

Food Establishment News

Final Four - Thank you for making Minneapolis Shine!

Minneapolis rolled out the red carpet for basketball fans this past weekend. Once again, we showed a national audience that we know how to have fun.

Behind the scenes, Minneapolis Health Department staff were fulfilling their public safety charge, assuring a safe food supply during the event. Health inspectors worked closely with team hotels, US Bank Stadium, the Armory, the Minneapolis Convention Center, and other venues to accomplish our dual mission of food safety and food defense.

Special thanks go to the chefs, managers, food workers, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and State and local agency partners. Your work on food safety and food defense helped make a successful Final Four!

For large events such as the Final Four, many restaurants and caterers increase the quantity of food they are preparing and serving in a short period of time. Health inspectors work in partnership with managers, chefs, and food workers to minimize food safety risks while protecting the food supply from tampering and bioterrorism. Over the six-day operational period, health inspectors conducted over 500 special event inspections.



Health Inspector Kenya Urena-Muro talks about [health inspections during large events](#).

An enthusiastic Strike Team 2 ready to work the final game at US Bank Stadium.



Kevin Keoprasedth checked food with a Senior Safety Manager at US Bank Stadium.

At US Bank Stadium, a District Safety Manager works with Health Inspector Nate Kelly.





Senior Health Inspector Kathy Louden with the Minneapolis Convention Center head chef getting into the Final Four spirit!

Mary Yang and Mandy Hang kept the Health Department Operations Center running smoothly.



At an inspection, the temperature of this walk-in cooler was 48° which is too high to keep food safe. (The temperature should be 41° or lower.) The health inspector worked with the venue staff to quickly cool the food using other methods and to bring the walk-in temperature down to 41° before the food became unsafe to serve.

Commander Melissa Chiodo, MPD Incident Commander for public safety operations, and Dan Huff, Director of Environmental Health, at the Multiple Agency Command Center.



Environmental Health Supervisors Cindy Weckwerth and Ryan Krick with Senior Health Inspector Bill Kass working in the Health Department Operations Center during Final Four.

What a unique use for a hotel pan!
A reporter gets an assist from an unlikely source for an interview with a player.





Many thanks to health inspectors and staff for a job well done!

About this newsletter: Environmental Health eNews is published by the City of Minneapolis Environmental Health. If you have questions, please contact Minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov.

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