**Food Enterprise Experience Survey**

The purpose of this survey is to understand your experience(s) pursuing information around food enterprises in Minnesota. Please fill out this survey to the best of your knowledge to help us track your experiences in this area.

1. Have you ever been involved with or tried to start a food business, enterprise, or activity in Minnesota?

* No >>> [Thanks; this survey does not apply to you.]
* Yes – check all that apply:
  + Owned and/or managed a food business
  + Worked as an employee in a food business
  + Marketed my own farm products
  + Marketed my own cottage food products
  + Worked or volunteered in food access or food education programs (Meals on Wheels, Farm to School, food bank/food shelf, cooking classes, etc.)
  + Worked or volunteered with a food-related enterprise or activity of any other kind (fundraiser dinner, food booth at a festival, cook-off competition, etc.)
* Comments

1. If “Yes” to question #1, how did you find information about food regulations and requirements for your business, enterprise or activity? Check all that apply.
   * Asked someone you knew who was already involved in that type of activity
   * Looked for information online
   * Contacted an Extension staff person
   * Contacted a non-profit organization
   * Contacted the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or an inspector of that department
   * Contacted the Minnesota Department of Health or an inspector of that department
   * Contacted a local city or county office
   * Other (describe)
2. Were you able to get enough information to allow you to proceed with your food-related business, enterprise or activity? (Check all that apply)
   * Yes – I was successful
   * No – I gave up
   * I had to seek out more sources of information or help before I could proceed
   * I got conflicting information (please describe)
   * Comments
3. Did you feel like you knew where to go to get information or help?
   * Yes
   * No
   * Comments
4. Did you feel like you knew what to do in order to meet requirements?
   * Yes
   * No
   * Comments
5. Approximately how long did it take for you to EITHER get the information you needed to proceed, OR to make the decision to stop your efforts?
6. If we can follow-up with you, please provide your name, phone, and email.

Ending Page:

Thank you for your response and sharing information about your experiences with us. Our team is working to address barriers in the food enterprise start-up process by developing a clearer, more streamlined process for regulatory compliance and approval. We recognize that barriers often delay or halt the process of innovative food enterprises looking to become established in Minnesota. Your responses will help our team finalize design of an improved process for regulation of food enterprises.

* Minnesota Farmers’ Market Association (MFMA)
* Minnesota Institute of Sustainable Agriculture (MISA)
* Renewing the Countryside (RTC)
* University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP)