May 25, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Buck Wilson, Public Health Director

E-mail: bwilson@co.cumberland.nc.us

Telephone: 910-433-3705

Health Department Hosts Seafood Safety Forum

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Department of Public Health hosted a Food Safety Forum May 23 that was open to industry regulators and to the public. The forum provided information about how to properly handle, prepare and sell seafood.

Cumberland County Environmental Health Program Specialist Adrian Jones and N.C. Division of Environment and Natural Resources Environmental Health Regional Specialist Jeff French presented at the forum, followed by a question and answer session.

"It's an ongoing effort to educate the public. We like to offer classes to educate the public. It will help prevent foodborne illness," Environmental Health Director Daniel Ortiz said.

The Food Safety Forum was established in 2014 as part of an enhancement of the County Environmental Health Division's Regulatory Retail Food Program through its participation in the Food and Drug Administration Retail Program Standards. Two forums are held per year to provide consumers and industry personnel an opportunity to communicate, collaborate and receive information about food safety, food safety strategies and interventions to control risk factors. It is also an opportunity to engage in community and education outreach efforts to reduce risk factors associated with foodborne illness.

If you would like more information about the Cumberland County Department of Public Health's programs and services, health-related data, or community resources, please call 910-433-3600 or visit with someone at the information desk, or visit our website at co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#. Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment_form.aspx. The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. in Fayetteville.



A public Food Safety Forum was held at the Health Department May 23 to provide information for individuals, organizations and businesses who serve or sell seafood.

###