

Countywide Services Agency

Environmental Management
Department
Val F. Siebal, Director



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County of Sacramento

July 12, 2011

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Health Inspectors Work to Make Sure State Fair Food is Safe

Cleanliness, food sources and temperature are some of what inspectors check for

Whether your taste runs from kettle corn to deep fried zucchini to funnel cakes, Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) food safety inspectors will be on duty at the California State Fair to help ensure that whatever you choose to eat is safe. More than 150 food vendors are expected at this year's fair.

The vendors know that inspectors will be checking that they are following food safety precautions, said EMD health division chief John Rogers. "We cover the basics like the importance of hand washing, preventing cross-contamination, and keeping food hot or cold enough to prevent foodborne illness."

Health inspectors look for everything from food temperatures, water availability and wastewater disposal, to food sources. Meats and poultry, including wild game meats, need to come from an approved source and this is verified by EMD inspectors. "The State Fair is unique in that vendors prepare and serve food from temporary booths. It takes a few extra steps to ensure that food is being prepared safely without all of the amenities found at a typical restaurant," said Rogers.

Inspectors will affix a sign on the booth indicating they passed the inspection (see next page). Food vendors are also required to post the full inspection report in public view.

INTERVIEW AND PHOTOS/VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES

Inspectors will begin conducting inspections of more than 150 food vendors on opening day of the State Fair, Thursday, July 14.

- Media availability: July 14 - Noon to 2:00 p.m.
- Contact Alicia Enriquez at (916) 591-0313 to arrange for interviews and photos/video of inspectors checking food booths.
- Check in at the Media Center, Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento (enter through Gate 12).

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Visit EMD's website at www.emd.saccounty.net.

See inspection sign on next page



**County of Sacramento
Environmental Management Dept.
Environmental Health Division**

Ph # (916) 875 – 8440

www.emd.saccounty.net

Booth Inspected On:
07/14/2011

Permit Expires On:
07/31/2011

has been inspected and is approved to operate at the

2011 California State Fair

For additional information see Official Inspection Report
provided to the operator at time of inspection.