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August 2009

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

### **Highlights**

- *Administrative Law Judge Denies Appeal Of Notice And Order*
- *EMD Holds All Staff Meeting/Potluck Luncheon*
- *Director And Chief Meet With State Fair Management*

### **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

Jim Hunt  
Acting Administrator  
Countywide Services Agency

Val F. Siebal, Director  
Environmental Management  
Department

### **NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### **Dixon Pit Landfill**

With regard to a major solid waste enforcement case, a State Office of Administrative Law judge denied the appeal of the Notice and Order issued to the Dixon Pit closed landfill for ongoing methane gas violations. Supervising ES Lisa Todd and ESs Patrice Webb and Sharon Zimmerman were responsible for documenting and compiling materials for the solid waste enforcement case.

### **DEPARTMENTWIDE**

#### **EMD All Staff Meeting/Potluck Lunch**

EMD held an End of Fiscal Year All Staff Meeting during which the Director recognized staff for their years of service to the County. Staff also received information on the following items: (1) Sample Inspection Utilizing A Tablet Computer—presented by Environmental Specialists (ESs) Ray Fontanilla and Sara Vining; (2) H1N1 Virus: Cause For Concern—presented by Environmental Health Division Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez and ES Dennis Catanyag; (3) New Multi-Family Recycling Ordinance—presented by ES Eric Sutton; and (4) New Aboveground Storage Tank Program—presented by ES Rebecca Knoche. A delicious potluck lunch was served during the break.

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

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

Six FSE classes were conducted in July with 44 participants representing 23 facilities. Three classes were conducted in English; one class was conducted in Vietnamese; one class was conducted in Spanish; and one class was conducted in Cantonese.

### Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

Two HMP workshops were held with five businesses in attendance.

### Public Swimming Pools/Spas (Recreational Health)

Environmental Health Division (EHD) staff is conducting Recreational Health inspections and is verifying compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Federal Pool Safety Act (VGB) regarding drain cover replacements and recommending Safety Vacuum Release Systems where applicable.

### Elk Grove Transfer Station

Supervising ES Lisa Todd and ES Lea Gibson attended a presentation and tour of the proposed Elk Grove Transfer Station and Household Hazardous Waste facility sites.

## PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

### California Retail Food Safety Coalition

EHD Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez attended a meeting of the Steering Committee of the California Retail Food Safety Coalition to discuss upcoming changes to the California Retail Food Code. Issues discussed included regulatory agency training needs, development of guidance documents and possible impacts to food businesses as the Code is revised.

### Plastic Shopping Bags

EMD Director Val Siebal attended meetings to discuss a proposal to ban plastic shopping bags from use by large grocery stores and pharmacies in the unincorporated area. The plastic bag proposal was not approved by Board of Supervisors.

### 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 current pool issues and the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.

### Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal and Department Executive Secretary Vicki Kloock provided staff support to the July meeting of the SEC. Supervisor Roger Dickinson spoke to the SEC regarding a proposal to request a contribution of \$5,000 from the Board of Supervisors to be pooled with monies from other communities to fund a Master Environmental Assessment (MEA) on the feasibility of funding alternatives to the use of plastic bags by large grocery stores and pharmacies. Information on the Underground Storage Tank Ordinance was provided by ECD Chief Dennis Green. Emily Butler, Executive Director of Sacramento Splash (a watershed education program jointly sponsored by a consortium of water agencies in Sacramento County, the Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District, the City of Sacramento Department of Utilities and the Sacramento County Department of Water Resources) shared information on their educational programs and David Brown, Manager, Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District provided detailed information on the Mosquito Abatement Program. Members also received information from Richard Shaw, Supervising Environmental Specialist, City of Folsom, regarding Folsom's Construction & Demolition Recycling Program.

### California State Fair

EMD Director Val Siebal and EHD Chief John Rogers met with California State Fair management to discuss food inspection issues. The State Fair is a concentrated event that involves many transient food vendors. A good working relationship helps to ensure that only compliant vendors operate at this annual event.

### California Capital Airshow

EMD Director Val Siebal, and other Mather Field tenants, met on the Mather Airport tarmac to receive information about issues facing tenants who utilize Airport runways. The California Capital Airshow, scheduled for September 5 through September 13, was discussed as it relates to major parking and traffic issues. EMD will receive additional information regarding these issues as the Airshow dates approach.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

EMD Director Val Siebal and ECD Chief Dennis Green met with the Executive Officer and staff from RWQCB Region 5 to discuss clean-ups performed by the County under the State's Site Designation Committee process. An agreement was reached regarding the procedure for handling professional differences of opinion.

SPECIAL PROJECTSTablet Computers

Information Technology Analyst Rob Milano continued to develop Inspection Reports, work flow, and QA/QC processes for implementation of tablet computer usage for data collection during in-field business recycling inspections.

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATIONECD Employee Recognition

The Environmental Compliance Division (ECD) held an employee appreciation event to acknowledge the many staff accomplishments during the last six months. Staff members identified for special recognition included: ESs Sean Daneluk, Robert Duncan, Amanda Hakim, Eric Haupt, Cheryl Hawkins, Chris Hunley, Derek Jacks, Rebecca Knoche, Charlie Langer, Brion McGinness, Lisa Perez, Jonathan Pollack, Justin Ross, Heather Tanner, Jeni Van Dusen and Patrice Webb and Office Assistant Deborah Woodhull.

EMPLOYEE TRAININGMenu Labeling

EHD Chief John Rogers conducted in-house training for staff on the new California law pertaining to menu labeling at chain restaurants. ES Elena Drobenyuk assisted Chief Rogers in conducting a survey to gauge compliance prior to the August implementation date.

Backflow Tester Course

ES Chris Hunley attended a Backflow Tester Refresher Course presented by the American Water Works Association and was recertified as a Backflow Tester for the County of Sacramento.

Installation of Geothermal Heating Wells

Several ESs from the Environmental Compliance Division attended training on the installation of geothermal heating wells presented by the Water Technical Advisory Committee of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH).

PERSONNELNew Employees

Margaret Chatwood and Alicia Scott were hired as Environmental Compliance Technicians in the ECD.

**JULY 2009 BY THE NUMBERS**

		<b>JULY 2009</b>	<b>To Date FY 2009-10</b>
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	119	119
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	9	9
	C. Red – Closed	2	2
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	280	280
2.	Farm Labor Camps	24	24
3.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	1,169	1,169
4.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	20	20
5.	Liquid Waste	18	18
6.	Medical Waste	6	6
7.	Small Water Systems	6	6
8.	Wells	86	86
9.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	34	34
10.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	96	96
11.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	143	143
12.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	46	46
13.	Storm Water	63	63
14.	Waste Tire	123	123
15.	Tobacco Retailer	1	1
16.	Commercial Recycling	<u>115</u>	<u>115</u>
	Total	2,230	2,230
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Consumer Complaints	88	88
2.	Food Borne Illness	14	14
3.	Incident Response	44	44
4.	Storm Water	12	12
5.	Waste Tire	0	0
6.	Childhood Lead	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	Total	159	159
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	44	44
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	5	5
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	Total		
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	496	496
2.	Monitoring Wells	34	34
3.	Food Facilities	82	82
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	54	54
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	20	20
6.	Land Use	3	3
7.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	<u>2,452</u>	<u>2,452</u>
	Total	3,141	3,141
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	11,815	11,815
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>
	Total	11,837	11,837