

Dear **[INSERT BUYER NAME]**,

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets is seeking the best point of contact at your organization to discuss produce safety and produce purchasing requirements.

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets (VAAFAM) Produce Program has partnered with the Food and Drug Administration to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) in Vermont. Our Program supports Vermont produce farms of all sizes and stages of development to meet food safety requirements, access markets, and promote public health as sustainable agricultural businesses.

We hope to collaborate with **[INSERT BUYER NAME]** to accomplish the following:

- **Produce Safety / Buyer Point of Contact(s)**
Please provide the best point of contact(s) to discuss your organization's produce safety requirements and procedures related to produce suppliers. Please send contact(s) name, email address, and phone number to Gina Clithero at gina.clithero@vermont.gov. Ms. Clithero will reach out to the contact(s) provided to schedule a conference call to discuss the topics listed below.
- **Initial Conference Call**
After receiving the best point of contact(s) we will work with you to schedule a conference call to address any questions you or your organization may have regarding the FSMA Produce Safety Rule and its implementation in Vermont and address the following topics:
 - Your organization's produce safety requirements for produce suppliers
 - Your produce safety requirement verification procedure
 - Frequency of verification

Understanding current buyer produce safety requirements will allow us to provide further support for producers and buyers, increase engagement with produce safety initiatives, and work collaboratively as regulators, buyers, producers, and educators to minimize the risk of unsafe products entering the marketplace.

The Vermont Produce Program is available to answer any questions you may have about the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, how it applies to farms, and Vermont Produce Program services and regulatory responsibilities. The attached fact sheet provides a general overview of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule and its implementation in Vermont.

If we do not receive a reply within **10 business days**, our staff will follow-up with a phone call. We look forward to building this relationship and welcome any comments, questions, or input you may have.

Sincerely,



The Vermont Produce Program
Growing Produce Safety on Vermont Farms
<https://agriculture.vermont.gov/produceprogram>

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