



Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Kristina M. Box, MD, FACOG
State Health Commissioner

November 10, 2021

Dear Carrie Vrabel:

This letter is in response to your request to be recognized as a wild mushroom identification expert. In accordance with 410 IAC 7-24, Section 164, Sanitary Standards for the Operation of Retail Food Establishments, mushroom species picked in the wild shall be obtained from sources where each mushroom is individually inspected and found to be safe by a mushroom identification expert. Such recognition may be granted to individuals who possess the knowledge and experience of dealing with common edible, as well as poisonous mushroom species. For the protection of consumers, it is imperative that an experienced individual identify wild mushrooms before they are marketed for human consumption.

Based on written recommendations received, the Indiana Department of Health Food Protection Division recognizes this ability. You are qualified as a wild mushroom identification expert for morel and other wild edible mushrooms as listed on your application on file at the Indiana Department of Health Food Protection Division.

Your registration ID # is 00174.

In accordance with 410 IAC 7-24, Section 164, each individual mushroom in any given lot must be identified by you. As a further precaution you may wish to consider a method to minimize the risk of other mushrooms being added to lots that you previously identified. Any number of methods could be employed such as placing the mushrooms in a mesh bag and placing an identification seal around the opening. You may also wish to supply a copy of this letter to people who have mushrooms inspected. This can serve as an additional on-site verification that the mushrooms have been inspected by a recognized wild mushroom identification authority. These are not requirements but practices that you may wish to consider.

Other suggestions for labeling and record retention are listed in the accompanying "Instructions for Mushroom Sales."

Should any additional requirements and/or recommendations relevant to mushroom identification be received from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or of an Indiana rule change, you will be notified.

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers.



If you wish to seek administrative review or a stay of effectiveness of this Order pursuant to Ind. Code §4-21.5-3-7(a), you must petition the State of Indiana Office of Administrative Law Proceedings, in writing, within fifteen (15) days after receiving the *Order to Approve an Application for Wild Mushroom Identification Expert*. The petition must include facts demonstrating that:

- a. you are a person to whom the decision is specifically directed;
- b. you are aggrieved or adversely affected by the decision; or,
- c. you are entitled to review under any law.

Any petition for review should be submitted in writing to the State of Indiana Office of Administrative Law Proceedings in one of the following ways:

1. Go online to www.in.gov/oalp and complete a Petition for Review (State Form 56961 (5-20));
2. Mail your petition for review to the Office of Administrative Law Proceedings at 100 North Senate Avenue, Suite N-802, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204; or
3. Appear in person at the Office of Administrative Law Proceedings at 100 North Senate Avenue Suite N-802, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 and file your petition for review. You will need this document to complete your petition.

If no petition for review or stay of effectiveness is filed timely, this Order becomes a FINAL ORDER at that time. Ind. Code §16-28-5-3.

Manda Clevenger, J.D.
Director, Food Protection Division
Indiana Department of Health

Attachment