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

Highlights

- *EMD Receives NACO Achievement Award*
- *EMD Participates In Annual Strategic Stockpile Technical Assistance Review*
- *CUPA Grant Awarded To EMD*

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Val F. Siebal, Director
Environmental Management
Department

NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NACO Achievement Award

EMD was awarded the 2011 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award for our Abandoned Well Program. The Award recognizes innovative programs that modernize and streamline county government and increase services to its citizens. The Abandoned Well Program was initiated in November 2009 with a goal of identifying and properly closing abandoned, unused or inoperable water wells. These wells pose a safety hazard to both humans and animals. The wells could also serve as conduits for pollutants to reach groundwater. EMD field staff identified 400+ abandoned wells in the county and will continue to monitor and oversee proper well destruction or restoration as needed. The program is funded by settlement monies from an enforcement case, in which EMD prominently participated, that involved violations by underground fuel storage tanks throughout the state.

CUPA Trust Fund

EMD received a grant award from the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) in the amount of \$38,425. The grant money is awarded on a competitive basis to local environmental management and health agencies for their continued enhancement of the investigation, inspection, and enforcement of CUPA programs throughout the state. EMD received the grant to obtain, coordinate and organize California Accidental Release Prevention (Cal ARP) Program industry codes and standards for all local environmental protection agencies throughout the state.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Seven FSE classes were conducted in June with 167 participants representing 43 facilities. Four classes were conducted in English, one class was conducted in Spanish, one class was conducted in Russian and one class was conducted in Cantonese.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

Two HMP workshops were held with five businesses in attendance.

County Agricultural Commissioner

EMD Director Val Siebal attended the retirement celebration for Agricultural Commissioner Frank Carl who will be moving to Oregon to be closer to his children. A successor has not been identified.

Pool Training Class

EHD Supervising Environmental Specialists (ESs) Jeff Czapla and Colleen Maitoza conducted pool training classes for public pool operators, owners and pool service companies. The training covered the importance of proper pool maintenance and pool safety and provided information on public pool and spa inspections conducted by Environmental Health Division (EHD). A total of 21 people attended the training.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Public Health Advisory Commission

EMD Director Val Siebal shared the 2010 California Department of Public Health statistics on county food borne illnesses with members of the Commission. Members were advised that Sacramento County has a significantly lower amount of food borne illnesses than other Northern California counties. Director Siebal also noted that EMD will not be increasing fees for 2011-12 as programs have achieved full cost recovery.

Annual Strategic National Stockpile Technical Assistance Review

EMD Director Val Siebal and Supervising ES Mark Barcellos represented EMD at the Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Annual Strategic National Stockpile Technical Assistance review conducted by the State Department of Public Health. EMD and DHHS assist in the distribution of antibiotics or medical supplies to EMD staff and to the public in case of an emergency such as an anthrax attack.

Fee Ordinance

EMD Director Val Siebal and executive staff met with an actuary to begin the process of developing a new fee study in preparation for a proposed fee ordinance. The current five-year ordinance expires on June 30, 2012. The project is expected to include several months of data collection and will be followed by extensive public outreach.

Illegal Cheese Production

Candice Meigs, Field Investigator with the Milk and Dairy Division of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, shared information with EHD staff regarding illegal cheese (bathtub cheese) production and sales in California due to the risk of listeria, salmonella and other food related illnesses. Raw/unpasteurized milk is used in the cheese making process and the production of illegal cheese is not regulated or inspected.

Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal and Executive Secretary Vicki Kloock provided staff support to the June 20th meeting of the SEC. Sean Donahoe, President, Grassroots Working Group, (an ad hoc group composed of representatives from local environmental entities), presented recommendations regarding the Regional Parks' financial dilemma. Prabhakar Somavarapu, Director of Policy and Planning, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) and Lisa Voight, Senior Civil Engineer serving on the Sacramento Water Recycling Coalition, shared information regarding the planned use of recycled water within Sacramento County. ECD Chief Elise Rothschild and EHD Chief John Rogers provided information on EMD's fee update for fiscal year 2011-12. No fee increase is necessary and fees will remain at the 2010-11 level.

Unpermitted Food Vendors

Supervising ES Kelly McCoy; ESs Jan Bradshaw, Steve Moua, Tuan Nguyen, and Kari Wagner; Intern Manuel Estrada; and Sacramento City Code Enforcement staff confiscated illegal fruit carts during three unpermitted food vendor sweeps. Unapproved produce obtained during the sweeps was destroyed.

Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

EMD Director Siebal and EHD Chief John Rogers visited two medical marijuana dispensaries in San Francisco. Of particular interest was food containing medical marijuana; i.e. butter, ice cream, chocolate bars, cookies, brownies, waffles, etc. San Francisco considers medical marijuana as being similar to herbal medicine and avoids referring to it as food; however, much of the food code is contained in their ordinance. San Francisco reported an increase in illegal electric hook-ups for indoor growth of marijuana which has added to the number of fires in the downtown area. Code Enforcement regulates dispensaries within Sacramento County.

Anaerobic Digester Research Project

EMD Director Val Siebal, Supervising ES Lisa Todd and ES Lea Gibson met with representatives from Atlas Disposal Industries at their warehouse to discuss a potential anaerobic digester research project. The goal of the research project is to study the efficiency of converting food waste feed stocks into natural gas.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Hazwoper Refresher Training

ES Lea Gibson attended Hazwoper Refresher Training presented by CalRecycle. Employees who are exposed, or potentially exposed, to hazardous substances—including hazardous waste—must be up-to-date on OSHA's Hazwoper Standard.

PERSONNEL

New Employee

John Elkins was hired as a Supervising ES in ECD. John most recently worked in the underground storage tank program of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). John worked in EMD's CUPA program before working for SWRCB.

JUNE 2011 BY THE NUMBERS

		June 2011	To Date FY 2010-11
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	987	12,757
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	64	747
	C. Red – Closed	6	103
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Above Ground Storage Tank	1	28
2.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,308	16,067
3.	Farm Labor Camps	3	48
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	568	2,896
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	24	265
6.	Liquid Waste	9	160
7.	Medical Waste	10	145
8.	Small Water Systems	16	71
9.	Wells	68	820
10.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	7	213
11.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	143	1,020
12.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	205	1,444
13.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	57	502
14.	Storm Water	130	1,611
15.	Waste Tire	68	567
16.	Tobacco Retailer	55	450
17.	Commercial Recycling	68	927
18.	Multi-Family Recycling	152	401
19.	Refuse Vehicle Inspections	0	309
	Total	2,893	27,944
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Abandoned Well Program	7	206
2.	Consumer Complaints	73	759
3.	Food Borne Illness	13	175
4.	Incident Response	20	252
5.	Solid Waste	4	102
6.	Storm Water	5	540
7.	Waste Tire	0	61
8.	Childhood Lead	0	7
	Total	122	2,102
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	167	973
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	5	35
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	0	60
	Total	172	1,068
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	500	5,014
2.	Monitoring Wells	150	1,110
3.	Food Facilities	105	1,025
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	71	457
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	7	119
6.	Land Use	10	152
7.	Local Oversight Program	2	57
8.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	1,924	20,304
	Total	2,769	28,238
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	12,634	117,551
2.	Public Record Reviews	26	265
	Total	12,660	117,816