

### *Peanut Free Policy:*

Whereas there are members of our congregation that have a life threatening allergy to peanuts. Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church is adopting a policy of being peanut free as of 12/8/14.

### Purpose of Policy:

Exposure to peanuts for an individual with peanut allergy may cause anaphylaxis. This is a medical emergency that requires treatment with an epinephrine (adrenaline) injector (EpiPen, Twinject) and a trip to the emergency room.

Because of this health risk SMUUCH is adopting a practice of being a No Peanut Environment.

### Notification of Policy:

- Members and visitors will be notified of this policy through notification in the church bulletin, signs posted in the common areas, kitchen and children's RE rooms, a message from the board president.
- Staff and volunteers who manage food on property will be notified through posted policy in the kitchen areas.
- Outside events or groups that rent space from Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church will be notified at the time of rental through the rental agreement and will also observe posted signs indicating peanut free environment.

### The Peanut Free Policy:

- No foods containing peanuts, peanut butter, PB2, peanut oil or any other peanut product are allowed to be served on site at Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church.
- Any item found to contain peanuts or peanut products will be removed.
- ALL foods containing any nut products must be labeled clearly as these may pose a health hazard to our congregants as well.

### Disclaimer:

This policy is an act of service by the congregation of Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church to our members and visitors who may be sensitive to peanut and tree nut allergens, and their children. It represents our best understanding of the steps necessary to minimize the risk of exposure of sensitive individuals to peanuts while attending events at SMUUCH. This policy does not indicate an assumption of liability in the event of a peanut related allergic reaction. Members, visitors and parents of nut-

allergen sensitive children, are advised to use their own best judgment with regards to consumption of any foods on premises of Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church or any sponsored event by the church.

**Frequently asked questions:**

**What do we do about foods labeled may contain peanuts or peanut derivatives?**

If the label shows that the food may contain peanuts, or peanut derivatives, the food product must be removed from the building. It is not safe for ingestion for peanut allergic people, as there could be traces of peanut related ingredients within the product itself.

**What about foods labeled “Processed on Shared Equipment”, or “Processed in a Facility that maintains good separation practices”, or any language as such?**

For the most part, people with potentially life-threatening food allergies know there is always the possibility of cross-contamination, and therefore, it will be up to the individual to risk consumption of any item that falls on the communal table. Therefore, as long as the product does not show on the label that it “may contain peanuts” or peanut derivatives, it would be permissible to allow these products to be put out for consumption.

From <http://www.foodallergy.org/allergens/peanut-allergy>:

<p><b>Avoid foods that contain peanuts or any of these ingredients:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· artificial nuts</li><li>· beer nuts</li><li>· cold pressed, expeller pressed, or extruded</li><li>· peanut oil</li><li>· goobers</li><li>· ground nuts</li><li>· mixed nuts</li><li>· monkey nuts</li><li>· nut pieces</li><li>· nut meat</li><li>· peanut butter</li><li>· peanut flour</li><li>· peanut protein hydrolysate</li></ul>	<p><b>Peanut is sometimes found in the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· African, Asian (especially Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese), and Mexican dishes</li><li>· baked goods (e.g., pastries, cookies)</li><li>· candy (including chocolate candy)</li><li>· chili</li><li>· egg rolls</li><li>· enchilada sauce</li><li>· marzipan</li><li>· mole sauce</li><li>· nougat</li></ul>
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