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Welcome to the March 2009 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of February 2009. Please feel free to forward comments, questions and/or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net.

Highlights

- *Journal Of Environmental Health Publishes Cover Story On EMD Retail Food Program*
- *Information Technology Staff Prepares For Facility Move And Distribution Of Tablet Computers*
- *Five EMD Staff Members Pass State Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Exam*
- *Environmental Compliance Division Present Hazardous Materials Business Plan Workshops*

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Roger Dickinson, 1st District
Jimmie Yee, 2nd District
Susan Peters, 3rd District
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Terry Schutten, County Executive

Jim Hunt
Acting Administrator
Countywide Services Agency

Val F. Siebal, Director
Environmental Management
Department

NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Journal of Environmental Health

The March 2009 issue of the *Journal of Environmental Health*, the official publication of the National Environmental Health Association, contained a cover story detailing EMD's receipt of the 2008 Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award. The article also provided information on the Department's retail food program enhancements and our food safety rating and disclosure system.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

ECD Present Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

Environmental Compliance Division (ECD) staff assists business owners/operators in completing their Hazardous Materials Business Plans or Renewal documents at monthly Hazardous Materials Business Plan Workshops. Two HMP workshops were held in February 2009 with twelve businesses in attendance.

Universal Waste

Environmental Specialist (ES) Michelle Sever presented information on universal waste management to members of Lead Alliance, a Sacramento organization dedicated to disseminating information on childhood lead.

Pacific Rim Culinary Committee

Environmental Health Division (EHD) Program Manager Alicia Enriquez, Supervising ES Kelly McCoy and ESs Judinae Ablang, Jane Auyeung, Shirley Fong, Sonia Lee and Toua Yang met with the Pacific Rim Culinary Committee to discuss California Retail Food Code issues and inspections related to Asian food facilities located in Sacramento County.

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Four FSE classes were conducted in February with 45 participants representing 16 facilities. One class was conducted in English; one class was conducted in Spanish; one class was conducted in Cantonese; and one class was conducted in Vietnamese.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

California Small Business Owners Association

EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Program Manager Alicia Enriquez and Supervising ESs Colleen Maitoza and Mark Barcellos met with members of the California Small Business Owners Association to discuss issues related to food inspections and locally-owned small businesses.

Bay Area Swimming Pool Information Sharing Committee (BASPISC)

Supervising ES Colleen Maitoza participated in a meeting of the Bay Area Swimming Pool Information Sharing Committee to discuss the Virginia Graham Baker Pool Safety Law and its effect on local jurisdictions.

Bay Area Food Technical Advisory Committee (BAFTAC)

ES Sonia Lee attended a meeting of the Bay Area Food Technical Advisory Committee to discuss California Retail Food Code issues with representatives from other Northern California counties.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

EMD Mather Facility

The move to EMD's new leased facility continued to gain momentum as the building interior and exterior were painted and the carpets and work cubicles were ordered.

IT Prepares For Facility Move And Distribution Of Additional Tablet Computers

Information Technology (IT) staff spent a considerable amount of time preparing for EMD's upcoming facility move. IT began preparing for the movement of server equipment and the transfer from our traditional telephone system to VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol). IT staff also concentrated on configuring tablet computers for use by EHD staff in preparation for the gradual shift to data entry and printing while in the field.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS)

Congratulations to ESs Jane Auyeung, Jan Bradshaw, Shirley Fong, Laura Henry and Joseph Terefe who passed the California Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) exam. All Environmental Specialists in EHD are required to have an REHS certification.

California Envision User's Group

Senior Information Technology (IT) Analyst John Stender and IT Analyst Rob Milano attended a meeting of the California Envision User's Group and presented information on EMD's successful 2008 transition from the older Envision tracking/billing/facility inventory software to the new EnvisionConnect software. Included in the presentation was a discussion of the unique reports and tools that EMD's IT staff developed to provide inspection staff with necessary compliance and inspection information. IT staff also provided tips and tricks regarding what went well during the transition and what may have needed additional attention.

CIWMB Grant Writing Workshop

Supervising ES Marie Woodin and ESs Derek Jacks and Mike Simpson attended a Grant Writing Workshop presented by the California Integrated Waste Management Board to assist Grant applicants in writing effective and competitive grant applications.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Food Safety Module Of Emergency Response

Supervising ES Mark Barcellos and ES Dennis Catanyag presented the Food Safety Module of the Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response. Over 50 representatives from Sacramento County and surrounding jurisdictions attended the training. Representatives from the California Department of Homeland Security and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were also present to audit the pilot course.

PERSONNEL

New Employee

Vicki Kloock was hired as EMD Executive Secretary.

Promotions

Jane Auyeung was promoted to an ES II in EHD in December 2008.

Jan Bradshaw was promoted to an ES II in EHD in December 2008.

Shirley Fong was promoted to an ES II in EHD in December 2008.

Laura Henry was promoted to an ES II in EHD in December 2008.

Joseph Terefe was promoted to an ES II in EHD in December 2008.

FEBRUARY 2009 BY THE NUMBERS

		February 2009	To Date FY 2008-09
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	953	8,413
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	78	573
	C. Red – Closed	14	140
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,389	11,019
2.	Farm Labor Camps	7	39
3.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	0	1,900
4.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	12	164
5.	Liquid Waste	9	143
6.	Medical Waste	3	70
7.	Small Water Systems	4	23
8.	Wells	63	592
9.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	38	200
10.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	58	699
11.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	107	1,125
12.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	42	368
13.	Storm Water	161	2,082
14.	Waste Tire	40	270
15.	Tobacco Retailer	10	364
16.	Commercial Recycling	<u>157</u>	<u>1,485</u>
	Total	2,101	20,543
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Consumer Complaints	41	486
2.	Food Borne Illness	22	118
3.	Incident Response	55	408
4.	Storm Water	19	183
5.	Waste Tire	0	0
6.	Childhood Lead	<u>0</u>	<u>14</u>
	Total	137	1,209
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	95	689
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	12	55
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	<u>11</u>	<u>211</u>
	Total	118	955
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	515	3,474
2.	Monitoring Wells	28	243
3.	Food Facilities	64	713
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	104	413
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	30	166
6.	Land Use	1	14
7.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	<u>2,000</u>	<u>12,487</u>
	Total	2,742	17,510
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	8,506	94,345
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>23</u>	<u>149</u>
	Total	8,529	94,494

