

## 4D SAUSAGE KITCHEN

*4D Sausage Kitchen is a family owned business that provides many services such as custom curing, smoking and processing wild game.*

4D Sausage Kitchen, located in the heart of Essex County, is an 1,800 square foot free standing meat processing plant, which also offers a retail shop, with a fresh meat counter and frozen section.

The company's humble beginnings started in the kitchen of the home of Tim and Karen Damm. As they were developing products, Tim and Karen utilized family members to taste-test products, and friends were encouraged to take products home to try, before they headed into the processing business for real. Originally, the concept was to be a family business with Tim, his Dad and two brothers (4D's); however, Tim's Dad passed away before he saw the dream come true and his brothers decided to pursue other opportunities.

In 1990, Tim and Karen formally opened 4D Sausage Kitchen together, and the dream became a reality; they have been working side by side ever since. Tim's role in the partnership is butcher and Karen looks after the bookkeeping as well as performs many other duties in the shop along with Tim. Their daughter, Michelle, and son, Michael, help out as part time labourers and they have one full time employee, Dawn, and one part time employee, Linda.

For the past 21 years, Tim and Karen have seen their product list and customer base grow. Over the years they have added additional coolers to accommodate the demand for their value-added products, such as bacon, pork chops, steaks and roasts, and prepared foods such as kielbasa, pepperoni, and sausage. Their primary product line consists of beef, chicken, and pork products. They have many repeat customers coming in for freezer orders, especially during hunting season. 4D Sausage Kitchen processes wild game, deer, moose, and bear into steaks and roasts as well as creating kielbasa, sausage and pepperoni sticks from the wild game.

4D Sausage Kitchen joined the association in 2005. "OIMP membership is important to us because every time we have questions, the OIMP knows the answers or can find out for us", says Karen. They have attended some OIMP functions, including the Preparing for an Audit workshop. "Attending this function has helped our business greatly by assisting us in the set-up of all the paperwork, which was very overwhelming", said Karen.

Tim and Karen Damm are firm believers in giving back to the community and show their support by sponsoring a local soccer team, supporting the Essex Youth Pheasant Hunt and providing donations to many different local organizations.

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- Karen Damm, Owner

Tim and Karen contribute their success to their "personal touch" with their customers, their products and, most importantly, the continued support of their customers.



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