



PROVIDERS FOOD PROGRAM



DECEMBER 2008

National Handwashing Awareness Week December 7–13, 2008

Check out these web sites

- National Sanitation Foundation, Scrub Club
(<http://www.scrubclub.org/home.aspx>)
- Partnership for Food Safety Education—For videos, coloring books, and additional websites
(<http://www.foodsafety.gov/~fsg/handwash.html>)
- Henry the Hand, Champion Handwasher—Let watch videos and sign songs related to hand-washing
(<http://www.henrythehand.com/pages/content/hwaw.html>)
- For printable posters log onto:
<http://nfsmi-web01.nfsmi.olemiss.edu /ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=45>

Checking the Safety of Water and Baby Bottles

Plastic water bottles are very convenient for carting water around when we are on the go, as they don't break if we drop them. But, it is worth paying attention to the type of plastic your bottle is made of, to ensure that chemicals in the plastic do not leach into the liquid. Bisphenol A, or BPA, a chemical used in manufacturing the bottles, is the cause of that concern. This chemical is produced worldwide primarily to make polycarbonate, which is found in a wide range of consumer products: baby bottles, water bottles, food can linings, toys, dental sealants medical equipment and digital media (CDs, DVDs). Polycarbonate is a plastic known for its durability, heat resistance and clarity. BPA is a xenoestrogen, it disturbs the hormonal messaging in our bodies. Synthetic xenoestrogens are linked to breast cancer and uterine cancer in women, decreased testosterone levels in men, and can be particularly devastating to babies and young children. BPA has been linked to insulin resistance and Type 2 Diabetes. In 2006 Europe banned all products made for children under age 3 containing BPA, and San Francisco followed suit. Check the recycling symbol on the reusable bottles that you are using. If it is a #2 HDPE, #4 LDPE, or # 5 PP, your bottle is fine. The type of plastic in which water is sold is usually a #1, and is recommended for one time use only. It is better to use a reusable water bottle, fill it with your own water from home and keep the single-use bottles out of the landfill. Research is still ongoing about the health risks associated with BPA.
NDSU Extension Service. Taken from SENDCAA Food Program

Training Reminder

If you have not completed training 08' your menus will not be processed and you will lose reimbursement until it comes in.

Two Meals and 1 Snack or Vice Versa

The Dept. of Education was in during the month of November reviewing provider files and has instructed us to remind providers that according to the USDA regulations, providers are only allowed to claim 2 meals and 1 snack per child or 2 snacks and 1 meal.

Some of you in the past might have received an error report stating that you have over-claimed a particular child on 1 day or many perhaps by accident. There are some providers that claim attendance for every meal or snack they had fed that child producing a very large error message.

Please be aware of this when filling out your menus.

Bubble Menus

This pertains to any provider that is currently using the bubble menu. Over the past few months a large number of menus are coming into the office poorly bubbled. If your bubbles are not colored in correctly, it might cause the scanner to misread your menu and pay you less. Please remember- you **must** use a #2 pencil. The scanner reads from the middle of the bubble out. If you can see the number through your pencil coloring, than it is not dark enough. Lastly, the little bubble in the left corner where you write your food must be colored in. That bubble lets the scanner know you are claiming that meal.

On-line Claiming

Are you aware that you can check your error message on-line? At the top of your monitor screen click on claim. Go to review month. Double click on the month you want to review and several different reports will become available.

Prior to submitting your on-line menus- you should always review your menus and attendance for accuracy. Again go to the top of your monitor screen to reports- Click on claim and you can choose Attendance Summary or Meals and Attendance.

New Training

The new training is being handed out by your home visitor. Please make sure your name and site number is written on both pages.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Please be aware that our office will be closed for the holidays from December 24th - Jan. 1st. We will re-open on Jan. 2nd.