



Environmental Management Department

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

Highlights

- *EMD Receives Board Approval To Proceed With Food Safety Proposal*
- *Staff Participates In Golden Guardian Exercise*
- *Hazardous Materials Division Initiates Compliance School In Cooperation With BERCC*

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Roger Dickinson, 1st District
Illa Collin, 2nd District
Susan Peters, 3rd District
Roberta MacGlashan, 4th District
Don Nottoli, 5th District

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Penelope Clarke, Administrator
Countywide Services Agency

Mel Knight, Director
Environmental Management
Department

NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Board Approves Proposed Food Safety Enhancements

On November 22, 2005, Director Knight successfully presented Phase II of the Proposed Food Safety Enhancements to the County Board of Supervisors. The proposal included implementation of a green/yellow/red placard notification system for restaurants and other retail food facilities.

Dairy Inspection Program Receives High Marks

Representatives from the California Department of Agriculture recently conducted a survey of the Department's Dairy Program. Twenty-five of the forty-eight dairies in the Program were inspected and the Department received a 93% sanitation compliance rating for raw milk for pasteurization and a 97% enforcement rating.

NEWS MEDIA INTERACTION

Proposed Green/Yellow/Red Placard System

KQED Public Television, the *Sacramento Business Journal*, *The Sacramento Bee*, KCRA Channel 3 and KOVR Channel 13 provided media coverage of the proposed food safety enhancements before the County Board of Supervisors. Director Mel Knight also conducted an interview with Capitol Public Radio and CMO June Livingston conducted interviews with Radio Station KFBK and the *Folsom Telegraph* relative to the proposed green/yellow/red placard notification system for restaurants and other retail food facilities.

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)

Communications and Media Officer (CMO) June Livingston provided an interview for an article titled, "Missing the Bigger Threat Environmental Health and the Media" which appeared in the November edition of the NEHA Journal of Environmental Health.

Proposed Food Safety Enhancements

CMO June Livingston was interviewed by UPN 31 Reporter Naj Alikhan and KOVR Channel 13 Reporter Charlotte Fadipe regarding proposed food safety enhancements, including the green/yellow/red placard notification system.

Holiday Food Safety

Environmental Specialist (ES) Zarha Ruiz conducted a live interview in Spanish for Univision Channel 19 regarding holiday food safety.

Media Request From KCRA Channel 3

Supervising ES Elise Rothschild received a media request from Channel 3 Television concerning lack of water at an apartment complex. CMO June Livingston contacted the reporter and, in coordination with Robert Sherry, County Director of Planning, resolved the matter.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Holiday Food Safety Fact Sheets

Holiday Food Safety Fact Sheets, in both English and Spanish, have been posted on the County and EMD websites.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan Workshops

ESs Derek Jacks, Yolanda Grigsby, Lea Ragaini, Ryan Artz and Doug Osborn conducted Two HMP workshops.

Food Facility Closure Report

A Food Facility Closure Report was added to the EMD website that shows recent restaurant and other food facility closures. The Report is updated weekly and reports closure activity for the previous 30 days. The closure information is also listed under the inspection history for individual facilities.

Recycled Water Ordinance

WPD Chief Cecilia Jensen and ES Maria Adney met with representatives from the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District and the Sacramento County Water Agency to discuss development of a County Recycled Water Ordinance.

Compliance School

HMD (Hazardous Materials Division), in coordination with the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC), held its first Compliance School Class. Selected businesses and/or facilities who have been subject to administrative enforcement actions and are facing significant fines will be given the option of attending a Compliance Class in conjunction with paying a reduced penalty settlement. The Class will also be open to compliant businesses who wish to learn more about State and Federal environmental regulatory requirements.

Career Fair

ESs Zarha Ruiz and Mandip Singh, UCD Alumni, participated in the University of California, Davis career fair to provide information about employment opportunities at EMD. ES Mandip Singh also participated in a classroom presentation during the career day festivities.

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Four FSE classes were conducted in November with 45 participants representing 13 facilities. One FSE class was conducted in Cantonese, one in Spanish, and two in English.

Sewage Disposal

Supervising ES Steve Kalvelage met with Supervisor Roger Dickinson, a representative from County Sanitation District 1, a representative from the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), and a private property owner to discuss sewage disposal alternatives.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Cross Connection Program

The WPD Cross Connection Program is now electronically receiving and handling documents, eliminating the need for paper printouts within EMD. Documents that are faxed into WPD by water purveyors are received in an e-mail account and are then routed and indexed for the document imaging system without the need for a paper copy.

Golden Guardian Emergency Response Exercise

The Director, CMO and representatives from EHD, HMD and WPD participated in an Emergency Operations Terrorist Training Exercise designed to increase communication, coordination, and implementation of response measures in emergencies caused by acts of terrorism.

State Geotracker Database

Information Technology (IT) Analyst John Stender began the process of reconciling the Department's Site Assessment data with the State Geotracker database.

Foodborne Illness Investigation

Supervising ES Alicia Enriquez participated in a meeting of the Foodborne Illness Investigation Protocol and Development Committee. Connie Carter of the Department of Health and Human Services and Jean Ventura of the Public Health Laboratory also participated. The County's foodborne illness policy is currently be revised and members of the Department's Consumer Protection Program will receive training after the revisions have been completed.

Department of Airports

IT staff conducted a security audit of Airport documents stored in EMD's imaging system. Several access problems were resolved during the audit process,. Staff also provided Hazardous Materials Business Plans to the Airport Fire Department for businesses located in the immediate vicinity of Sacramento International and Mather Field Airports.

Envision Connect Field Testing

Principal Information Technology Analyst (PITA) Geoff Marsh, IT Analyst Jim Guilliams, and IT Technician Rob Miliano met with staff from the County Office of Computer Information and Technology to work out a secure wireless connection method for the upcoming Envision Connect field testing.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

HMD Enforcement Strategies

HMD Chief Dennis Green presented information to Marin County CUPA (Certified Unified Program Agency) and County Counsel personnel detailing enforcement strategies and tools used by EMD as part of its hazardous waste generator, hazardous materials business plan, underground storage tank, and Cal-ARP (Accidental Release Program) regulatory oversight programs.

TRAINING

Lead Poisoning Prevention

ES Debbie Katz and a member of the Public Health Educators from the California Department of Health Services provided training to an advisor and five students from California State University, Sacramento who were drafting lead poisoning prevention curriculum for high school science classes.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

Lead, supervisory and management staff from EMD began Mandatory AB 1825 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training.

PERSONNEL

Promotions

Jonathan Pollack was promoted from an ECT 1 (Environmental Compliance Technician) to an ECT II in the HMD.

Kelly Pryor was promoted from an ECT II to an ES II in the EHD.

NOVEMBER 2005 BY THE NUMBERS

		November 2005	Year To Date
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Facilities	979	10,049
2.	Dairy (including dairy farms and soft serve)	16	776
3.	Farm Labor Camps	1	60
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	4	2,499
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	13	185
6.	Liquid Waste	54	480
7.	Medical Waste	6	77
8.	Small Water Systems	7	63
9.	Wells	102	1,292
10	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	11	283
11	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	91	1,093
12	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	117	1,492
13	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	28	410
14	Storm Water	306	1,945
15	Waste Tire	22	264
16	Tobacco Retailer	<u>24</u>	<u>370</u>
	Total	1,781	21,338
	<u>Investigations</u>		
	Consumer Complaints	66	748
	Food Borne Illness	20	195
	Incident Response	33	391
	Storm Water	15	191
	Waste Tire	0	67
	Childhood Lead	<u>4</u>	<u>20</u>
	Total	138	1,612
	<u>Plan and Permit Reviews</u>		
	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	306	3,679
	Monitoring Wells	49	531
	Food Facilities	119	1,553
	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	31	404
	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	9	323
	Land Use	<u>16</u>	<u>190</u>
	Total	530	6,680
	<u>Information Management</u>		
	Documents Imaged	11,040	157,849
	Public Record Reviews	<u>32</u>	<u>310</u>
	Total	11,072	158,159