

You are invited... to the first Meeting of the
NJFPA Quality Assurance Roundtable

May 18, 2010 at 9:00AM

Conference Room: Rutgers Food Innovation Center



Please allow us to introduce ourselves: Donna Schaffner and Doug Nicoll. We've been asked to Co-chair the start-up of a new targeted interest-group from the membership of the NJ Food Processors Association. We plan to hold a monthly meeting with invited speakers and opportunity to share experience and ideas for best practices within the areas of QA & Food Safety in food processing.

The Food Innovation Center will host the initial planning meeting on May 18, when we will poll attendees for topic ideas, list of potential speakers, and set a schedule of locations to host future meetings. This activity is free-of-charge to any member of the NJFPA who is interested in exploring Quality Assurance or Food Safety issues.

Our proposed meeting format has a speaker (~45 min.), time for questions and round-table-format discussion of the speaker's topic, and time to discuss (15-20 min.) other items topical for that month, such as recent product recalls, food poisoning outbreaks, or regulatory announcements. Include introductions at the start and a break for coffee somewhere in the middle, and our 2-hour Food Safety educational symposium is concluded for the month!

Some already-proposed topics for meeting speakers include "Environmental Monitoring – What techniques and testing products do you find to be the best?", "Third Party Audits – Which provider or format do you find most useful?", "In-field Micro testing – Is it Effective, and does it really add any assurance of safety to the producer or processing plant?", "Sanitation Programs – Different techniques and chemicals – cost effectiveness vs. comparison of risk", "Food Safety Aspects of using High Pressure Pasteurization vs. Traditional Heat Treatments" and "Food Safety Training – Format, Materials and cost vs. Impact on day-to-day behaviors".

Does this sound like an activity that you'd like to be a part of? If so, please send an e-mail to register for the May 18 kick-off meeting to Donna (DFSchaffner@NJAES.rutgers.edu) or leave a message at 856-459-1900x4528.

Or, if you already know that you have a passionate desire to work with such a group of like-minded professionals, we're also looking for a few dedicated individuals to be on the steering committee. If you feel that you can commit to an extra half-hour per month, these individuals would arrive early to take care of administrative details, and exchange a few e-mails in-between the monthly meetings. Please contact us right away, if you'd like to get in on the ground floor of this great new opportunity!

Looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Donna F Schaffner



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