

## TAYLOR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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COURTHOUSE • 224 SO. 2nd ST. • MEDFORD, WISCONSIN 54451-1899

July 2, 2007

### RE: Food Safety Award Recognition Program

Dear Food Operator:

Taylor County Health Department has been conducting food inspections since January of 2006. I have had a chance to meet most all of the operators and to work with each of you to help ensure a high level of food safety. Beginning today, Taylor County Health Department has established the annual Food Safety Award to recognize excellence in food safety.

Annually, the Health Department will recognize those food establishments that have met the criteria to receive this award. The criteria used to qualify for the award is detailed on the enclosed announcement. One of the criteria is not having any critical food safety violations. This is difficult to achieve since there are over one hundred critical food safety violations in the Wisconsin Food Code and any one of these can disqualify a food establishment from receiving this recognition. During this past inspection year several food establishments would have been eligible for this award based on these criteria. Some examples of critical food safety violations include: improper hand washing, bare hand contact with ready to eat food, improper food storage, improper cooking or holding temperatures, cross contamination, improperly sanitizing food contact surfaces and the absence of an employee illness policy.

Each food establishment must also have a Wisconsin Certified Food Manager available during each shift, have not received a re-inspection, have no confirmed or suspected food-borne illness and have not had any enforcement action in the last two years.

The awards will be announced in July or August of each year and based on the inspection conducted during the prior July to June fiscal year. The first award announcement will be in July or August of 2008. Criteria will be evaluated annually by the Health Department and you will be notified of any necessary changes. Thank you.

For Taylor County Health Department,

Anthony Fraundorf, R.S.  
Environmental Health Specialist

c. P. Krug, Health Officer  
File

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## **FOOD SAFETY AWARD CRITERIA**

- 1. The food establishment must hold a current 02M or 02C Restaurant license from the Taylor County Health Department.**
- 2. The establishment was open for one year under the current license.**
- 3. A Wisconsin Certified Food Manager is available during each shift.**
- 4. No critical food safety violations on the current inspection.**
- 5. No confirmed or suspected food-borne illness during the past two licensing years.**
- 6. Must have a written consumer advisory if serving undercooked food.**
- 7. No re-inspections were required during the current license year.**
- 8. Over all, the kitchen is clean and well maintained.**
- 9. No enforcement orders have been issued for the food establishment in the past two licensing years.**
- 10. Must have safe drinking water.**