

News



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Connecticut Department of Public Health

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Health Officials Remind Food Establishments of Procedures to Safely Reopen After Storm

Hartford - The Connecticut Department of Health (DPH) reminds food establishments of procedures to safely reopen after Hurricane Sandy left the state with widespread power outages.

Inspections by local health authorities are underway to ensure that perishable foods are not sold at food establishments that lost power. Food establishments with questions about reopening should contact their local health department or district.

Food establishments should discard perishables that have been exposed to unsafe temperatures, flood or sewage waters, or other sources of potential contamination and ensure that they are adequately cleaned and sanitized prior to resuming operations. Food establishments must meet the following basic conditions prior to resuming food preparation and/or sale of potentially hazardous foods:

- All unsafe potentially hazardous food has been discarded.
- Electricity and gas services have been restored.
- All circuit breakers have been properly reset.
- All equipment and facilities are operating properly, including: lighting, refrigeration, hot holding, ventilation, and bathrooms.
- Hot and cold potable water, within appropriate water pressure range, is available for consumption, hand washing and proper dishwashing.

Any food establishments that are looking to operate under interim measures, such as using bottled water or generator power, must first gain approval from their local health department prior to reopening under these conditions.

For information on food safety, go to www.ct.gov/dph and click on “Hurricane Sandy: Important Health Information.”

For more information on Hurricane Sandy recovery, go to www.ct.gov/sandy.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health is the state’s leader in public health policy and advocacy with a mission to protect and promote the health and safety of the people of our state. To contact the department, please visit its website at www.ct.gov/dph or call (860) 509-7270.

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