nfsem). Take advantage of the free recipes, free downloads, resources, games, activities and more all in the name of food safety! For more information on Greene County Public Health, please call 937-374-5600, visit [www.greenecophoh.gov](http://www.greenecophoh.gov), and engage with us on social media.

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