Course Goal:
The importance of protecting our food supply is clearer now than ever before. Both the nation’s food chain and the transportation system have been identified as critical elements of the national infrastructure and possible targets for terrorism. The Food Vulnerability Assessment Training Course is intended to prevent and deter terrorist acts targeting the food sectors by teaching communities and industry to assess vulnerabilities and implement mitigation strategies to harden vulnerable targets. This course provides the tools and training to identify critical food assets and to have the knowledge, capability and tools to put measures in place at the local level to reduce those vulnerabilities.

What You Will Learn:
1. Assess vulnerabilities for food facilities on a community-wide basis.
2. Assess vulnerabilities within food systems, as well as individual facilities.
3. Identify and implement possible mitigation measures to reduce vulnerabilities.

Course Delivery:
1½ days delivered in your local community

Program Overview
The use of CARVER plus Shock as a practical tool for assessment and identification of critical nodes will be emphasized. Federal and industry guidelines that provide an assessment framework for individual facilities will also be discussed. The course will train participants in the application of these tools through a variety of practical exercises to stimulate problem-based learning.

Target Audience:
The target audience for this course is the food industry, as well as officials at the federal, state, county and local levels. Other participants from local communities involved in food security planning may also be included in the audience, depending on local needs.

Training Program Cost:
• Instructional team, equipment and all materials are provided at no cost.
• Local community must provide suitable facility for program delivery.
Food Vulnerability Assessment Training Course
Developed and delivered by the Center for Agriculture and Food Security and Preparedness and its partnering institutions, with support from the Department of Homeland Security.

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Partnering Institutions:
• Kirkwood Community College
• New Mexico State University
• New Mexico Department of Agriculture
• Tennessee Department of Agriculture
• Tennessee Office of Homeland Security
• University of Tennessee Extension
• Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
• Western Institute for Food Safety and Security

Collaborators:
• FDA, USDA/FSIS, USDA/APHIS, DHS
• National Center for Biomedical Research and Training