



Cowlitz County Health & Human Services Departments

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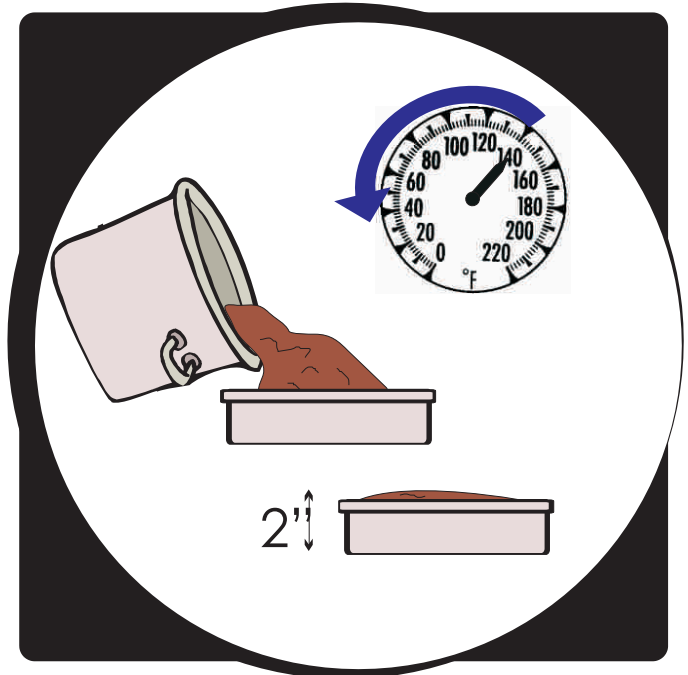
Board of County Commissioners

Arne Mortensen	District 1
Dennis Weber	District 2
Joe Gardner	District 3

Cooling Method: Shallow Pan

To cool foods using a shallow pan:

1. Put hot food into shallow pans at 2 inch depths or less
2. Immediately put uncovered pans on top shelf of fridge
3. Do not stack pans or cover during cooling process
4. Only cover food after checking that product is 41F or less



Because bacteria can grow in cooling food, cooling is often the riskiest step in food preparation and must be done safely.

It is important to cool food through the Danger Zone as fast as possible to keep bacteria from growing.

The shallow pan method works well for foods like refried beans, rice, potatoes, casseroles, ground meat, and chili.