National Food Policy Conference

Examining key food policy issues affecting consumers, the food industry and government

For 38 years, the National Food Policy Conference has been a Washington institution and a unique collaboration among consumer advocates, the food industry and government. The conference is organized by the Consumer Federation of America and is a key national gathering for those interested in agriculture, food and nutrition policy.

For updates and the latest information, go to www.consumerfed.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015

Program

**8:30am** Welcome

**8:45am** Keynote Address

**9:30am** Facilitated Discussion: What Would a National Food Policy Look Like?

Our food and agriculture system is complex and interconnected yet policy decisions concerning food and agriculture are often compartmentalized. Some have called for a National Food Policy to better coordinate and align policies to meet national goals and reduce unintended consequences. A panel discusses the essential elements of a national policy, the key factors that should inform such a policy, and what it would take for it to become reality.

**10:45am** Networking Break

**11:15am** Breakout Panels

Panel 1: Dietary Guidelines for Americans: Past, Present and Future

A panel of experts discusses the latest Dietary Guidelines report and the implications for nutrition policy. Panelists will also explore the most important outcomes of the Dietary Guidelines over 35 years, how the recommendations have changed over time, how to improve the process and whether a review of the Guidelines every five years is still appropriate.

Panel 2: Implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act

As FDA finalizes the Food Safety Modernization Act regulations, focus turns to how best to ensure adequate compliance with the new requirements. A panel of experts will explore the most effective strategies for implementing FSMA, the biggest challenges to address, and the resources needed to get the job done.

Panel 3: Fast Food Fight

Protests by workers at fast food restaurant chains have spurred discussions about the minimum wage, income inequality, and the worker’s voice in the food system. A panel examines the key issues and possible solutions and explores the implications of this debate for our food supply.

**12:30pm** Lunch – Keynote Address

Continued on next page
2:00pm  Facilitated Discussion: Information Nation
How consumers access information and what they do with that information is constantly changing, with important implications for food policy. A panel explores how consumers process information, how they determine which sources of information are most reliable, and the role of social media and the Internet in shaping public opinion.

3:15pm  Networking Break
3:45pm  Panel Breakouts
Panel 1: Food Policy from the Ground Up
Much activity around food and agriculture policy is taking place at the local level via food charters, food policy councils, and other programs. A panel discusses how these efforts are changing food systems in local communities, their effect on national policy, and how different stakeholders—advocates, the food industry & government—are engaging in and responding to these activities.

Panel 2: Addressing Salmonella in Meat and Poultry Products
With foodborne illness rates from Salmonella well above national goals, stakeholders are looking at how best to reduce the pathogen in meat and poultry products. Panelists explore the challenges presented by Salmonella and discuss the most effective policies and approaches to reduce Salmonella contamination.

Panel 3: Consumer Perspectives on Food and Technology
A panel explores how consumers evaluate the benefits and costs of new technologies related to food, whether certain technologies are perceived differently than others, and what this means for the application of new technologies in addressing challenges in our food system.

5:00pm  End

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

8:15am  Welcome
8:30am  Keynote Address
9:15am  Panel Breakouts
Panel 1: Improving Child Nutrition
A panel discusses the opportunities and challenges to improving child nutrition, particularly for low-income children. Panelists will look at recent actions by the Administration and in Congress, identify programs that are making the greatest impact, and discuss where we should be focusing our efforts.

Panel 2: Use By/Sell By/Best By – What Does it All Mean?
The multitude of dates stamped on food products can be confusing for consumers since the dates are not standardized or regulated by any federal agency. A panel looks at the intersection of date stamps with food waste, food safety, and food security and discusses what these dates really mean and whether a better system could be used.

Panel 3: The Farmer Perspective
A diverse panel of farmers representing different parts of agriculture discusses the most important issues facing farmers today and how those issues have changed (or not) over the years. Panelists will discuss their own priorities and how consumer preferences and/or market demands drive their decisions and activities.

10:30am  Break
10:45am  Facilitated Discussion: Food Policy under the Obama Administration
A panel discusses the primary food policy achievements and challenges under the Obama Administration, identifies the most important activities that need to be accomplished in the next two years and discusses the role Congress may play.

12:00pm  Keynote Address
12:30pm  End

Registration Fees
Includes all sessions, conference materials, lunch on Tuesday and continental breakfast on Wednesday

Industry, trade and professional association representatives and nutritionists or dietitians employed by industry  $325
Government, academic and non-CFA public interest groups and independent nutritionists and dietitians  $125
Designated representatives of CFA member groups  $90
College or graduate students  $45

CFA will be applying for Continuing Education credits from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please contact Anna Marie Lowery at 202-939-1005 or alowery@consumerfed.org.

www.consumerfed.org  @CFAFoodPolicy