

Employee Hygiene

FACT SHEET #2 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

500 Lake Bardwell Road
Ennis, TX 75119
Ph # (972) 875-1234

Email: healthdept@ennis-texas.com

Website: <http://www.ennistx.gov>

The Importance of Proper Hygiene

Employees are the most important link in preventing foodborne illness. Good personal hygiene, including proper and frequent hand-washing, is one of the best ways to prevent foodborne illness.

Hand-washing

Always make sure that hands are washed and thoroughly dried before starting work; before wearing gloves; between tasks; before working with food products, equipment, utensils and linens; and after using the restroom, coughing, sneezing, eating, drinking or smoking. Correct hand-washing includes cleaning the backs of hands, palms, and forearms, between fingers and under the fingernails using warm water, soap and a fingernail brush.

Cuts, Wounds and Sores

Any cuts, wounds or open sores on the hands and arms must be completely covered by a waterproof bandage. Wear single-use intact gloves over any bandages on the hands and fingers.

Fingernails

Fingernails must be kept trimmed, filed and maintained so that the edges and surfaces are cleanable and not rough. Unless wearing intact gloves, a food employee may not wear fingernail polish or artificial fingernails when working with exposed food.

Hair Restraints

Food employees are required to wear hair restraints such as hairnets, hats, scarves, or

beard nets that are effective in keeping their hair in control. This does not apply to counter staff who serve only drinks or wrapped food products, and wait staff or hostesses/hosts if they present a minimal risk of contamination.

Proper Work Clothing

All employees must wear clean outer clothing to prevent contamination of food, equipment, utensils, linens, single-service and single-use articles.

Personal clothing and other personal items must be kept away from food-handling and storage areas. Employers must provide adequate storage areas for employee's personal belongings. If employees routinely change clothing at the establishment, a room or area must be designated and used for that purpose. Such changing areas must be separate from food, clean equipment and linen.

Wearing of Jewelry

Jewelry should be limited to plain-banded rings only. Bracelets, and other jewelry on arms and hands may not be worn when preparing or serving food. Medical alert identification tags are permitted as necklaces.

Eating, Drinking & Using Tobacco

All employees must eat, drink or use tobacco only in designated areas where contamination to food, equipment, utensils and other materials cannot occur.



CITY OF ENNIS