



DAIRY DIGEST

FOOD & DAIRY DIVISION

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MDARD Launches New Dairy Licensing Portal System

MDARD is pleased to announce a new, automated licensing system launching in early 2020. The Licensing Portal System will allow dairy farmers, processors, milk haulers and all other licensees to apply for, renew, edit, track and pay for all their dairy licenses through an online application.

The new online system features a dashboard for easy viewing of all open applications, notifications from MDARD, payment information, and any outstanding items (renewals, invoices, etc.). The system offers the ability to renew multiple licenses at once using a credit card through the shopping cart feature. The system also streamlines processing and reduces processing time for those who submit paper applications.

All licensees were sent information about the new licensing system in January. **If you belong to a member milk cooperative that markets milk on your behalf**, please do not complete or mail in the dairy farm permit application sent to you with the Dairy Portal Licensing System letter dated January 8, 2020. Your milk cooperative will complete the dairy farm permit application on your behalf and pay the associated fee for each of its member dairy farms. If you have already completed the dairy farm permit application and mailed a check for the associated permit fee, you will receive a refund. If you are not sure whether your dairy farm permit application and associated fee is covered by your member milk cooperative, please contact your milk cooperative directly.

If you DO NOT belong to a milk cooperative that markets milk on your behalf, you must follow the directions for renewing your dairy farm permit, including submitting a check for the associated dairy farm permit fee according to the directions outlined in the January 8, 2020 letter. The earlier you submit your application form helps us transition to the new automated system. **All applications for the next licensing cycle are due by June 30, 2020.**

License Renewal Directions:

1. Provide your "Organization Information." The organization is the company, so the first step will list the ownership type, federal employer identification number (FEIN), valid email address, and mailing address.
2. Provide your "Business information". This information includes the business name and physical address.
3. Provide your "Contact Information". This includes the primary contact name, phone number, e-mail address, and address.

4. Determine your fee based on whether you are a Grade A or Manufacturing Grade dairy farm and include a check or money order payable to "State of Michigan" when you submit your paper application.

The system will be deployed in two phases. The first phase go-live date was February 6, 2020. It allows users to apply for all new dairy licenses through the online portal. Since this is a new system, licensees are encouraged to create their accounts as soon as possible so any issues can be resolved before the 2021 renewal cycle. Milk marketing cooperatives will set up the user information for their member dairy farms. The second phase launch is scheduled for the end of March 2020. This phase will activate the payment, renewal, tracking and editing features of the new system.

Staff from MDARD's Dairy Program and the Central Licensing Unit look forward to working with you to make the transition to the new, more efficient licensing system a smooth one. If questions arise during the transition process, please call the MDARD Central Licensing Unit at 800-292-3939. Thank you for your assistance and patience as the new dairy licensing system is brought online.

Dairy Digest Goes Digital

The 2020 edition of MDARD's Dairy Digest is the final printed version that will be produced. If you have provided an email address to MDARD in the past, you will receive an electronic version this year. Hard copies will be mailed to those who have not provided email addresses. In 2021, the newsletter will only be sent to those who have provided email addresses. If you've received a paper copy this year, or if your email address has recently changed, you are encouraged to provide a current email address to continue to receive the Dairy Digest and other important industry information from MDARD. As always, the Dairy Digest will also be available on the MDARD website at www.Michigan.gov/foodsafety.

Sign Up to Receive Email Updates

To receive emails about dairy program updates and emergency response efforts, or provide occasional feedback via customer service surveys, please type the link that pertains to your license/business below into your web browser and provide your email address when prompted.

Dairy Farmers:

<https://bit.ly/2Kxh4t5>

Dairy Manufacturing/Processing Plants:

<https://bit.ly/2lu2bXS>

Dairy Haulers/Shippers:

<https://bit.ly/2L7RHIs>

Bulk Milk Hauler and In-line Sampler Training Now Available Online

All licensed hauler/samplers are required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) to participate in a certified training program at least once every 24 months. This is in addition to an on-farm inspection.

In the past, MDARD has offered training meetings around the state for licensed hauler/samplers that meets FDA requirements for a certified training program. For many hauler/samplers, these meetings were close to home and offered a convenient way to ensure continued training. However, many traveled long distances, often in adverse weather conditions, to attend these required trainings. With these hauler/samplers in mind, MDARD now offers the required certified training in an online format.

If you are interested in online training, please follow these steps:

- Go to <https://www.schoology.com/>
- If you have never used Schoology before:
 - 1) Click on the **SIGN-UP** icon in the upper right corner.
 - 2) Click on the **STUDENT** button.
 - 3) Enter access code: **9ZSS7-2QB8P**
 - 4) Fill out required information using your name as it appears on your MDARD license.
 - 5) Click on the **COURSES** tab and select the **Hauler Sampler Training Course**.
 - 6) Complete each assignment.
 - 7) You are all set for the licensing period!
- If you have used Schoology for MDARD training before:
 - 1) Click on the **LOG-IN** icon.
 - 2) Enter your name and password.
 - 3) Click **JOIN a Course** under the **COURSES** tab.
 - 4) Enter access code: **9ZSS7-2QB8P**
 - 5) Complete each assignment.
 - 6) You are all done!
- Hauler/Samplers need to attend a meeting in person or do this online training every licensing period (before June 30 of even years) to avoid a possible **administrative fine**.
- Sign up using your name **AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR MDARD LICENSE**.

If you have questions, please email MDARD at: MDARD-HAULERS-TANKERS@Michigan.gov.

MDIC 2020

The Michigan Dairy Industry Conference (MDIC) is an annual two-day conference held in various locations across the state. During this conference, participants have the ability to network with industry and regulatory personnel while learning about the newest updates in the dairy industry. This year's conference will be held in Mount Pleasant on May 20th and 21st.

Participants will have the opportunity to tour what will be one of the nation's largest dairy processing plants – Midwest Cheese. This facility is a joint venture with Glanbia, Dairy Farmers of America, and Select Milk Producers. Other topics to be discussed this year include; emerging contaminants, new and innovative cleaning for plants, a discussion of farm labor and pressure on increased productivity, plus many, many more! For more information on MDIC and to register to attend, visit: www.MDICconference.com.



PMO Appendix N Analyst Workshop

MDARD Laboratory Evaluation Officers (LEOs) Shawn Lee and Paula Dankert held a one-day PMO Appendix N Analyst workshop on October 17, 2019 at the Joint Forces Readiness Center in Lansing. Approximately 60 participants attended, including new and seasoned drug residue testing analysts. The workshop was also geared toward prospective analysts and those planning to build a dairy processing facility considering whether to conduct onsite testing of their incoming milk for drug residues, purchase prescreened milk, or contract with another lab for the required testing. Drug residue test kit manufacturer representatives had vendor tables available to the workshop participants. Along with presentations given during the workshop, time was allowed for practical group exercises and for participants to visit with the vendors to try out the drug residue test methods.

Annual Proficiency Testing

MDARD LEOs are preparing for the required annual proficiency testing where analysts in MDARD-approved laboratories will test a set of blind samples on each of the test methods for which they are certified or approved. The samples arrive at each laboratory annually on the third Tuesday of March (March 17 this year). MDARD works cooperatively with LEOs in five other states (MN, IN, IL, KY and NJ) and meet at the Springfield, IL state laboratory to prepare samples that are sent to the laboratories in each of the states. Results are compiled in a final report which is then sent to each laboratory, along with MDARD, Grade A rating officers and FDA. The laboratory analysts are required to successfully participate in the annual proficiency testing and must pass an on-site evaluation conducted by MDARD LEOs to maintain their certification/approval as laboratory analysts who conduct official testing for MDARD.

Michigan's Dairy Industry by the Numbers

- Dairy makes up the single largest segment of Michigan's agriculture industry. Michigan's dairy products are exported to Canada, Mexico, Japan, South Korea, and China.
- Michigan's dairy industry has a \$15.7 billion impact on Michigan's economy annually.
- Michigan's dairy industry generates nearly 40,000 jobs directly and indirectly.
- Michigan has 118 licensed dairy processing facilities (Grade A, manufacturing, transfer stations and cleaning facilities).
- Michigan is 2nd only to Vermont in the number of small non-traditional (artisan) dairy processors.
- Michigan has 1,125 Grade A dairy farms and 126 Manufacturing Grade dairy farms, for a total of 1,251 permitted dairy farms.

MDARD Contact Information

Phone: 1-800-292-3939
After Hours Emergencies: 517-373-0440
Fax: 517-373-9742
Email: MDA-FoodDairyInfo@michigan.gov
MDARD Website: www.michigan.gov/mdard
Dairy Resources: www.michigan.gov/mda-dairy
Electronic Complaints: www.michigan.gov/mdardcomplaints
Business Start-up and Expansion: www.michigan.gov/miagbusiness



Census 2020: Be Counted -- Michigan Needs You!

Each decade, the U.S. Census strives to count every person living in the U.S. The next census is scheduled to occur in 2020. It is vital for everyone living in Michigan on April 1, 2020, or anyone who spends at least 50 percent of their time in Michigan, to be counted as living in Michigan on the 2020 U.S. Census.

An accurate count is critical for determining how much federal funding our state will receive for essential services that impact local communities. For instance, in 2016, Michigan received nearly \$30 billion in federal funding for programs like highway planning and construction, food and housing assistance, health, and education.

Census results can also affect our Congressional representation. We currently have 14 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives but stand to lose one seat if our population declines. If that happens, our state's congressional districts would have to be redrawn, which would lead to a reduction in the number of electoral votes we have in presidential elections.

Despite its importance, many challenges, obstacles and misinformation about the census persist which could hamper participation. This is especially true in rural communities and larger cities, which have been traditionally undercounted in previous census counts.

To ensure an accurate count, the Michigan Census Committee has launched a statewide "Count Me In" campaign, to communicate the importance of completing the census, dispel myths, and maximize participation. The campaign focuses on the 'three Cs': the 2020 Census is **convenient, confidential** and **critical** to our future here in Michigan.

Completing the census is easy and the questions are simple. Governments, businesses, communities and non-profits all rely on the data these questions produce to make critical decisions.

How can you help ensure a successful and accurate 2020 Census count? Be counted! By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The 2020 Census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even respond from your mobile device. Responding by phone or mail will also still be options.

Help spread the word to your family members, friends and neighbors that responding to the census is vital to Michigan's future success. For more information about the 2020 U.S. Census, visit www.michigan.gov/census2020 or www.2020Census.gov. Thank you for doing your part to make sure Michiganders are counted.

Dankert Appointed Dairy West Region Supervisor

Paula Dankert has accepted the position of West Region Supervisor for MDARD's Dairy Safety and Inspection Program. She replaces Gordon Robinson who retired at the end of January 2020 after 31 years with MDARD. Paula has a wealth of experience in the Dairy program and most recently served as a State Milk Laboratory Evaluation Officer. Paula will officially start her new managerial/supervisory capacity on February 23.

MDARD Dairy Food Safety and Inspection Program Regional Updates

Dairy West Region

The Dairy West Region experienced a lot of staffing changes in 2019 due to staff promotions and the addition of another inspector to the region to address workload issues. We were glad to welcome Samantha Bailey, Katie Keen and David DeWaters to the region.

Samantha Bailey came to the program with experience from working for several local health departments. This experience and her experience working with people from diverse backgrounds made her an excellent choice and good fit with the milk safety inspection program. Samantha lives near Ionia and her work area covers Ionia, Kent and Eaton counties.

Katie Keen came to the program with 15 years of work experience for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources where she worked as a wildlife communications coordinator, biologist and resource analyst. She also worked for two years as a conservation officer in Missouri. Katie has experience working with a vast array of individuals and the public while working for the DNR, inspecting and investigating complaint and enforcing state wildlife regulations made her an excellent choice and good fit with the milk safety inspection program. Katie lives near Tustin and her work area includes northern Newaygo and Mecosta counties and all of Oceola, Lake, Mason and Manistee counties.

David DeWaters came to the program with experience as a senior microbiologist, analyst and veterinarian assistant. David also served as a medic in the National Guard and sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps. David has a vast array of experience working with people and animals which made him an excellent choice and good fit for the Dairy Safety and Inspection Program. David lives near Carson City and his work area covers Montcalm and southern Mecosta counties.

Dairy East Region

The East Region of the Dairy Safety and Inspection Program welcomed **Andrea Meade** to the field staff team in October 2019. Andrea is from Dewitt. She was raised in Livonia but realized early on that she was drawn to animals and agriculture. Andrea decided to pursue her passion through local 4-H and later enrolled at Michigan State University to study and eventually earn her bachelor's degree in Animal Science in 2015.

While at MSU and after graduation, Andrea worked at the dairy farm on campus as an animal caretaker. After a short time as a Member Representative for Michigan Milk Producers Association, Andrea returned to campus and was selected to be the Farm Manager at the MSU Dairy Research and Teaching Farm. She spent two and a half years in that role before deciding to try a new opportunity in regulatory work as our newest Dairy Field Scientist. Andrea covers the farms, haulers, and tankers in Clinton, Gratiot, Saginaw, and Shiawassee counties.

Consumer Complaint Hotline

If you see a food- or dairy-related problem, please report it to the MDARD Food and Dairy Division at 800-292-3939 or through the MDARD website at www.michigan.gov/mdard

Food and Dairy Division

Dairy Inspector Territory Assignments

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Barbara Koeltzow
Program Manager
Phone: 517-749-5846
Email: koeltzowb@michigan.gov

Joni Thompson
East Region Manager
Phone: 517-749-5844
Email: thompsonj15@michigan.gov

Paula Dankert
West Region Manager
Phone: 321-357-3514
Email: dankertp@michigan.gov

Lansing Office: 800-292-3939
Fax: 517-335-0056

MDA-dairyinfo@michigan.gov
www.michigan.gov/mda-dairy