

Gold Star Award recipients double in St. Mary's County

Posted by [Joy Shrum-Reporter](#) On 04/10/2017

Leonardtown, MD- The St. Mary's County Health Department recognized more than six dozen food service providers in the county at the annual Gold Star Award ceremony on Thursday, April 6.

Food Safety Supervisor Mark Morris said 2016 had the most award recipients since the ceremony started in 2005. "We had 69 recipients this year and that's the most we've ever had—it's twice as many as normal." On average, the county awards 35-40 Gold Stars. To qualify for the Gold Star Award, food service facilities must meet four criteria:

1. They cannot have any critical violations—that's an automatic disqualification
2. They must complete food safety training, either through the county or a private vendor.
3. Any general retail violations the facility is cited for must be corrected within 30 days.
4. No food-borne illness complaints.

Morris said he's encouraged by the increase of recipients this year, "I'd like to think they're getting their safety training and taking food safety more seriously." Food safety inspectors visit schools and full service restaurants three times a year.

The first week in April is National Public Health Week—this year's theme was "Healthiest Nation in One Generation by 2030." During 2016, food safety inspectors conducted 1,700 inspections at 480 establishments at restaurants, convenience stores, grocery stores, nursing centers and all of the county schools.

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List of Gold Star recipients:

SMCPS:

Ridge Elementary
Piney Point
Benjamin Banneker A & B Elementary
Capt. Walter Francis Duke Elementary
Leonardtown Elementary
Chopticon High
Margaret Brent Middle
Lettie Dent Elementary
Mechanicsville Middle
White Marsh Elementary
Hollywood Elementary
Oakville Elementary
Dynard Elementary
Chesapeake Public Charter School
Esperanza Middle
Evergreen Elementary
Fairlead Academy
George Washington Carver Elementary
Great Mills High
Green Holly Elementary
Greenvew Knolls Elementary
Lexington Park Elementary
Town Creek Elementary
Great Mills H.S. Athletic Boosters

Private Schools:

St. Michael's School
Sage at St. Mary's Ryken High
St. Mary's Ryken High School/Booster
Victory Baptist Academy
IAM William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center

Nursing Home Facilities:

St. Mary's Nursing Center
Northern Senior Center
Loffler Senior Center
Spring Village @ Wildewood

Various Food Service providers:

Breton Bay Golf and Country Club
The Good Earth Natural Foods
The Leonardtown Grille
Wendy's-Leonardtown
A Taste of Spice Dips
Dairy Queen-Charlotte Hall
Clover Hill Dairy
Dash In Food Store
Food Lion-Charlotte Hall
No Limits Catering
Papa Johns-Charlotte Hall
Popeye's-Charlotte Hall
Sweet Frogs-Charlotte Hall
Wawa-Mechanicsville
Wawa-Charlotte Hall
Wendy's-Charlotte Hall
Bruster's Ice Cream-Hollywood
Personalized Touch Catering
Aldi
Days Off Deli & Grill
Fairfield Inn-Lexington Park
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall
Noodles and Company
Panera Bread
Red Robin
Sheetz-California
Showtime Deli
Starbucks
Sweet Frogs-California
Taco Bell-California
Target
Wawa-California
Wendy's-California
Wildewood Pastry Shoppe
Yummy's