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Welcome to the April 2011 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of March 2011. Please feel free to forward comments questions and/or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net

Highlights

- Staff Interviewed by Sacramento Magazine
- Lead Hazard Abated
- Surface Water Treatment Rule
- Food And Agriculture Sector Government Coordinating Council

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Val F. Siebal, Director
 Environmental Management
 Department

NEWS MEDIA INTERACTION

Cross Contamination

Supervising Environmental Specialist (ES) Mark Barcellos was interviewed by Channel 13 News and provided EHD's (Environmental Health Division) opinion regarding a Facebook posting that went viral. The picture showed the employee sitting on the edge of the ice machine while the lid was up.

Health Inspector

Supervising ES Zarha Ruiz and ES Sonia Andrusiak were interviewed by Debbie Hurst, a freelance writer for *Sacramento Magazine*, regarding an article in the magazine's Food and Wine Section. After obtaining information about EHD's program charges, the writer was interested in "what it was really like to be a health inspector"; i.e. what kind of degree is needed, what kind of inspection tools are used and what's the worst thing witnessed during a food inspection. ES Andrusiak provided pictures showcasing inspection tools. The article is scheduled to appear in the June edition of the *Magazine*.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Eight FSE classes were conducted in March with 120 participants representing 20 facilities. Three classes were conducted in Spanish, two classes were conducted in English, one class was conducted in Cantonese, one class was conducted in Russian, and one class was conducted in Mandarin.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

One HMP workshop was held with two businesses in attendance.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

2011-12 Proposed Budget

EMD Director Val Siebal met with Steven Szalay, Interim County Executive and other County executive staff members to review EMD's proposed budget for 2011-12.

Lead Hazard Abated

Clearance was achieved at a house that was tested for lead poisoning due to elevated blood lead levels in one of three children living in the home. Testing was conducted in late 2010 and EHD found that paint, dust and soil levels were above regulatory standards—one milligram per square centimeter (1.0mg/cm²) or half of one percent (0.5%). Blood lead levels above 10ug (micrograms) per dL (deciliter) are above the level of concern. Most children have lead levels below 2 ug/dL, but there is no known safe level. Studies have shown a clear reduction in IQ inversely correlated with rising lead levels. IQs have been shown to drop 5-8 points even with levels below 10 ug/dL. The homeowner hired a lead contractor to abate the hazards but additional testing showed that lead hazards still existed and additional remediation was required. The property owner was able to eliminate the lead hazards in March 2011 and passed clearance testing by EMD's Environmental Health Division.

Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal and Executive Secretary Vicki Kloock provided staff support to the March 21st meeting of the SEC. Leighann Moffitt, Interim Planning Manager for the County's Planning and Community Development Department provided information regarding the County's Draft General Plan for 2030. John Woodling, Director, Regional Water Authority (RWA) spoke to the Commission about the role of RWA, its representation of twenty-one water suppliers and its programs. Robert Swartz, Senior Project Manager, RWA, provided an overview of the American River Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) which seeks to integrate different water programs existing within our basin.

Surface Water Treatment Rule To Arsenic Treatment, A Small Water Systems Journey

ES Cheryl Hawkins provided a presentation titled, "Surface Water Treatment Rule to Arsenic Treatment, A Small Water Systems Journey" at the March 9 meeting of the Local Primacy Agencies (LPA's). The purpose of the presentation was to provide information on major drinking water regulation changes which have occurred over the last twenty years. Cheryl noted that arsenic is a significant problem in Sacramento. There are currently 153 active water systems in Sacramento County; 66 of those systems are required to meet the arsenic MCL (mean concentration level) and 11 of those water systems exceeded the arsenic MCL in the source water. Only 4 of the 11 water systems are treating the source water and meeting the arsenic MCL in the delivered water.

Food And Agriculture

EHD Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez represented the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) at the quarterly meeting of the Food and Agriculture Sector Government Coordinating Council. National issues regarding agricultural and food defense plans for food manufacturers and farmers were discussed and status updates were provided on activities of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Discussions were also held regarding the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The FSMA authorizes the FDA to: (1) increase inspections of farmers and food manufacturers; (2) establish minimum health and safety standards for local food production and processing; (3) mandate food recalls if a manufacturer fails to voluntarily recall products; and (4) prevent food from being imported if foreign food facilities have not passed inspection.

California Retail Food Safety Coalition

EHD Chief John Rogers, EHD Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez, and Supervising ESs Mark Barcellos and Kelly McCoy attended a meeting of the California Retail Food Safety Coalition (CRFSC) to discuss current legislation and issues related to food safety. John Rogers and Alicia Enriquez presented the results from a stakeholder group that developed recommendations for the CRFSC on the implementation of SB 602 (Food Handler Card). The CRFSC adopted the recommendations.

Food Industry Working Group

EMD hosted a meeting of the Food Industry Working Group which featured a presentation by Supervising ES Kelly McCoy on "Temperature Controls: Challenges and Solutions".

Aboveground Petroleum Fuel Tank

ESs Rebecca Knoche and Jeni VanDusen presented an informational briefing on the regulatory requirements of the aboveground petroleum fuel tank for the Sloughouse growers' community.

California Department Of Transportation (Caltrans)

ES Lea Gibson met with Caltrans staff to discuss permitting three Caltrans maintenance yards as small volume transfer processing facilities.

Bay Area Pool and Spa Technical Advisory Committee

Supervising ES Colleen Maitoza and ES Rashmi Nair attended a meeting of the Bay Area Pool and Spa Technical Advisory Committee. Representatives from the National Spa and Pool Foundation (NSPF) conducted training on the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSA) Virginia Graeme Baker Safety Act.

Bay Area Underground Storage Tank Technical Advisory Group

ES Doug Osborn attended a meeting of the Bay Area Underground Storage Tank Technical Advisory Group. Attendees discussed regulatory and technical issues involving underground storage tanks.

Project Tracking/Billing Software

EMD Director Val Siebal, EMD Managers, and Information Technology staff attended a presentation by Garrison Enterprises regarding project tracking and billing software that is tailored to environmental health and environmental compliance departments. EMD is considering the addition of an internet portal to our website that would allow constituents to complete and submit forms and applications on-line.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Annual Waste Tire And Recycling Conference

Supervising ES Jeff Czaplak and ESs Ajay Sharma and Mike Simpson attended the 13th Annual Waste Tire and Recycling Conference. Training sessions included mock tire inspections and hearings, a four-hour health and safety refresher course, conflict resolution training, tire inspection skills and an off-site tour of a tire recycling plant.

Basic Hydraulics And Pool System Components

Supervising ES Zarha Ruiz and ESs Judinae Ablang, Janet Martin and Toua Yang attended training at the Foundation for Pool and Spa Industry Education (FPSIE) regarding basic hydraulics and pool system components.

Childhood Lead

ESs Debbie Katz and Sonia Andrusiak received training regarding childhood lead poisoning prevention from the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch of the California Department of Public Health.

Environmental Enforcement

ESs Sharon Merker and Eric Sutton attended a workshop on "Introduction to Environmental Enforcement" sponsored by the Western State Project. The workshop focused on many useful techniques including investigation and interviewing, evidence gathering and developing enforcement teams and strategies.

Statistical Analysis Of Groundwater Data

ES Charley Langer attended training on Statistical Analysis of Groundwater Data provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Items discussed included the core elements of EPA's first major revision to its groundwater statistical guidance in twenty years. In addition to reviewing the design and evaluation of a statistical program for groundwater monitoring, participants learned the benefits of reviewing their assumptions in order to run effective statistical tests.

MARCH 2011 BY THE NUMBERS

		March 2011	To Date FY 2010-11
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	1,520	8,873
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	137	548
	C. Red – Closed	15	84
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Above Ground Storage Tank	1	23
2.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,966	11,217
3.	Farm Labor Camps	2	40
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	3	2,324
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	25	193
6.	Liquid Waste	6	123
7.	Medical Waste	3	123
8.	Small Water Systems	8	34
9.	Wells	58	632
10.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	10	190
11.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	132	670
12.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	173	966
13.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	61	364
14.	Storm Water	186	1,157
15.	Waste Tire	48	407
16.	Tobacco Retailer	34	359
17.	Commercial Recycling	116	511
18.	Multi-Family Recycling	34	100
19.	Refuse Vehicle Inspections	0	309
	Total	2,866	19,742
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Abandoned Well Program	37	192
2.	Consumer Complaints	51	549
3.	Food Borne Illness	12	126
4.	Incident Response	20	207
5.	Solid Waste	14	91
6.	Storm Water	5	511
7.	Waste Tire	0	60
8.	Childhood Lead	1	7
	Total	140	1,743
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	120	561
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	2	25
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	13	35
	Total	135	621
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	607	3,583
2.	Monitoring Wells	91	768
3.	Food Facilities	87	728
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	25	340
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	7	96
6.	Land Use	8	109
7.	Local Oversight Program	14	43
8.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	1,699	14,009
	Total	2,538	19,676
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	10,789	88,978
2.	Public Record Reviews	22	202
	Total	10,811	89,180