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Welcome to the February 2012 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of January 2012. Please feel free to forward comments, questions and/or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net

Highlights

- *EMD Receives Board Resolution Acknowledging Green/Yellow/Red 5-Year Anniversary For Food Inspections*
- *Home Kitchen Survey Available On EMD Website (Get A “Green” At Home!)*
- *Statewide Septic Systems Draft Policy Reviewed*
- *R Street Development Project Complete*

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Green/Yellow/Red Placard Program

Environmental Health Division (EHD) Chief John Rogers accepted a resolution on January 24, 2012 from the County Board of Supervisors in recognition of the five year anniversary of EMD’s Green/Yellow/Red Placard Program for rating food safety at restaurants, delis, schools and grocery stores within Sacramento County. Several industry representatives in attendance spoke in support of the program.

NEWS MEDIA INTERACTION

Restaurant Inspections

Reporters from The Sacramento Bee and Capitol Public Radio accompanied an Environmental Specialist (health inspector) during routine restaurant inspections. The reporters focused on: major risk violations, foodborne illness trends/data, EMD’s new mobile device app, and the “How to Get a Green” training DVD. The DVD was created in four languages to assist food operators in obtaining a Green placard. Statistics show a 38% decrease in major risk violations since EMD: (1) implemented the placard program; (2) increased inspection frequencies; and (3) added additional education and outreach for operators.

Green/Yellow Red Placard Program

EHD Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez was interviewed by Capitol Public Radio regarding the five year anniversary of EMD's Green/Yellow/Red Placard Program. EHD Chief John Rogers was interviewed by The Sacramento Bee, radio station KFBK 1530 and KOVR Channel 13 TV regarding the success of the placard program.

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

How To Get A Green

One "How To Get A Green" workshop was held with six participants in attendance.

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

One HMP workshop was held with two businesses in attendance.

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Three FSE classes were conducted in January with a total of 47 participants representing 14 facilities. Two classes were conducted in English and one class was conducted in Spanish.

Safe Body Art Act (AB 300)

EHD Chief John Rogers shared information on the Safe Body Art Act at the January meeting of the Sacramento Environmental Commission. The new law requires that all tattoo, body piercing and permanent cosmetic businesses be permitted by EMD; and inspected for compliance with statewide health and safety requirements.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Home Kitchen Survey

A Home Kitchen Self-Inspection Survey is now available on EMD's website at www.emd.saccounty.net. The survey consists of 17 "yes/no" questions covering food safety practices. If the individual taking the survey does not "Pass", a page will appear explaining the correct procedures for the questions that were missed and the individual will have an opportunity to retake the survey. If the individual passes the survey, they will receive a green "PASS" sign that can be printed and displayed at home. Visit <http://www.homekitchensurvey.saccounty.net> to take the survey.

California Building Standards Commission

Supervising Environmental Specialist (ES) Colleen Maitoza represented the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) at a meeting of the California Building Standards Commission. Colleen provided testimony in support of California's new Title 24 Pool Code.

Statewide Septic Systems Policy

Supervising ES Barry Marcus participated in a stakeholder group meeting to review the recent draft regulations and provide comment on the statewide standards for small septic systems. The meeting was facilitated by Darrin Polhemus, Chief, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB); and chief author of the proposed onsite wastewater treatment system regulations. Representatives from county health departments, the CCDEH, the California Association of Rural Counties, Heal the Ocean, Heal the Bay and other interested parties attended the stakeholder meeting, providing comments to the SWRCB. Major changes in the draft policy are expected following receipt of written comments presented at the public stakeholder meeting.

Emergency Preparedness

Supervising ES Mark Barcellos represented EMD at an Emergency Preparedness meeting hosted by the County Department of Health of Human Services. Items discussed included emergency preparedness needs for 2012, and the Statewide Medical and Health Exercise that occurred in November 2011.

California Department Of Food And Agriculture

Supervising ES Mark Barcellos represented EMD at a meeting of the Direct Marketing Ad Hoc Committee of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Discussion items included farm stands, certified farmers markets and approved sources of produce. Representatives from non-profit associations, the farming industry, state regulatory agencies, and CCDEH were also in attendance.

R Street Redevelopment Project

Supervising ES Barry Marcus and ES David Von Aspern represented EMD at a celebration honoring the completion of the R Street Redevelopment Project. EMD was the lead regulatory agency for cleanup of several contaminated sites in the project area. The celebration was attended by numerous city and county staff, Capitol Area Development Authority staff, and local dignitaries and business owners.

Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)

EMD hosted a meeting of the LEA Roundtable to discuss regional solid waste issues with statewide implications. Attendees included: Supervising ES Lisa Todd, ESs Leah Gibson, Victoria Krohn, and John Lewis. Staff from the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and representatives from local LEAs also attended the Roundtable meeting. CalRecycle staff provided sharps disposal training during the meeting.

California Site Designation Committee

Supervising ES Barry Marcus and ES Sue Erikson attended meetings of the California Site Designation Committee (a component of the California Environmental Protection Agency). The Site Designation Committee authorizes the designation of a state or local agency (Administering Agency) to oversee site investigation and remediation. The Committee is composed of representatives from the California Air Resources Board, California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, State Water Resources Control Board, and Department of Toxic Substances Control. EMD was designated as the administering agency for cleanup of two dry cleaner sites located within the county.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Hazardous Materials Investigation

ESs Rebecca Knoche and Justin Ross participated in a five-day Hazardous Material Investigation training seminar presented by the California Specialized Training Institute. Twenty-six people from various state and local agencies also participated. The seminar is a required prerequisite for the two-week Advanced Environmental Crimes Training Program.

Human Health Risk Assessment

Supervising ES Barry Marcus and ESs: Christine Abad, Jack Bellan, Sue Erikson, Charlie Langer, and David Von Aspern received training on the use of RISC5 (a software package for performing fate and transport modeling, and human health and ecological risk assessments for contaminated sites). RISC5 is useful in determining whether remaining site petroleum contaminants pose unacceptable exposure risks. Lynn Spence, the software developer, conducted the training which was held at the EMD offices.

JANUARY 2012 BY THE NUMBERS

		January 2012	To Date FY 2011-12
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	1,151	6,906
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	62	334
	C. Red – Closed	9	60
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Above Ground Storage Tank	5	35
2.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,496	8,574
3.	Farm Labor Camps	0	26
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	4	1,805
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	19	163
6.	Liquid Waste	20	128
7.	Medical Waste	28	96
8.	Small Water Systems	5	24
9.	Wells	30	423
10.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	53	717
11.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	100	1,124
12.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	61	284
13.	Storm Water	231	1,346
14.	Waste Tire	74	391
15.	Tobacco Retailer	22	259
16.	Commercial Recycling	73	247
17.	Multi-Family Recycling	59	232
18.	Refuse Vehicle Inspections	5	246
	Total	2,285	16,120
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Abandoned Well Program	3	15
2.	Consumer Complaints	59	467
3.	Food Borne Illness	14	91
4.	Incident Response	11	140
5.	Solid Waste	7	31
6.	Storm Water	10	43
7.	Waste Tire	0	4
8.	Childhood Lead	0	4
	Total	104	795
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	47	532
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	2	21
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	0	123
	Total	49	676
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	285	2,425
2.	Monitoring Wells	47	592
3.	Food Facilities	76	627
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	9	407
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	13	109
6.	Land Use	2	53
7.	Local Oversight Program	4	20
8.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	2,362	11,593
	Total	2,798	15,826
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	9,709	85,243
2.	Public Record Reviews	17	138
	Total	9,726	85,381