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Impact of Internet Posting of Restaurant Inspection Scores on Critical Violations

A Health and Environmental Profile of the Dry Cleaning Industry

Public Infrastructure Disparities and the Microbiological and Chemical Safety of Drinking and Surface Water Supplies in a Community Bordering a Landfill

The Exploration of Effects of Chinese Cultural Values on the Attitudes and Behaviors of Chinese Restaurateurs Toward Food Safety Training

ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRACTICE

Guest Commentary: Integrating Research and Community Organizing to Address Water and Sanitation Concerns in a Community Bordering a Landfill

Direct From CDC: Environmental Public Health Online Course (EPHOC) Series: Are We Making a Difference?

ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRACTITIONER

Demystifying the Future: Moving From Just-in-Case to Just-in-Time Living

Legal Briefs: Why Your Jobs Are Important

Career Opportunities

In Memoriam

EH Calendar

Resource Corner

YOUR ASSOCIATION

President’s Message: “It’s All About Giving Back”—a Toast to the Board!

Special NEHA Members

Special Listing

NEHA News

NEHA 2013 AEC

Managing Editor’s Desk: Dues !#$%&*!!

ABOUT THE COVER

Public posting of restaurant inspection scores is thought to increase compliance through consumer pressure. In 2009, the Salt Lake Valley Health Department launched a Web site that provides restaurant inspection results, scores, rankings, and restaurant closure information. In this month’s cover feature, “Impact of Internet Posting of Restaurant Inspection Scores on Critical Violations,” the authors evaluated the Web site’s impact on subsequent inspection results. The implementation of a web-based system for public access to restaurant inspection results appears to have had some impact on the frequency of critical violations noted by inspectors and may lead to a 20% to 30% reduction in the number of inspections with these critical violations.

See page 8.

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ADVERTISERS INDEX

American Public University .................. 7
Comark Instruments, Inc .................. 13
Custom Data Processing ................. 37
Decade Software ................. 87
HealthSpace USA ................. 88
InspekPro .......................... 57
LaMotte .......................... 4
Mitchell Humphrey Software ............. 7
Mycrometer .......................... 55
NSF International .................. 5
Olympus NDT .......................... 61
OnlineRME, LLC .................. 13
Ozark River/Integrity Distribution .......... 59
Shat-R-Shield .................. 47
Sweeps Software, Inc .................. 23
Taylor & Francis Group .................. 63
Taylor Technologies, Inc .................. 23
Underwriters Laboratories ................. 2
University of Illinois Springfield ....... 13