



# City of Milford, Connecticut

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Health Department

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Health Director

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Date: February 26, 2024

To: Milford Food Service Establishment Permit Holders/Owners

From: Deepa D. Joseph, MPH  
Director of Health

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DJ", is placed over the name and title of the sender.

Re: Public Act No. 23-115 - Connecticut Allergen Awareness Requirements

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This notice is to keep local Food Service Establishments informed of important updates specific to allergen awareness requirements in accordance with Public Act No. 23-115.

As you know, the [FDA Food Code](#) became fully effective in Connecticut in February 2023. Since that time, the Milford Health Department has been conducting routine food establishment inspections in accordance with the FDA Food Code utilizing the new inspection report form. Among other items, the FDA Food Code places significance on the importance of allergen awareness as it relates to food service establishments. As such, based on the FDA Food Code, all Permit Holders/Certified Protection Managers (CFPM) are required to know the nine major food allergens, the symptoms that a major food allergen could cause in a sensitive individual who has an allergic reaction and the responsibility to ensure employees are properly trained in food allergy awareness. Further, the Permit Holder is required to notify consumers by written notification of the presence of major food allergens as an ingredient in unpackaged food items that are served or sold to the consumer. Failure of the Person in Charge (PIC)/CFPM to demonstrate adequate knowledge, training and provide proper labeling under the Food Code are marked out of compliance under item(s) # 1, and/or #37 on the inspection report form.

Effective December 1, 2023, Public Act (PA) No. 23-115 mandates further actions and requirements, along with a timeline for compliance, specific to Connecticut food service establishments as outlined below.

In accordance with PA No. 23-115, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH) has developed an informational poster aimed at educating food establishment employees on food allergies. The poster includes a review of common allergy-causing foods, proper actions for servers when customers disclose food allergies, methods to prevent cross-contamination, and the necessity of contacting 911 if a customer experiences an allergic reaction at your establishment.

Not later than March 1, 2024, all Class 2, Class 3, and Class 4 food establishments are required to display the CT DPH allergen awareness poster in a clear and conspicuous location in the kitchen or designated staff area. Copies of the poster are available from the [CTDPH Food Protection Program webpage](#) and will be distributed by Milford Health Department Sanitarians during routine inspections to establishments that are unable to access and/or print the poster.

The Permit Holder, Person in Charge (PIC) and/or the Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) is required to ensure that each employee of the food establishment has viewed the poster. Each employee must confirm, in writing, that the employee has familiarized themselves with the information included in the poster. Failure to provide training and keep a written record of the training may result in an inspection violation on the routine inspection report form under section 19a-361 of the CT General Statutes. The attached "Employee Training Sheet" or "Employee Supplemental Training Log" can be used to document the training.

Not later than January 1, 2025, all Class 2, Class 3, and Class 4 food establishments are to post a statement requesting all customers notify their server, prior to placing an order, of any food allergies. The request statement is required to appear on your establishment menu and menu boards.

The Milford Health Department recognizes the need for time to implement these changes and is committed to assisting you throughout the process. Should you have any questions, please contact this office at 203-783-3287.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.