Food Safety Corner

There are only a few safe ways to thaw your Thanksgiving turkey. Make sure no one gets sick this year by following these thawing instructions:

In a refrigerator: allow 24 hours for 4-5 pounds. So make sure to plan ahead!

Soak in cold water: allow 30 minutes per pound, changing the water every half hour (ensure turkey is wrapped in leak-proof plastic bag)

Last minute? Microwave! Make sure you cook the turkey immediately after microwave thawing.


Turkey Fryers

NFPA (National Fire Prevention Association) discourages the use of outdoor gas-fueled turkey fryers that immerse the turkey in hot oil.

NFPA continues to believe that turkey fryers that use cooking oil, as currently designed, are not suitable for safe use by even a well-informed and careful consumer. These turkey fryers use a substantial quantity of cooking oil at high temperatures and units currently available for home use pose a significant danger that hot oil will be released at some point during the cooking process. In addition, the burners that heat the oil can ignite spilled oil. The use of turkey fryers by consumers can lead to devastating burns, other injuries, and the destruction of property. NFPA urges those who prefer fried turkey to seek out professional establishments, such as grocery stores, specialty food retailers, and restaurants, for the preparation of the dish, or consider a new type of "oil-less" turkey fryer.

EHSRM Spotlight

Mrs. Lisa Arceneaux has been a key player in the development of the University’s Stormwater Program. Mrs. Arceneaux has worked side by side with the City of San Marcos staff, Mr. Shawn Wolfshohl whom together have successfully published an upcoming edition of Stormwater: A Journal for Surface Water Quality Professionals. The two represented Texas State University and the City of San Marcos as authors of the "MS4 Community Education, Outreach and Involvement through Art." The paper illustrates the need for a joint education and outreach efforts by the two entities, the process of organizing a successful art contest, the lessons learned and the benefits that came out of the City and University collaborative efforts. Storwater is the official journal of Storm-Con, a national stormwater conference that Mrs. Arceneaux and Mr. Wolfshohl presented at the conference this summer. Mrs. Arceneaux is very environmental conscious and a dedicated player in helping the university stay in compliance with all city, state and federal regulations. As an environmental engineer her knowledge and experience has been extremely beneficial in networking with other entities working together in efforts to keep our water and rivers clean.