



PRESS RELEASE

December 18, 2019
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Be Vigilant When Purchasing Meat for the Holidays- Environmental Health Unit

The Environmental Health Unit of the Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA) is urging consumers to be vigilant when purchasing meat during the holiday period and beyond.

Regional Environmental Health Officer at the SRHA, Carleen Mitchell-Hennie says persons should ensure that meats are purchased from licensed butchers operating from approved or licensed places of slaughter.

She explained that the butchers should have the Government of Jamaica stamp of approval, adding that only meat that has been inspected and passed is fit for human consumption.

"Food safety is very important, so whenever you purchase meat, ensure that it is from a reputable establishment and that the meat has been inspected by the public health inspector and stamped" Mrs. Mitchell-Hennie said.

The Regional Environmental Health Officer added that several health risks are associated with purchasing meats not fit for consumption, which can result in harmful and adverse health effects, such as food borne illness or food poisoning.

She pointed out that some of the illnesses include: E. coli from ground/minced beef, BSE (bovine spongiform encephalitis) from beef cattle, TSE Scrapie (transmissible spongiform encephalopathies from goat and sheep, trichinosis from pork and salmonella from poultry.

For additional information, persons can contact the health department in their parish.

(more)

Chairman: Wayne Chen; Vice Chairman: Michael Stern, **Board Members:** Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett, Lorraine Green Mason, Marcus Greenwood, Stafford Haughton, Winston Maragh, Lennox Powell, Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, Albert Williams, **Permanent Secretary's Nominee:** Dr. Naydene Williams, **Regional Director and Secretary:** Michael Bent; **Regional Technical Director:** Dr. Vitilius Holder; **CEO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Alwyn Miller; **SMO, Mandeville Regional Hospital:** Dr. Everton McIntosh

Mandeville Reg. Hospital
32 Hargreaves Avenue
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2067/2744/1094
Fax: (876) 625-8493

May Pen Hospital
1 Muirhead Avenue
May Pen
Ph: (876) 986-2528/7708/6938
Fax: (876) 986-2650

Black River Hospital
45 High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-2224/2212
(876) 634-3700
Fax: (876) 965-9294

Percy Junor Hospital
Spalding P.O.
Clarendon
Ph: (876) 964-1181/2222/2322
Fax: (876) 964-1548

Lionel Town Hospital
Bustamante Drive
Vere, Clarendon
Ph: (876) 986-3226
Fax: (876) 986-3373

Chapelton Hospital
Chapelton P.O.
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Ph: (876) 987-2215

Manchester Health Dept.
Race Course Rd.
Mandeville
Ph: (876) 962-2288/7033
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Fax: (876) 962-2171

Clarendon Health Dept.
1-3 Jackson St. Denbigh
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Ph: (876) 986-7869
Fax: (876) 986-9713

St. Elizabeth Health Dept
High Street
Black River
Ph: (876) 965-9174-5
Fax: (876) 965-2701



Picture 1



Example of meat that has been inspected and passed for consumption.

(more)

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Picture 2



Regional Environmental Health Officer at the SRHA, Carleen Mitchell-Hennie

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For more information contact:

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Email: latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

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