

VCFSA NEWS



Ventura County Food Safety Association

www.vcfsa.org

July 2020

Ventura County has launched a COVID Compliance Line to ask questions as they relate to businesses. Please direct your questions on business compliance or enforcement to either CovidCompliance@Ventura.org or call (805) 202-1805. Spanish speakers available.

The VCFSA website is being updated and will include: links to partner websites, calendar of events, documents and news. Our new "Members Only" access link will have all the general meeting presentations available since the onset of the association.

We are bringing in the technology to have on line presentations, speakers, trainings and more!

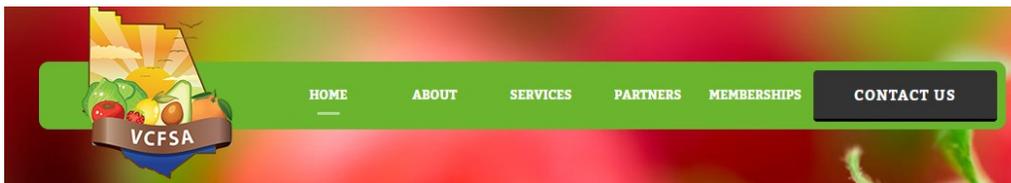
There are open positions on the Board of Directors. If you want to get involved or simply have questions, please email Laura Miller at Lmiller@Limoneira.com.

Contact Us
For More Information

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Visit us on the Web at
www.vcfsa.org

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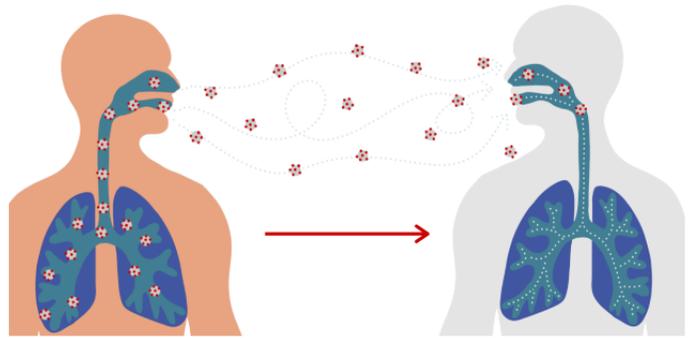
Food Safety and Local News

- The USDA has published [resources and assistance](#) for the public and farmers as part of the supply chain. There are also FAQ's to help understand company closures and rules to stay open.
- See the statement and remarks by Frank Yiannas, the FDA Deputy Commissioner for Food Policy and Response, on [Smarter Food Safety](#).
- The FDA along with the CDC and state and local partners continue to investigate a [multistate outbreak of Cyclospora](#) infections potentially linked to salad products.
- PTI has announced the release of four new or [improved tools](#) to support traceability implementation.
- The USDA and FDA have issued a [joint statement](#) regarding food export restrictions and COVID-19.
- More updates have been made to the [United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement](#) (USMCA).
- Japan has announced the [revised quarantine pest list](#) which will enter into force on November 11th, 2020.
- [Port Hueneme](#) received a \$1.68M FEMA Grant to update access controls and surveillance technology.

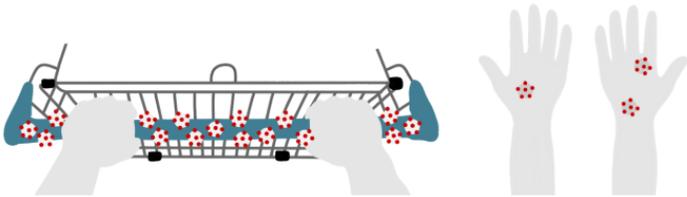
Food Safety Has No Competition

PERSON-TO-PERSON

- SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) is primarily transmitted person-to-person
- The virus is carried through respiratory droplets (like spit and mucus) and released into the air through coughing, talking, singing, yelling, sneezing, etc.
- Viral particles in the air can attach to cells in a healthy person, infect, replicate, and be dispersed again through moisture droplets to infect other healthy people
- Viral particles usually only travel a few feet, which is why physical distancing of six feet or more is recommended. However particles may also travel further by aerosols.
- Masks and face coverings are recommended since they trap some or most of these viral particles, reducing the spread of the virus.



SURFACES



- Surfaces have shown to be a factor in transmission, although probably much less than person-to-person transmission
- Published outbreak investigations have documented only a few instances of surface related cases

- Virus that is on a surface would have to be touched by a person, and then that person would have to touch their mouth, nose or eyes and the virus would need to migrate to a cell with the proper receptor
- Viruses on surfaces become less infectious over time, depending on the surface material, temperature and other factors
- When a person touches a surface, not all of what is on that surface will be transferred to their hand, which is part of why surface transmission is less likely than person-to-person transmission

FOOD

- There are no documented cases of COVID-19 being contracted from food
- No clusters of illnesses linked to food have been observed anywhere in the world, but epidemiologists and food safety professionals continue to look for links.
- The virus must most likely come in contact with cells containing a specific receptor to cause infection. The virus can be found in salivary glands, and has been recovered from fecal matter. However, to cause infection, it is thought that the virus must come into contact with cells that have a specific respiratory receptor.
- Scientists believe there are not enough cells with receptors in the digestive tract to allow for infection, and that stomach acid should help inactivate the virus

