

# FOOD PROTECTION & PUBLIC SAFETY 2026 NEWS



## UPCOMING CLASSES

Please join us in 2026 for our DPHD Serv Safe Manager Certification course offered quarterly. Classes will be held at the DPHD training room 9am - 5pm. If your risk level 3 or risk level 4 food service operation (FSO) or retail food facility (RFE) is without a certified food manager, please reserve your spot today: <https://forms.delawarehealth.org/Forms/MWMU2>. Class dates listed below.

**March 24 & 26**

**June 23 & 25**

**October 6 & 8**

**December 15 & 17**

To find course offerings for providers of the Ohio Person In Charge Certification in Food Protection, please click the link below.

[odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/food-safety-program/food-safety-certification/ohio-pic-certification-providers](https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/food-safety-program/food-safety-certification/ohio-pic-certification-providers).



## SYSTEM UPDATE

We will be converting data systems to serve you better. Processes will change slightly, so bear with us as we transition. Once inspections are conducted, your inspector will write up the report at your facility, go over the report with the PIC and have them digitally sign for the report. Once signed, the report will be emailed immediately to the email address we have on file. Please make sure your emails are updated on your applications for renewal.



## 2026 FEES

We are required by law to review our fees annually to ensure we are charging the appropriate amount of money per license to cover the cost to run the program. The Board of Health adopted the fees in December of 2025. All new fees became effective January 1, 2026. Your new fee is reflected on your renewal application. You can find our full fee schedule [here](#).



## SMALL EGG PRODUCTION

Is your food facility interested in using or selling local eggs? Effective October 1, 2025, small egg producers are no longer required to register with the Ohio Department of Agriculture and are considered an approved source for retail sale. Properly labeled eggs are considered an approved source and can be sold from your farm to retailers (RFE) or restaurants (FSO). To sell eggs at a Farmers Market or offsite of a licensed food facility, a temporary food license or mobile food license would be required. To find more information please visit [agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/resources/small-egg-production](https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/resources/small-egg-production).



## SCHOOL SHARE TABLES

Do you work in a school cafeteria and have children with unwanted food at lunchtime and need guidance on how to safely store the extra food? Ohio Department of Health released a 2024 letter of opinion regarding school share tables. [Click here to learn more](#).



## EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Maintaining a clean, healthy, and safe environment is essential for every business, especially those serving the public. To support your efforts, we offer a convenient Item Loan Program designed to help organizations strengthen hygiene practices, reduce environmental hazards, and promote customer and employee safety.

Through this program, you can request short-term use (up to 5 days) of items such as Hand Sanitizer Stations, Handwashing Stations, Recycling Receptacles, Litter Grabbers, and GloGerm Handwashing Training Kits. Availability of supplies is based on a first-come, first-served basis.

These tools make it simple to enhance sanitation practices, meet regulatory expectations, and encourage responsible waste management. Whether you're preparing for a short-term initiative, conducting staff training, or hosting a public event, our loan program provides flexible support to help keep your environment clean and safe.

To request equipment, please complete the Item Loan Agreement Application at:

<https://forms.delawarehealth.org/Forms/jUyF2>



## COMPLAINTS

Since January 1, 2025, over **90** complaints for Food Service/Retail Food Establishment facilities were reported to DPHD. We have an obligation to investigate complaints and there are a few things you should know.

1. We cannot share the name of the complainant during the investigation. After the case is closed all information pertaining to the case is a public record and you may request a copy.
2. We typically investigate the complaint within 5 business days of the report.
3. We have an inspector who only investigates complaints.
4. We may not investigate a complaint if it meets one or more of the following criteria:
  - The complaint is considered egregious.
  - No date or time of observed complaint is provided.
  - Complaint too vague and/or not enough information to investigate.
  - 30 days or more have passed since the complaint was observed.
  - Complaint concerns quality not safety.
  - Complaint appears to be retaliatory in nature.
  - Repeat complaint.
  - Date of observed complaint within 3 days of last inspection.



## CPR CLASSES

CPR isn't just for TV doctors! CPR is a life-saving skill that anyone, no matter who they are or where they work, can perform.

After being trained, you can react in the first critical moments during an emergency and be the difference between life and death while awaiting EMS to arrive.

We offer a variety of CPR/AED/First Aid classes that are certified by the American Heart Association, affordable, and tailored to different experience levels.

In just a few hours, our expert instructors will provide you with hands-on training and personalized feedback, so you leave feeling confident in your skills.

Emergencies can happen at any time and any place; so be prepared!

Visit [DelawareHealth.org/cpr](https://DelawareHealth.org/cpr) to learn more!



## GROWTH TRENDS

Delaware County is one of the fastest growing counties in the State. Along with the growth of homes comes growth of dining experiences.

On average, the Delaware Public Health District has been seeing trends of adding an **average of 7 new** facilities every 3 months since January of 2024. Since July of 2025, we have added a total of 15 new facilities!

Our team is working hard behind the scenes to review plans for every facility in a timely manner and get final construction inspections complete in addition to their daily workload.

Meet our team on the next page!

## MEET THE TEAM!



**KARIE SANDERS**

Karie Sanders has been an inspector with DPHD for 19 years. She currently oversees DPHD's Manager Certification courses in food safety and works predominately with facilities (food, pools, schools) within Delaware City, Ostrander and Ashely. When not working she loves the feeling of having free time to take her dogs to metro parks, enjoy nature and have a leisurely schedule to connect with family and friends. Karie also enjoys the working relationships she has created within the DPHD community over the past 19 years.



**JENNIFER WILSON**

Jennifer Wilson has worked at the Delaware Public Health District for nearly 20 years. She is married and a devoted cat lover, proudly considering her cat her "child." In her free time, Jennifer enjoys going on cruises with her husband and exploring new places around the world.



**LEXI PERIGO**

Lexi is one of our Environmental Health Specialist here at DPHD. She started with us in 2024. She currently has the facilities (food, pools, schools, and campgrounds) in Sunbury and Galena with a few inside of Delaware City limits. When not at work, she loves to be outside at the racetrack, crafting, or at the gym. Lexi is eager to work with all of her facilities and operators and strive for health and clean environments.



**KAMRYN RHODES**

Kamryn has been an EHS-IT for a little over two years and currently inspects food facilities, swimming pools, and campgrounds within the Lewis Center and Powell areas. In her free time, she enjoys baking and spending time with her fiancé and her dog Bogey.



**MALLORY MENZ**

Mallory is a Registered EHS-IT and inspects the Powell area. Mallory is originally from Northeast Ohio and moved to central Ohio after graduating from Ohio University with a BS in Environmental Health Science. She is really enjoying planting roots in central Ohio with her partner Maggie and cat Olive. Her hobbies include going to yoga and spin classes, reading, and crafting. Mallory is very grateful to be serving this wonderful community and is looking forward to many more years at the Health District.



**DAKOTA ROBERTS**

Dakota is an Ohio Northern Alumni, with a BS in Public Health. Her inspection categories include food, pools, schools, campgrounds, and body art mainly in the Delaware City limits. In her time away from the office, she helps manage a martial arts gym with her fiancé, specifically promoting women's self-defense. During her free time, she often finds herself lounging with her cats or walking her dog.



**SHANNON SELF**

Shannon began her career at the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD) 22 years ago as an inspector. Over the years, she has been assigned facilities in the Sunbury/Galena area and Delaware City. Since December 2022, she has served as the program manager for the Food Protection Unit. While she primarily focuses on program oversight, she continues to maintain a small inspection load and assists with enhanced enforcement for facilities with repeat, uncorrected violations.

Outside of work, she has five chickens, two dogs, a husband of 20 years, and a son who serves as a combat medic in the Army National Guard. In her spare time, she teaches cardio drumming, makes maple syrup, and enjoys gardening.



**MELISSA ADAMS**

Melissa Adams began her career as an inspector with the Stark County Health Department in 1998 and joined the Delaware Public Health District in 2000. She has worked across all Environmental Health programs, experience that supports her current role as a Complaint Inspector. In addition to handling complaints, she inspects solid waste facilities and works within the Rabies program.

Outside of work, Melissa is the proud mother of two daughters — one a junior in high school and the other studying pre-occupational therapy at Eastern Kentucky University. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering with Common Ground Free Store Ministry, tending to her flower beds, and traveling.