



Virginia Cooperative Extension

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Packinghouse Best Practices: A Hands-on Workshop Using a Risk-based Framework to Increase Fresh Produce Food Safety

November 12, 2015

Valley Farming, LLC, 3131 Koogler Rd., Dayton, VA

9:00 am - 4:00 pm



Regardless of your experience or the volume of produce you currently grow, understanding post-harvest risks and best handling practices in the packinghouse environment is crucial to reduce food safety risks. In this hands-on workshop at Valley Farming LLC's packinghouse, we will discuss a risk-based framework so participants can learn how to do a site assessment in their own packinghouse set-up. Topics will include packinghouse hazards & routes of contamination; cleaning and sanitizing basics; most commonly used sanitizing agents; calculating amounts of sanitizing agents; factors impacting sanitizer effectiveness; monitoring sanitizers within a wash line or other application (i.e. wash basin); keeping track of monitoring steps; and determining clean breaks. The workshop will feature Laura Strawn (Food Safety Extension Specialist, ESAREC), Rob Williams (Microbiology Extension Specialist, VT) Adrianna Vargo (Director Grower Services, LFH), Amber Vallotton (Coordinator, Fresh Produce Food Safety Team), and Rachel Pfuntner and Laura Truitt (ESAREC). For more information, contact Jason Cooper, 540-564-3080.

- **Registration will run from 8:30 to 9:00, with the program starting promptly at 9:00 am**
- **Cost of this special workshop is \$15 and includes refreshments, lunch, and all handouts**
- **Since space is limited, pre-registration is required by calling Virginia Cooperative Extension-Rockingham County at 540-564-3080.**

Jason Cooper
VCE-Rockingham Co

Tom Stanley
VCE-Rockbridge Co

Mark Sutphin
VCE-Frederick Co

Directions:

From I-81 (exit 243), turn left onto US-11S and travel 1.0 mi. Turn right onto Pike Church Rd and drive 1.5 mi. At the stop sign, make a left onto Huffman Dr, traveling for 0.2 mi until the light (VA-42, John Wayland Hwy). Make a left and then a right at the first intersection (VA-257, Ottobine Rd). Follow for 4.9 miles, then turn right onto Lumber Mill Rd. Drive 0.8 mi. then make a left onto Honey Run Rd. Continue 0.6 mi. then turn right onto Koogler Rd. Drive 0.4 mi. and the farm will be on your right (3131 Koogler Rd).

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact the Rockingham County Extension Office at 540-564-3080 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. by November 2nd. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.



Department of
Horticulture

