



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
Chemung County Health  
Department

# Chemung County Health Department Food Safety

The Food Safety Program protects the community against foodborne illnesses. We inspect restaurants, food trucks, bars, coffee shops, caterers, ice cream stores, schools, concession stands, almost anywhere that serves food. Every place preparing food has an unannounced inspection at least once a year. Inspectors check for compliance in food handling, food temperature, and food worker hygiene, among other things.

## 100% Inspected Twice a Year



ALL restaurants in Chemung County with complex food handling, including cooling and reheating of foods are inspected twice per year. This is well above the New York State (NYS) average of 44%. ALL of these inspections in Chemung County are done by highly trained Food Service Inspection Officers (FSIO's). In NYS only 64% are done by certified FSIO's.

**Each year, 1 in 6 Americans get sick from eating contaminated food.**

## Violations and Enforcement

In 2018 we did 560 inspections at food service establishments. We look for things that could cause food-borne illness or injury, called critical or “red” violations. These generally involve employee health and hygiene, food cooking and storage temperatures and methods, sanitary practices, water and sewage, pest control, and use and storage of poisonous materials. Less serious or non-critical “blue” violations relate mostly to the design and maintenance of the facility, including cleanliness. In 2018, inspectors found 157 red violations. Repeat red and occasionally, blue violations result in enforcement actions. There were 26 such actions at food service establishments in 2018.

## We're here to HELP — Education and Follow Up

Our goal is to help restaurants give you safe food. All restaurants receive education on safe food handling practices and additional training is available. Red violations are corrected during inspections and unannounced re-inspections are conducted following red violations.

### Get the facts!

For reliable sources of information, visit:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov/foodsafety](http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety)

Local Inspection Reports [www.chemungcountyhealth.org/ehsinspectionreports](http://www.chemungcountyhealth.org/ehsinspectionreports)

**If you have questions or would like to file a complaint about a specific restaurant call the Chemung County Health Department at 607-737-2019.**