

March 13, 2020

MCHD to offer special Food Handler classes

MOBILE, Alabama — The Mobile County Health Department’s (MCHD) Inspection Services will offer additional Food Handler classes during March and April.

Brad Philips, who oversees the department, said these extra classes are to accommodate those who reside in the southern section of Mobile County. Those interested should arrive 15 minutes prior to the start. The cost is \$15 cash.

The first class will be Monday, March 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the Grand Bay Community Center. The address is 11610 U.S. 90 in Grand Bay.

The second class will be Friday, April 3, at 9 a.m. in the Coastal Response Center’s South Bay Project Community Center. The address is 7385 Highway 188 in Coden.

For many years, MCHD has offered Food Handler classes at the Keeler Memorial Compound’s Building 6 located at 251 North Bayou Street in Downtown Mobile. Any food establishment employee who serves or prepares unpackaged foods or whose job duties require being in food preparation, service, storage or ware washing areas is required to annually obtain a Food Handler card.

In order to assist service industry workers, Inspection Services has also added an online version of the course. The course is \$15 plus an online fee of \$8, which is paid before taking the course. The online Food Handler class is accessible 24 hours a day on a computer, tablet or smartphone. Those wishing to take the class may go to <http://mchd.statefoodsafety.com>.

Dr. Stephanie Woods-Crawford, the executive director for Prevention & Wellness bureau, said the introduction of the online program provides the community an opportunity to take the class at their convenience, at their own pace, in various languages, and to print their card and certificate.

This Food Handler course provides instruction on the following:

- Food hazards — biological, physical and chemical.
- Personal hygiene practices.
- Cleaning and sanitizing processes.

For additional information on any of these Food Handler classes, please call 251-690-8116.