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

### **Highlights**

- *Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) Reaches Settlement With Georgia Pacific Chemicals*
- *Water Protection Division (WPD) Holds Small Water System Workshops*
- *EMD Hosts Twenty-Three Member Chinese Delegation*

### **COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Penelope Clarke, Administrator  
Countywide Services Agency

Val F. Siebal, Director  
Environmental Management  
Department

### **NEWS MEDIA INTERACTION**

#### **Holiday Food Safety**

Supervising Environmental Specialist (ES) Zarha Ruiz provided information on food safety for the holidays during an interview conducted in Spanish for Univision Channel 19.

### **NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### **Georgia Pacific Chemicals**

The Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) reached a settlement with Georgia Pacific Chemicals relating to hazardous waste violations that occurred at the company's Elk Grove facility. This landmark case has made the national news.

#### **Lopez Agricultural Services**

HMD reached a settlement with Lopez Agricultural Services relating to solid waste facility permit violations. Lopez Agricultural Services, a local composting and soil blending business, agreed to pay \$40,000 in fines and over \$15,000 in penalties.

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

#### **Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops**

Two HMP workshops were held with four businesses in attendance.

#### **Food Safety Education (FSE)**

Seven FSE classes were conducted in November with 79 participants representing 25 facilities. Three classes were conducted in English; two classes were conducted in Spanish; and two classes were conducted in Cantonese.

### Small Water System Workshops

The Water Protection Division (WPD) held four Small Water System Workshops—two for the Transient Non-Community/State Small Systems and two for the Community/Non-Transient Non-Community Systems. The Workshops were attended by 115 participants. Ninety-two percent of the participants who completed a training needs survey noted that the workshops were helpful and a majority of the participants would like WPD to hold annual workshops.

## PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

### Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

The SEC meeting was held on November 24 in the EMD Training Room. Chair Robert Bailey introduced two new Commission members: Rachael Phillips, who has an environmental law background, and George “Buzz” Link, who has several years’ experience in hydraulic engineering. Both Commissioners were appointed by the County of Sacramento filling vacancies left by outgoing members Krista Clark and Mike Fallon.

### City Appointees To Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal met with a Sacramento City Council Subcommittee to identify potential City appointees to the SEC.

### American Red Cross

EMD Director Val Siebal and EHD Chief John Rogers met with the Director of the Sacramento Sierra Chapter of The American Red Cross to discuss evacuation centers and mobile food options in the event of an emergency.

### Federal Pool Safety Act

ES Colleen Maitoza represented EMD at a meeting of the State Department of Public Health to discuss adoption of the Federal Pool Safety Act and proposed language for a new State Law relating to suction covers and hazards.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Delegation From China

EMD Director Val Siebal, EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez, and ES Jane Auyeung provided information about the food safety system in the United States covering the roles of the federal, state, and local governments to a twenty-three member delegation from the municipality of Chongqing, one of the largest municipalities in China with 31 million residents. All members of the delegation work for the municipal government and represent many districts which deal mostly with different aspects of quality control. The delegation also received information about the Food Safety Inspection Program in Sacramento County and, specifically, EMD’s Green/Yellow/Red Placard system for rating food facility inspections. ES Shirley Fong and Student Intern Joanne Zhao provided assistance.

### State Of The County

EMD Director Val Siebal attended a State of the County Performance Measures Event at which EMD’s successful Consumer Protection Program (restaurant inspections) was highlighted.

### Computer Tablets

Information Technology staff created a Field Inspection Report document which will be completed, printed in the field and given to the food facility operator. IT Analyst Rob Milano formatted the Field Inspection Report for ease of use by Environmental Specialists while in the field.

### Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

EMD Director Val Siebal participated in an EOC tabletop flood exercise.

### Refuse Collection

EMD Director Val Siebal and HMD Chief Dennis Green presented information to the Board regarding an appeal of EMD's denial to grant an exemption from refuse collection.

### Security At New EMD Building

EMD Director Val Siebal, Information Technology (IT) Manager Geoff Marsh, Senior IT Analyst Jim Guilliams, and Administrative Services Officer III Sandra Leahy visited the County Communications Center in preparation for planning the security system to be utilized at the new EMD facility. Jim Guilliams also spoke with several C-Cure System users within the County and attended a C-Cure User Group Meeting in order to understand what to expect from the new security system and what questions to ask when setting up security.

## EMPLOYEE TRAINING

### Commercial Stormwater Inspection

EMD Director Val Siebal accompanied ES John Lewis on commercial stormwater compliance inspections.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual LEA/CIWMB Conference

HMD Chief Dennis Green, HMD Program Manager Elise Rothschild, and Supervising ESs Lisa Todd and Marie Woodin attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)/California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) Conference. The Conference provided a forum for both the regulators and the regulated community to focus on topics of common interest; i.e. landfill gas, load checking, organics and emerging technologies relating to waste.

### CalEPA Basic Inspector Academy

ES Rebecca Knoche completed the California Environmental Protection Agency Basic Inspector Academy, a rigorous series of environmental science, regulatory inspection and enforcement courses that provide a comprehensive foundation for Environmental Specialist inspection staff.

### International Code Council (ICC) Examination

ESs Brion McGinness and Justin Ross passed the International Code Council (ICC) Underground Storage Tank Inspector Examination. The comprehensive examination covers Underground Storage Tank (UST) regulations and ESs must pass the exam in order to receive the mandatory certification required to perform tank inspections.

## PERSONNEL

### New Employee

Tuan Nguyen was hired as an ES I in EHD.

### Promotions

Mike Simpson was promoted to an ES II in HMD.

**NOVEMBER 2008 BY THE NUMBERS**

		<b>November 2008</b>	<b>To Date FY 2008-09</b>
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	693	5,211
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	57	354
	C. Red – Closed	9	108
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	907	6,835
2.	Farm Labor Camps	1	26
3.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	7	1,900
4.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	25	90
5.	Liquid Waste	9	91
6.	Medical Waste	4	28
7.	Small Water Systems	0	12
8.	Wells	52	433
9.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	26	111
10.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	73	494
11.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	109	812
12.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	30	228
13.	Storm Water	171	1,310
14.	Waste Tire	46	109
15.	Tobacco Retailer	27	241
16.	Commercial Recycling	<u>178</u>	<u>952</u>
	Total	1,665	13,672
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Consumer Complaints	56	318
2.	Food Borne Illness	6	75
3.	Incident Response	40	247
4.	Storm Water	25	126
5.	Waste Tire	0	0
6.	Childhood Lead	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>
	Total	131	778
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	79	434
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	4	31
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>
	Total	83	665
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	317	2,157
2.	Monitoring Wells	27	148
3.	Food Facilities	67	506
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	25	168
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	18	84
6.	Land Use	1	9
7.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	<u>1,228</u>	<u>7,507</u>
	Total	1,683	10,579
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	9,130	63,628
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>11</u>	<u>91</u>
	Total	9,141	63,719