



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LANSING

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ALERT:

Establishments be wary of suspicious mailers

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) has been made aware of a possible scam aimed at retail food establishments.

A business called the "Michigan Food Service Compliance Center" has been mailing flyers to food establishments around the state (grocery stores, restaurants, schools, health care facilities) and in other states selling "approved handwashing posters." The flyers quote sections of the Michigan Food Code and Food Law. The wording implies that an operator risks being closed down or fined up to \$2,500 if they fail to have handwashing signs that meet "exact specifications." Signs are then offered for sale for \$19.95 each plus shipping.

Please reinforce with your operators, as needed, that:

- While handwashing signs are required, they are a non-critical item, which would not result in fines or closure.
- Signs are only required to be legible and in the correct place.
- This firm is not endorsed by MDA.

If you have any questions, please call your inspecting agency.

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