

Morgan County Health Department

180 S. Main St., Suite 252 Martinsville, IN 46151 Phone: 765-342-6621 Fax: 765-342-1062

Notice of Mandatory Food Establishment Closure

November 12, 2019

Dear Food Establishment Owner and/or Manager,

Under the current Indiana Retail Food Establishment Sanitation Requirements, (Title 410 IAC 7-24), there are certain situations which require the **immediate closure** of any retail food establishment by the establishment itself or by the local health department.

410 IAC 7-24-109 Ceasing operations, reporting, and resumption of operations Sec. 109. (a) Except as specified in subsection (b), the owner or operator of the retail food establishment shall immediately discontinue operations and notify the regulatory authority if an imminent health hazard may exist because of an emergency, such as the following:

- (1) Fire.
- (2) *Flood*.
- (3) An extended interruption of electrical or water service.
- (4) A sewage backup.
- (5) A misuse of poisonous or toxic materials.
- (6) An onset of an apparent foodborne illness outbreak.
- (7) A gross insanitary occurrence or condition.
- (8) Other circumstance that may endanger public health.
- (b) The owner or operator of a retail food establishment need not discontinue operations in an area of an establishment that is unaffected by the imminent health hazard.
- (c) If operations are discontinued as specified under this section or otherwise according to law, the retail food establishment **shall obtain approval from the regulatory authority before resuming operations**.

To be clear, the manager of a retail food establishment shall close the facility in the case of:

- Loss of water or electricity
- Lack of hot water
- Any sewage backup
- Fire or discharge of the fire suppression system
- Multiple reports of illness in a short or sudden period of time
- Any other situation which may be hazardous to the public

The facility **shall not reopen** until approval has been received by the Food Inspector at the Morgan County Health Department.

Should you have any questions regarding this rule, please contact the Food Inspector at the Morgan County Health Department at 765-342-6621 or email: ehs@morgancountyhealth.com.

After hours, please call the non-emergency number of the Morgan County Sheriff and they will find a Health Department employee to assist you.

Sincerely,

Paul Broderick, D.O. Health Officer Morgan County Health Department