



## News & Information

Contact: Leah Bischof, MDI State Director, 320-429-0611, [leahbischof@gmail.com](mailto:leahbischof@gmail.com)

### MDI Update: COVID-19 and Action Plan for Team Meetings

*St. Cloud, MN (05.27.2020)*— On Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Governor Tim Walz issued the Stay Safe MN Phase I guidelines that outline that social gatherings of 10 people or less can take place. To continue to limit the spread of COVID-19, the Minnesota Dairy Initiative would like MDI coordinators, farmer applicants, and team members to use discretion when planning and attending on-farm team meetings.

The Minnesota Dairy Initiative requires teams to follow the guidelines of 10 or less people in attendance and to observe best health practices which include the following:

- While planning a meeting, the coordinator must ask if the farmer or team members have been sick or have been experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 within the 2 weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. Documentation can be logged with provided checklist;
- If a farmer, coordinator, or team member is feeling ill, do not attend meetings and stay home;
- If a farmer, coordinator, or team member is residing with someone that is ill, do not attend meetings and stay home;
- Cough/sneeze into your arm or tissue and wash your hands afterwards;
- Practice social distancing. Allow space between yourself and other people by six feet;
- Clean your hands often – wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol;
- Coordinators should use hand sanitizer before and after meetings. In addition, coordinators can bring hand sanitizer and have it available for others to use at the team meetings;
- Do not share food;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces;
- Have meetings electronically/online if possible. Coordinators are to ask farmers and team members if they are comfortable meeting in person. If individuals are not comfortable, an electronic conferencing service should be used.

Please use discretion from MDI coordinators, farmer applicants, and team members as each region continues to move forward. Health and safety of all participants is the most important factor.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Leah Bischof, MDI State Director, at (320) 429-0611 or [leahbischof@gmail.com](mailto:leahbischof@gmail.com).

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