## ADVANCEMENT OF THE PRACTICE

## DIRECT FROM CDC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



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n 2000, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recognizing the important role environmental health programs play in food safety, funded a new cooperative agreement program on retail food safety called the Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net, pronounced S-Net). EHS-Net is a network of environmental health programs in state and local health departments focused on understanding how retail food service establishment policies and practices contribute to foodborne illness and outbreaks. EHS-Net staff collaborate closely with their counterparts in epidemiology and laboratory programs, and with CDC, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

information about environmental health programs, trends, issues, and resources. The conclusions in these columns are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the of cial position of CDC.

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