



# Environmental Management Department

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October 2005

Volume 4, Number 10

**Welcome to the October 2005 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of September 2005. Please feel free to forward comments, questions and suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net.**

## **Highlights**

- *Significant activity and outreach associated with "Red/Yellow/Green" Food Safety disclosure proposal*
- *HazMat Program receives very favorable evaluation*
- *EMD involvement in multiple initiatives related to illegal dumping and nuisance abatement*
- *Preparation begun to include Geographic Information System (GIS) coding in all facility data*

## **COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Roger Dickinson, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Illa Collin, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Susan Peters, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
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Don Nottoli, 5<sup>th</sup> District

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Penelope Clarke, Administrator  
Countywide Services Agency

Mel Knight, Director  
Environmental Management  
Department

## **NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### EMD Receives Award of Excellence

EMD received an Award for Excellence in Environmental Health from the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) for development and use of Compliance Assistance Bulletins (CABs). Twenty-six separate bulletins have been distributed to more than 10,000 businesses in Sacramento County during the past two years.

### Food Safety Education Month

The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors proclaimed September 2005 as "Food Safety Education Month in Sacramento County".

### State Department of Toxic Substances Control

The Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) received a highly favorable report from a State Audit of the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). The Audit Team was comprised of representatives from the State Department of Toxic Substances Control, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, and the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Summary of Findings by the Audit Team listed twelve areas of outstanding program implementation and two minor discrepancies.

## **RECOGNITION**

### Employee Recognition Event

The Department's A-Team (Administrative Team) held its first employee recognition event acknowledging staff for their contribution to the success of the Department. IT Analysts John Stender and Jim Williams, Accounting Manager Wageeh Elgammal, Accounting Clerk Chris Toyooka, and Executive Secretary Linda Jimenez were recognized for their contribution to the success of the Department.

### All Staff Meeting and Partner Recognition

On September 29, 2005, the Department held its bi-annual All Staff Meeting. The Agenda included a Partner Recognition Celebration, as well as acknowledgement of County Award recipients and staff presentations. County Health Officer Dr. Glennah Trochet and Deputy County Executive Paul Hahn also provided information to the attendees.

## **NEWS MEDIA INTERACTION**

### Public Outreach

EMD placed an advertisement in the *Ticket Dining Section* of the Sunday, September 11, 2005 edition of *The Sacramento Bee* to seek public comment about the proposed Green, Yellow, Red Placard Notification System for restaurants and other retail food facilities. To date, more than one hundred comments have been received.

### Restaurants with Bars

Communications and Media Officer (CMO) June Livingston was contacted by a freelance reporter preparing an article on restaurants with bars for publication in *Prosper Magazine*.

### Awards of Excellence for Food Safety

CMO June Livingston forwarded a media release to local television, newspapers, and radio stations concerning presentation of Awards of Excellence for Food Safety by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors.

### Lead Investigations

EMD received an inquiry from the *Sacramento Business Journal* regarding our role in lead investigations in Sacramento County.

### Keeping Score

An article titled, "Keeping Score on Cleanliness" highlighting the Department's proposed Green, Yellow, Red Placard Notification System for restaurants and other retail food facilities and the Los Angeles County Grading System appeared on the front page of *The Sacramento Bee* on September 20, 2005. To view the article, go to: <http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/sacramento/story/13593339p-14434183c.html>.

### Inspection at Food Market

Supervising Environmental Specialist (ES) Kelly McCoy responded to an inquiry from a *River Valley Times Reporter* concerning the routine inspection of a food mart located within a department store.

### Green, Yellow, Red

CMO June Livingston conducted an interview with *FOX 40 Television* regarding the proposal to adopt a Green, Yellow, Red Placard Notification System for restaurants and other retail food facilities.

### "Watch What You Eat"

UPN 31 Reporter Naj Alikhan continues to feature restaurants in the "Watch What You Eat" segment of *Good Day Sacramento* and on KOVR 13 *News at Noon*.

### Public Records Request

EMD received a public records request from UPN 31 for photographs taken at a local restaurant. The photographs appeared as part of the "Watch What You Eat" segment on *Good Day Sacramento* and also on KOVR Channel 13 *News at Noon*.

## **COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH**

### County Employee Giving Campaign

EMD participated in the County Employee Giving Campaign kick-off, with EMD Campaign Coordinator Kim Smith and Director Mel Knight representing the Department.

### Hazardous Materials Plan (HMP) Workshops

Two HMP workshops were held with 15 businesses attending.

### Food Safety Education (FSE)

Four FSE classes were conducted in September with 46 participants representing 12 facilities. One FSE class was conducted in Cantonese, one in Spanish, and two in English.

### Routine Inspection

A student currently attending the University of California, Davis accompanied ES Sophia Jella on a Food Facility Inspection. Ms. Jella also explained the process for implementing a routine Pool and Spa Inspection.

### Proposed Placard System

Information regarding EMD's Proposed Green, Yellow, Red Placard Notification System was placed on the County of Sacramento website with a link to the EMD website.

### Water Grants

Supervising ES Steve Kalvelage met with representatives from the State Water Board, Contra Costa County, and the City of Sacramento to discuss upcoming grants to deliver a delta regional outreach program to encourage boaters to handle waste oil and sewage responsibly.

### Student Outreach

CMO June Livingston met with students from California State University Sacramento to share information regarding the Department's Consumer Protection Food Safety Program.

### Brownfields Information

Supervising ES Dana Booth assisted the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) by presenting information on brownfields (toxic waste cleanup sites) at neighborhood workshops.

## **PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION**

### Proposed Food Safety Enhancements

Three stakeholder meetings were held to discuss and refine the proposed food safety enhancements that will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for action in late November.

### Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)

HMD Chief Dennis Green chaired the Bay Area Regional Meeting of CUPA, the local government agencies implementing comprehensive hazardous materials regulation.

### Solid Waste Authority

EMD Director Mel Knight and Supervising ES Tammy Derby met with the Solid Waste Authority Task Force to discuss options for increasing EMD's activities in the solid waste regulatory area.

### EMD Documents and Records

Informational Technology (IT) staff began scanning Solid Waste Program files into the Department's document imaging system; some of the files date back to the 1950's and earlier. This portion of the backfile imaging project is expected to take one to two months.

Site of Compost Facility

ES Cheryl Hawkins attended a hearing of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors relative to siting a new composting facility.

CUPA Regulatory Performance Model

HMD Chief Dennis Green met in Los Angeles with CUPA Program Managers from San Diego, San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties to develop a statewide CUPA regulatory performance model.

Conference Coordination

ES Cheryl Hawkins participated in meetings to coordinate the 2006 Annual Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)/California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) Conference.

Carmichael Park

CMO June Livingston and ES Sonia Lee provided food safety information and polled attendees concerning the proposed Green, Yellow, Red Placard Notification System at a Founder's Day community outreach event held at Carmichael Park.

Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC)

Supervising ES Tammy Derby and ES Cheryl Hawkins provided information regarding a new compositing site at the monthly SWAC meeting.

Technical Assistance

IT staff provided raw data and technical assistance to EHD staff in preparation for issuance of the second annual Awards of Excellence for Food Safety. IT staff also successfully geocoded facility locations allowing for determination of location and distribution of all Award recipients.

California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)

Supervising ES Tammy Derby presented information on two Solid Waste Facility Permits for concurrence at the September meeting of the CIWMB.

CUPA Compliance School

EMD and the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) will jointly develop and conduct a CUPA Compliance School for facilities cited for minor to moderate violations. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed outlining the role and responsibility of each organization.

Solid Waste Authority (SWA)

EMD Director Mel Knight and Supervising ES Tammy Derby participated in a meeting of an SWA Task Force to discuss development of new recycling ordinances.

Web-Based Inspection Tools

Principal Information Technology Analyst (PITA) Geoff Marsh, IT Analyst John Stender and Director Mel Knight met with a representative from Decade Software to discuss implementation strategy for testing wireless web-based inspection tools.

County Dumping Response Team

Supervising ES Tammy Derby participated in a meeting of the County Dumping Response Team.

Sacramento Environmental Commission

EMD Director Mel Knight and Department Secretary Linda Jimenez provided staff support to the Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC). Agenda items for the September meeting included Drinking Water Regulations for Disinfection By-Products and Arsenic and Proposed Food Safety Program Enhancements.

Nuisance Response Team

Supervising ES Tammy Derby participated in a meeting of the County Nuisance Response Team.

Countywide Surveys

Several EMD managers and staff participated in interviews or surveys related to Countywide overhead audits focused on human resources/personnel services and information technology services.

County Department of Neighborhood Services

Supervising ES Tammy Derby and ES Wendy Hoffspiegel met with a representative from the Department of Neighborhood Services to discuss a comprehensive report regarding the County's response to illegal dumping.

California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health

Director Mel Knight participated in the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health meeting.

**STAFF PRESENTATIONS**2005 Pollution Prevention Awards

Water Protection Division (WPD) staff participated in the 2005 Pollution Prevention Awards program of the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC). ES John Lewis presented information during the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Workshop.

**TRAINING**Pandemic Flu

CMO June Livingston participated in the County Public Health exercise for pandemic flu.

Document Imaging System

IT Analyst Jim Guilliams conducted refresher training on eRMA (Document Imaging System) for EMD's Site Assessment and Mitigation (SAMs) group.

Continuing Challenge

Supervising ES Elise Rothschild and ESs Ryan Artz, John Elkins, Heather Tanner, Mark Trask, and Dave Steele attended a weeklong Continuing Challenge Training Conference.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

PITA Geoff Marsh and IT Analyst/Database Administrator John Stender attended a County GIS training course in preparation for the addition of GIS features to Department facility data.

Golden Guardian 2005 Terrorism Exercise

Supervising ES Elise Rothschild participated in a tabletop prelude to the upcoming full-scale Golden Guardian Terrorism Exercise. HMD personnel will play an active role in the November Terrorism Exercise.

**PERSONNEL**New Employees

Lisa Todd was hired as an ES III in the EHD.

**SEPTEMBER 2005 BY THE NUMBERS**

		<b>September 2005</b>	<b>Year To Date</b>
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Facilities	798	7,995
2.	Dairy (including dairy farms and soft serve)	46	722
3.	Farm Labor Camps	1	59
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	238	2,480
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	27	151
6.	Liquid Waste	61	360
7.	Medical Waste	8	69
8.	Small Water Systems	2	53
9.	Wells	119	1,059
10.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	15	254
11.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	106	913
12.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	141	1,264
13.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	53	344
14.	Storm Water	271	1,280
15.	Waste Tire	87	196
16.	Tobacco Retailer	<u>30</u>	<u>307</u>
	Total	2,003	17,506
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Consumer Complaints	79	611
2.	Food Borne Illness	27	156
3.	Incident Response	33	328
4.	Storm Water	8	146
5.	Waste Tire	<u>0</u>	<u>67</u>
	Total	147	1,308
	<u>Plan and Permit Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	234	3,038
2.	Monitoring Wells	19	481
3.	Food Facilities	120	1,283
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	45	320
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	15	292
6.	Land Use	<u>20</u>	<u>157</u>
	Total	453	5,571
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	13,155	135,022
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>41</u>	<u>254</u>
	Total	13,196	135,276