



Health Tribune

Thinking about your health in Portage County
Provided by the Portage County Health Department



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August 2011 Fair Week Health



August is ... Fair and Festival Season!!

One of the best parts of summer is going to the fairs or a festival and eating the delicious fair food! Follow these tips to have safe cooking, eating, and drinking at these events.

What should you consider before buying food from a vendor?

- Does the vendor have a clean/tidy workstation?
- Does the vendor have a sink for employees to wash their hands?
- Do the employees wear gloves or use tongs when handling food?
- Does the vendor have refrigeration on site for raw ingredients or pre-cooked foods?
- Has the vendor been inspected?

If you bring food to a fair or festival from home, remember:

- Don't let food sit out for more than two hours.
- On a hot day (90°F or higher), reduce this time to one hour.
- Be sure to put perishable items in a cooler or insulated bag.
- For budget-minded folks, eat before you go to the fair.



Protect you and your family- wash hands often:

- Locate hand washing stations and bring hand sanitizer and wipes for quick clean up.
- Always wash your hands right after being around animals, touching their pens, and leaving animal areas even if you did not touch an animal.
- Always wash hands after using the restroom, playing a game or going on a ride, after changing diapers, after removing dirty clothes or shoes, and before eating and drinking, or preparing food or drinks.



For more information go to:
<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/FairsAndFood/?source=govdelivery>



Did you know...

The Portage County Health Department checks and inspects food vendors (including those at the Portage County Randolph Fair), grocery stores, and restaurants in your community.

Your local public health department is an important part of the food safety system. It is in charge of:

- Inspecting food establishments (grocery stores, restaurants) to make sure proper safety measures are being taken, such as thermostat-controlled cooking, refrigeration, and washing facilities.
- Issuing licenses for motels, restaurants, vending machines, grocery stores, swimming pools, beaches, trailer parks, and camps.
- Handling complaints involving food service or food retail establishments
- Investigating cases of food borne illness. Anytime you think you may have had a food borne illness, report it to your local health department, even if it is after you have recovered.



Portage County
Health Department
Dedicated to making life better!

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Questions or Comments?

Contact Us!

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