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Welcome to the April 2008 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of March 2008. Please feel free to forward comments, questions and/or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net.

Highlights

- *EMD Director And SEC Chair Meet With City Of Rancho Cordova*
- *EMD Representatives Meet With Onsite Wastewater Advisory Committee*
- *EMD Food Industry Working Group Meets*

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Penelope Clarke, Administrator
Countywide Services Agency

Val F. Siebal, Director
Environmental Management
Department

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Employee Recognition Event

The Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) held its semi-annual Employee Recognition Event. Environmental Specialists (ESs) Michelle Blair, Robert Duncan, Douglas Osborn, Sophia Jellá, Mike Simpson, Jeni VanDusen and Sharon Zimmerman and Environmental Compliance Technicians (ECTs) Victoria Krohn and Justin Ross were recognized for their contributions in developing program outreach measures and materials, launching new recycling initiatives, conducting investigations and exceeding inspection goals, and achieving enforcement action with major polluters within the County.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

“How To Get A Green” Retail Food Workshops

Two “How To Get A Green” Workshops were conducted during the month of March with eight attendees. One workshop was conducted in English and one workshop was conducted in Spanish.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

Two HMP workshops were held with eight businesses in attendance.

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Four FSE classes were conducted in March with 76 participants representing 21 facilities. Three classes were conducted in English and one class was conducted in Spanish.

Capital City Black Expo 2008

ESs Michelle Blair and Derek Jacks represented EMD at California Capital City Black Expo 2008.

Rancho Cordova Representation

EMD Director Val Siebal and Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) Chair Krista Clark met with a representative from the City of Rancho Cordova to explore the possibility of adding a City representative to the SEC.

Swimming Pool/Spa Training

Members of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) Pool Team (Supervising ESs Mark Barcellos, Jeff Czapla and Colleen Maitoza; ESs Rashmi Nair, Manroop Shergill, Mandip Singh, Mary Taylor and Jannine Talusik; and Student Intern Travis Lawrence) presented Swimming Pool/Spa Training to Pool Service Technicians. Pool maintenance, general pool safety and pool inspection items were discussed.

California Conference Of Directors Of Environmental Health (CCDEH)

EMD Director Val Siebal and EHD Chief John Rogers attended a meeting of CCDEH Region One (rural counties). Departmental budgets were discussed and it was determined that the hourly rate being charged by Sacramento County is similar to the rate charged by some of the rural counties. A meeting of CCDEH Region Two (urban counties) is scheduled for April.

Recruitment And Retention Team

EHD's Recruitment and Retention Team (EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez and ESs Judinae Ablang, Judy Andrade, Dennis Catanyag, Debbie Katz, Sonia Lee, Rashmi Nair, Tayjes Patel, Mandip Singh, Kavita Thiruvengadam, Kari Wagner and Sara Vining) met to review and discuss Team accomplishments. Accomplishments include creation of a "Careers in Environmental Health" flyer, an update of the Departmental website and an improved recruitment exhibit booth. Fifteen employees have been hired as a result of Team efforts.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Environmental Planning And Permitting

Supervising ES Anthony Chu and ES Dennis Karidis met with representatives from OptiSolar, a green energy company, to discuss environmental planning and permitting issues as the company begins its expansion plans into the Sacramento region. OptiSolar, currently located in Hayward (CA), will begin solar panel manufacturing and other energy-related business in McClellan Business Park. It is anticipated that OptiSolar will provide the region with both a renewable energy product and an economic benefit by being a major employer in the County.

Vessel Sanitation Ordinance

Supervising ES Steve Kalvelage met with staff from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and County Counsel to begin developing a Vessel Sanitation Ordinance for boats on waterways within Sacramento County.

Statewide Medical Waste Advisory

Supervising ES Lisa Todd attended the Annual Statewide Medical Waste Advisory Meeting hosted by the California Department of Public Health.

Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal and Department Secretary Karen Nelson provided staff support to the March meeting of the SEC. Meeting Agenda items included a discussion of participation in 2008 Creek Week Clean Up and selection of 2007 Environmental Recognition Award winners.

Bay Area Food Technical Advisory Committee (BAFTAC)

Supervising ES Kelly McCoy participated in the BAFTAC meeting at which California Retail Food Code (CalCode) issues were discussed.

Core Training Team

EHD has created a Core Training Team to discuss field inspection issues that ESs encounter. Training Team members will assist in resolving issues and relate the solutions to other members of the Team. Team members include Supervising ES Zarha Ruiz and ESs Dennis Catanyag, Ray Fontanilla, Sonia Lee, Mandip Singh, Rupinder Singh and Kari Wagner. EMD Food Safety Specialist Robert Greenhalgh also serves on the Team.

County Department Of Regional Parks

Supervising ES Steve Kalvelage met with representatives from the Department of Regional Parks to develop a modified procedure for a historical site to allow destruction of an old well and septic system on a parcel where access is restricted.

Information Technology (IT) Support

IT staff provided support for thirty-one meetings during the month of March.

EMD Food Industry Working Group

EMD Director Val Siebal, EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez, Supervising ESs Kelly McCoy and Zarha Ruiz, and ES Sonia Lee participated in the monthly meeting of retail food industry representatives to discuss technical and food program issues.

Onsite Wastewater Advisory Committee

EMD Director Val Siebal, WPD Program Manager Dana Booth, and Supervising ES Steve Kalvelage met with the Advisory Committee to review and comment on a draft of the Onsite Wastewater Treatment Ordinance. Monthly Advisory Committee meetings will continue through spring and summer of 2008 in order to solicit additional input.

EnvisionConnect

IT staff and Decade Software trainers provided a two-day off-site EnvisionConnect "Train the Trainers" event. IT staff also presented daily training events for the Trainers and are reviewing the EnvisionConnect software to ensure that the software contains the elements necessary to capture work performed by inspection staff. It is anticipated that the Department will convert to EnvisionConnect on May 12.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

2008 Crumline Award

EMD recently applied for the 2008 Crumline Award. The Award is a prestigious national award given annually to a local environmental health jurisdiction who has demonstrated excellence and continual improvement in a comprehensive food protection program. The purpose of the Award is to encourage improvement and stimulate public interest in foodservice sanitation. EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez, Supervising ES Zarha Ruiz, and ESs Sonia Lee, Debbie Katz and Jannine Talusik served on the EMD Crumline Award Committee which compiled and forwarded the necessary information to meet the 2008 Crumline Award Application Guidelines.

Illegal Food Vendors

Supervising ESs Kelly McCoy and Jeff Czapla and ES Mandip Singh joined Sacramento County Code Enforcement in conducting a sweep for illegal vendors selling food in the Florin Mall area. Four carts were impounded during the sweep.

Illegal Dumping

HMD investigated eight illegal dumping cases.

Solid Waste Authority (SWA)

HMD satisfactorily resolved two SWA enforcement cases for non-payment of franchise fees.

UV Disinfection Demonstration

EMD Director Val Siebal and County Public Health Officer Dr. Glennah Trochet attended a UV Disinfection demonstration at the County Emergency Operations Center. The UV Unit can be used in large areas, from restaurants to hospital operating rooms, and does not involve the use of chemicals to disinfect and destroy spores, bacteria and viruses.

STAFF PRESENTATIONSWateReuse Conference

ES Chris Hunley and representatives from the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District and the Sacramento County Water Agency presented information on the Sacramento County Water Recycling Program at the 2008 California Section WateReuse Conference hosted by the WateReuse Association.

EMPLOYEE TRAININGCalifornia Hazardous Materials Investigators Association (CHMIA)

HMD Program Manager Elise Rothschild, Supervising ES Anthony Chu and ES Robert Duncan received training at the Annual CHMIA Conference. The Conference offers unique training on hazardous materials crime investigation techniques and evidence gathering and provides coordination and networking opportunities for regulators, investigators and prosecutors.

California Environmental Health Association (CEHA)

EMD Director Val Siebal attended the 57th Annual CEHA Educational Symposium and received information about the built environment and climate change and how it may affect environmental health departments. Decisions about zoning, transportation, land use and community design influence the distance people travel to work, the convenience of purchasing healthy foods, and the safety and attractiveness of neighborhoods for walking. EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez, Supervising ESs Jeff Czaplá and Lisa Todd and ESs Judy Andrade, Jan Bradshaw, Craig Dorrrough, Bo Faustino, Shirley Fong, Sonia Lee, Mandip Singh, Jannine Talusik and David Wong also attended the Conference and received environmental education and protection information.

Sharps Disposal And Pharmaceutical Waste

ES Mary Ellen Oetzel attended two workshops hosted by the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA) regarding sharps (syringe) disposal and proper management of pharmaceutical waste.

Association Of Environmental Health And Sciences (AEHS)

ESs Sue Erikson, Barry Marcus and David Von Aspern received Site Assessment/Mitigation Training at the AEHS Conference.

WateReuse Conference

WPD Chief Cecilia Jensen and ES Chris Hunley attended the WateReuse Conference.

PERSONNELPromotions

Elizabeth Olson was promoted to a Senior Student Intern.

MARCH 2008 BY THE NUMBERS

		March 2008	To Date FY 2007-08
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	1,005	6,794
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	88	750
	C. Red – Closed	8	92
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,440	9,767
2.	Farm Labor Camps	5	28
3.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	2	2,285
4.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	26	193
5.	Liquid Waste	29	291
6.	Medical Waste	0	77
7.	Small Water Systems	8	29
8.	Wells	93	861
9.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	21	129
10.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	97	654
11.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	136	919
12.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	19	314
13.	Storm Water	125	941
14.	Waste Tire	10	384
15.	Tobacco Retailer	17	317
16.	Commercial Recycling	<u>185</u>	<u>1,113</u>
	Total	2,213	18,302
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Consumer Complaints	74	770
2.	Food Borne Illness	13	166
3.	Incident Response	56	451
4.	Storm Water	26	207
5.	Waste Tire	0	57
6.	Childhood Lead	<u>2</u>	<u>13</u>
	Total	171	1,664
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	76	549
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	8	82
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	<u>8</u>	<u>806</u>
	Total	92	1,437
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	513	3,888
2.	Monitoring Wells	42	390
3.	Food Facilities	131	933
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	18	241
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	23	154
6.	Land Use	0	77
7.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	<u>1,751</u>	<u>13,598</u>
	Total	2,478	19,281
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	12,635	116,094
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>32</u>	<u>253</u>
	Total	12,667	116,347