



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

PRODUCE SAFETY PROGRAM

Washington State On-Farm Readiness Reviews

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is offering free, educational on-farm assessments to help farmers comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act's (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.

These On-Farm Readiness Reviews (OFRR) are non-regulatory and voluntary. WSDA staff trained in the new rule will visit your produce farm to help you assess whether your produce safety practices meet the requirements of the Produce Safety Rule (PSR) and prepare you for produce safety inspections.

These voluntary farm assessments are being done in partnership with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Washington State University (WSU), the Washington State Tree Fruit Research Commission (WSTFRC) and other industry partners.



An OFRR is **personalized**.

Every farm is different which means the produce safety risks will vary. The results of an OFRR are customized for the needs of your farm. An OFRR is an opportunity for reviewers to observe practices in action and make tailored suggestions. Reviews should be conducted as close as possible to harvest time with each visit lasting approximately 2 hours.

During the visit, you can ask your specific food safety questions. The reviews are discussion-based between farmers and a small review team that will include WSDA staff and additional subject matter experts at the discretion of the farm.

An OFRR is **non-regulatory**.

An OFRR is an educational assessment, not an inspection or audit. The goal is to identify areas for



produce safety improvement and prepare your farm for an actual inspection.

The OFRR assessment is a high-level overview of the farm operation and focuses on farm activities without a formal record review. However, reviews could include discussion of records required to comply with the Produce Safety Rule. The assessment will give farms a better sense of what to expect from a routine inspection.

If a reviewer observes a serious, egregious condition that could pose an imminent public health hazard, the reviewer will work with you to take corrective action on-site. As long as the product has not entered commerce and the issue can be immediately addressed, reviewers will not take any regulatory action nor notify FDA or any other regulatory agency.

An OFRR is free.

OFRRs are federally funded through a WSDA cooperative agreement with FDA, so there is no cost to farmers for these assessments. Please contact the WSDA Produce Safety Program at agr.wa.gov/producesafety if you have questions about whether you have any exemptions from the PSR.



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How to request an OFRR

Farms of all types and sizes are welcome to schedule an OFRR, but priority will go to farms where at least one person has attended the PSR-required Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training. The PSA Grower Training is the only FDA-approved produce safety curriculum that provides a foundational understanding of the regulation and will aid in the review process. For more information on the PSA training visit:

producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu
or foodsafety.wsu.edu.

To schedule an OFRR, visit agr.wa.gov/producesafety and complete the Produce Farm Inventory enrollment form, or contact Karen Ullmann at:

kullmann@agr.wa.gov
or 206-714-6125.