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January 2014

Volume 13, Number 1

Welcome to the January 2014 Environmental Management Department (EMD) Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred during December 2013. Please forward comments, questions or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net

Highlights

- *EMD Hosts Food Industry Working Group*
- *Colleen Maitoza Presents Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Webinar*
- *Solid Waste Enforcement Case Shuts Down Illegal Carpet Disposal Operator*

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Environmental Management
Department

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Three FSE classes were conducted in December with a total of 25 participants representing three facilities. All three classes were conducted in English.

California Environmental Reporting System/Hazardous Materials Business Plan Workshops

Two workshops were provided to business owners and operators to assist with online electronic reporting of hazardous materials business plans. Eighteen individuals representing seventeen separate businesses participated in the workshops.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

California Farm Bureau

EMD Director Val Siebal, Environmental Compliance Division (ECD) Chief Elise Rothschild, and Supervising Environmental Specialist (ES) Ryan Bailey, and Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner Juli Jensen met with members of the California Farm Bureau to answer questions regarding Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) fees that will be invoiced to rural farms beginning in July 2014. The Farm Bureau will share the information with its membership.

Medical/Health Operations Coordination

EMD Director Val Siebal, ECD Chief Elise Rothschild, and Environmental Health Division (EHD) Chief John Rogers have scheduled ongoing meetings with Olivia Kasirye, M.D. County Public Health Officer and her staff to review and update the Medical/Health Operational Area Coordination Roles and Responsibilities Plan for Sacramento County. The Plan identifies lead and support roles in the event of a medical disaster.

California Association of Pest Control Advisers

ESs Robert Duncan and David Von Aspern collaborated to create a presentation on “emergency response”. David presented the information at the December 3 meeting of the California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA). The half-day CAPCA event was held locally with 200+ persons in attendance. A majority of attendees possess a California Department of Pesticide Regulation license. Feedback provided by the event organizer revealed positive comments from attendees, including “EMD stepped up and made a potentially dry subject entertaining” and “All the speakers were good, kept my attention, and were glad to see that the speakers have a sense of humor.”

Food Industry Working Group

EMD hosted a meeting of the Food Industry Working Group which included a presentation by ES Tuan Nguyen regarding “No Bare Hand Contact with Ready-To-Eat Food,” a new section of the California Retail Food Code. Attendees received information regarding: (1) scientific data which necessitated the creation of the Code section; (2) how food service establishments will comply with the Code; (3) Code exemptions; and (4) the implementation date (January 1, 2014) of the new Code.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Supervising ES Colleen Maitoza presented a webinar titled, “Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.” Webinar participants received information regarding EMD’s work toward reducing the number of major violations at aquatic venues through the use of focused education. EMD created an education program, assessed its effectiveness, and developed additional education through the use of data collection. Michele Hlavsa, Chief, Healthy Swimming Program, Centers for Disease Control shared information on the use of surveillance and disease/outbreak data to change public health policy and influence swimming regulations.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Solid Waste/Recycling Enforcement

ES Victoria Pena presented information at the semi-annual EMD All Staff Meeting regarding a solid waste enforcement case involving a carpet recycling firm (Carpet Collectors). Victoria noted that during the investigation process it was determined that the business had been recycling far less carpet than the ninety percent necessary to qualify as a recycling facility and was not eligible for an exemption from solid waste laws. EMD issued a Cease and Desist Order in March 2013 and a Preliminary Injunction was subsequently granted demanding the immediate cessation of operations. A total of 17,694 tons of carpet was removed from the site.

TRAINING

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

Carl Severn, Senior Environmental Scientist, McCoy and Associates, presented a two-day training class titled "RCRA Unraveled" to ESs working in ECD's CUPA program. Several staff from surrounding counties also attended the training which was sponsored by the Forum Board of the Certified Unified Program Agency. Attendees received an in depth comparison of federal and state laws as they pertain to hazardous waste storage.

PERSONNEL

Employee Recognition

EMD Director Val Siebal presented awards and recognized Supervising ES Lisa Jameson and ESs Christine Abad, Daniel Abellon, Robert Duncan, Victoria Pena, Lisa Perez and Heather Tanner at the semi-annual EMD All Staff Meeting for Team Excellence due to their work on the Carpet Collectors Enforcement Case. As noted in an earlier article, 17,694+ tons of waste carpet was removed from an unpermitted solid waste facility thereby avoiding harm to public health and the environment in Sacramento County.

Registered Environmental Health Specialists

ESs Manuel Estrada and Chue Vue recently passed the California Registered Environmental Health Specialist exam. Congratulations to Chue and Manuel!

Promotions

Jan Bradshaw and Joseph Terefe were promoted to ES III's in the EHD.

DECEMBER 2013 BY THE NUMBERS

		December 2013	To Date FY 2013-14
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	783	4,832
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	36	261
	C. Red – Closed	6	45
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Above Ground Storage Tank	0	21
2.	Body Art	24	108
3.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	956	6,278
4.	Farm Labor Camps	0	5
5.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	0	2,075
6.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	36	165
7.	Liquid Waste	19	126
8.	Medical Waste	26	74
9.	Small Water Systems	6	14
10.	Wells	67	427
11.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	97	388
12.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	127	511
13.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	24	211
14.	Storm Water	187	653
15.	Waste Tire	75	408
16.	Tobacco Retailer	106	272
17.	Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	75	352
18.	Refuse Vehicle Inspections	<u>125</u>	<u>297</u>
	Total	1,950	12,385
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Abandoned Well Program	0	6
2.	Consumer Complaints	44	457
3.	Food Borne Illness	22	102
4.	Incident Response	16	79
5.	Solid Waste	17	64
6.	Storm Water	4	18
7.	Waste Tire	1	1
8.	Childhood Lead	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>
	Total	105	736
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	25	484
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	18	118
3.	“How To Get A Green Placard For Food Inspection” Workshop	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total	43	602
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	400	1,864
2.	Monitoring Wells	127	685
3.	Food Facilities	97	521
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	17	120
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	10	63
6.	Land Use	4	50
7.	Local Oversight Program	4	11
8.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	<u>1,005</u>	<u>8,833</u>
	Total	1,664	12,147
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	8,608	85,359
2.	Public Record Reviews	<u>3</u>	<u>17</u>
	Total	8,611	85,376