

MASS FOOD AND ANIMAL FEED CONTAMINATION

DEFINITION – Mass food or animal feed contamination hazards occur when food or food sources are contaminated with pathogenic bacteria, viruses, or parasites, as well as chemical or natural toxins. They may lead to foodborne illnesses and/or interruptions in the food supply. Contamination may occur due to natural foodborne illnesses and chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear exposure. Most foodborne illnesses are caused by Campylobacter in poultry, E. Coli in beef, leafy greens, and raw milk, Listeria in deli meats, unpasteurized soft cheeses, and produce, Salmonella in eggs, poultry, meat, and produce, Vibrio in raw oysters, Norovirus in many foods, and Toxoplasma in meats (Center for Disease Control (CDC), 2013). Contamination usually occurs accidentally during the production/preparation process but can also be the result of intentional acts.



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR RESIDENTS

- ▶ **Emergency Alerts and Warnings** – To receive emergency alerts and warnings, refer to the following websites, mobile apps, and other resources.
 - **American Red Cross Mobile Apps** (Apple App Store, Google Play, or text to “90999”
[Mobile Apps - The American Red Cross](#))
 - **South Central Alert** – This service allows residents and businesses in an eight county area to be notified of an emergency situation and important alert messages in a variety of ways, including on their cell phones, home and work phones, by text messaging and e-mail.
[South Central Alert - Sign Up](#)
 - Monitor police news feeds, weather, and news on social media or websites. Receiving periodic updates is vital.
- ▶ **Awareness** – Monitor [FDA website](#) and local news for warnings and recalls regarding food and animal feed contamination. Follow instructions for disposing of or returning items.



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

- ▶ **Adopt the York County Hazard Mitigation Plan** by resolution or develop and implement a municipal hazard mitigation plan. [York County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- ▶ **Coordination** – Develop pre-disaster Memorandums of Agreements or Memorandum of Understanding with adjacent jurisdictions. Build partnerships (neighborhoods, emergency management/first responders, businesses, utility service providers, and local government agencies to strengthen response and recovery.
- ▶ **Public Education and Outreach** – Educate residents regarding risk and impact of hazards, how to prepare and protect themselves and their property. Provide educational materials on possible sources of food and feed contamination and proper disposal. Make residents aware of any

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localized events of possible food and animal feed contamination. Facilitate funding for mitigation measures and technical assistance programs that address measures that citizens can take.

- ▶ **Threat Identification** – Identify facilities that could be impacted and work with them to develop a plan for notification and response.