



Naugatuck Valley Health District
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PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 1, 2023
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Naugatuck Valley Health District Revised Food Code Effective May 1, 2023

Effective May 1, 2023, Naugatuck Valley Health District (NVHD) has officially adopted its new, revised Food Code. The revision to the code was required as a result of the State of Connecticut adopting the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code. The adoption of the FDA Food Code repealed the former code utilized by NVHD.

This change has been in the making for several years. The State of Connecticut adopted several portions of the FDA Food Code in 2017 and were scheduled to fully adopt and implement the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code in its entirety by January, 2019, replacing the Connecticut Public Health Code food safety sections. Then the pandemic and other issues put a pause on this statewide initiative. On Thursday, February 9, 2023, local health departments and districts were notified by the CT State Department of Public Health (CT DPH) that the FDA Food Code would be posted by the Secretary of the State and go into effect on February 17, 2023.

NVHD worked diligently to thoroughly review any and all sections that would need to be revised and presented it to the NVHD Board of Directors and legal counsel. The Board of Directors voted to adopt the revised version at their April 11, 2023 meeting contingent on hosting a public hearing first. NVHD hosted the public hearing on April 26, 2023 with both in person and virtual options. No further changes were made and the new code is available on NVHD's website www.nvhd.org.

We understand that permit holders and establishments may have questions about the new code. Just as CT DPH continues to provide training to local environmental health professionals across the state during this transition phase, we will continue to provide training opportunities for food establishment owners and managers in the Naugatuck Valley jurisdiction.

NVHD has created a website www.nvhd.org/fda that includes resources relevant to the FDA Food Code, NVHD's local code, and other training resources including a copy of the new inspection form so that establishments can familiarize staff with the new format and violations.

The Naugatuck Valley Health District remains committed to its mission of protecting the environmental and physical well-being for its communities through the promotion of health access, health education, regulation, community engagement and partnerships.

Questions may be directed to 203-881-3255.

END

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