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May 2010

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Welcome to the May 2010 EMD Update. This issue contains activities and accomplishments that occurred in the Department during the month of April 2010. Please feel free to forward comments questions and/or suggestions to Linda Jimenez at (916) 875-8582 or JimenezL@SacCounty.net

Highlights

- *Earth Day 2010*
- *Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention*
- *Perchloroethylene (PERC) – A Dry-Cleaning Agent*
- *Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award*
- *Illegal Food Vendors*

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COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE, WORKSHOPS AND OUTREACH

Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshops

Two HMP workshops were held with five businesses in attendance.

Food Safety Education (FSE)

Six FSE classes were conducted in April with 149 participants representing 17 facilities. Three classes were conducted in English, one class was conducted in Cantonese, one class was conducted in Spanish and one class was conducted in Punjabi.

Earth Day 2010

ESs Cody Lee, Sharon Merker and Doug Osborn shared information on EMD programs at an Earth Day event held at California State University, Sacramento. ES Sonia Lee provided EMD program information at a Kaiser Permanente Earth Day event.

On-Site Wastewater Treatment (Septic) Ordinance

EMD Director Val Siebal, Supervising ES Barry Marcus, and ESs Eric Haupt and Terry Kociemba presented information on, and received input regarding, the proposed revisions to the Septic Ordinance from the Consumnes Community Public Advisory Committee (CPAC) and the Valley View Acres and Sheldon Hills Homeowners Associations.

California Retail Food Code

EMD Director Val Siebal opened two food industry workshops and encouraged participants to join the EMD Food Industry Working Group. The workshops pertained to Mobile Food Facilities (MFFs) and fixed food facilities. Attendees were provided with information on recent changes to the California Retail Food Code and the new law pertaining to artificial trans fat usage. MFF workshops were held in English and Spanish. Guest speakers at the Food Facility workshop included representatives from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

From April 3 through April 9, California celebrated Public Health Week with a health fair at the State Capitol Building on April 6. ES Debbie Katz displayed information and answered questions on childhood lead poisoning prevention during the fair. Dr. Mark Horton, Public Health Officer, visited our exhibit, received information and commented that our booth was most informative and popular among the attendees.

Perchloroethylene (PERC) – A Dry-Cleaning Agent

ES Doug Osborn attended a meeting with the County Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) to plan outreach efforts to the Sacramento County dry cleaning industry to share a new environmental regulation requiring that machines using Perchloroethylene (PERC) as a dry-cleaning agent be phased-out of service. PERC has been used as a dry cleaning solvent since the mid-1930's and has been identified as being a contaminate at numerous groundwater remediation sites. Even though the following products will be used to replace PERC, they are also hazardous: (1) DF 2000 – Petroleum based solvent which is flammable and toxic to the environment; (2) Green Earth – Silicon based solvent which is also flammable and toxic to the environment; and (3) Dry Solve – Solvent based product which is also flammable and toxic to the environment. BERC and EMD are developing a workshop to inform dry-cleaning business owners of the upcoming regulation. The workshop will focus on the phase-out requirements of PERC and financial assistance available to business owners to replace PERC-based equipment with green technology.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award

EMD Director Val Siebal lead a conference call to review Crumbine Award applications. The Award is usually presented annually to a local environmental health jurisdiction that has demonstrated excellence in a food protection program. Neither of the two applicant programs was deemed worthy of the Crumbine Award. To ensure the integrity of the Award, no award will be presented this year.

Tank Owner/Operator Notification

Senior IT Analyst John Stender and ECD staff collaborated to develop an automated process for Tank Owner/Operator notification of annual testing certifications.

Body Art Inspections

Supervising ES Mark Barcellos and ES Anne Frey-Peters accompanied San Francisco and San Mateo County staff on body art inspections. EHD Deputy Chief Alicia Enriquez accompanied Santa Clara County staff on body art inspections. At a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, EMD was directed to attempt to seek additional consensus on the proposed Body Art Ordinance.

Ventura County Environmental Health

Information Technology (IT) Analyst Rob Milano assisted representatives from Ventura County Environmental Health in implementing Pool Inspections utilizing tablet computers.

Northern Hazardous Waste Technical Advisory Group

ES Jeni VanDusen attended a meeting of the Bay Area Hazardous Waste Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). Topics discussed included air pollution waste streams and waste perfumes and fragrances. The TAG works on issues and policies and recommended guidance documents pertaining to specific hazardous waste streams and/or processes.

Illegal Mobile Food Vendors

The EHD Unpermitted Vendor Team performed a sweep in the Franklin and Fruitridge areas of the City of Sacramento. The Team impounded three vendor carts which were selling cut fresh fruit, corn on the cob and snow cones from an unapproved source without a health permit. Hearings are offered to allow vendors to comply with regulations and become legal.

Revised Inspection Reports

Senior IT Analyst John Stender and IT Analyst Rob Milano developed and modified several inspection reports for field use, including Tobacco Retailer and Public Pool & Spa inspection reports.

Bisphenol A (Suspected Endocrine Disrupter)

EMD hosted a Food Safety Program Working Group meeting which featured two guest speakers. Dr. Christine Bruhn from UC Davis spoke on the Big 8 most common food allergens and the responsibility of consumers and food establishment owners to address allergens. The Big * allergens include: cow's milk, eggs, peanuts, wheat, soy, fish, shellfish (most commonly lobster, crab and shrimp) and tree nuts. Special Assistant Joe Angeles from Supervisor Dickinson's office also spoke regarding a draft ordinance that would require disclosure if a facility sold plastic items used by children under 3 years of age that contained Bisphenol A, a suspected endocrine disrupter. Several members indicated that they were interested in providing feedback to Supervisor Dickinson.

Hazardous Business Plan Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Supervising ES Marie Woodin, ESs Amanda Hakim and Lisa Perez, and Environmental Compliance Technicians (ECTs) Daniel Abellon, Jeff Gardner and Alicia Scott attended a meeting of the Hazardous Materials Business Plan TAG. The TAG is in the process of developing a model chemical inventory form for lead acid batteries used by cell towers.

Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)

EMD Director Val Siebal and Department Secretary Vicki Kloock provided staff support to the April 19 meeting of the SEC. Marilyn Bryant, Executive Director of the Sacramento Transportation Management Association (TMA), presented information regarding upcoming events to be held in celebration of Bike Month. Marty Strauss, Superintendent, Integrated Waste Planning for the City of Sacramento spoke about the new Sharps' Take-Back Program, including collection points and disposal options included in the newly proposed City Ordinance. The Commission was very impressed with the program and voted to send a letter of support to the City of Sacramento. David Brown, Manager, Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District, updated the Commission on current issues and challenges related to mosquito control. 2009 Environmental Recognition Awards were presented to: (1) Sacramento County Animal Care Facility for voluntarily exceeding environmental regulatory requirements; (2) Will Rogers Middle School Green Team for providing leadership toward the protection and enhancement of the environment. In the great Sacramento community; (3) Hines Properties for demonstration of using tools, techniques, and best practices to address sustainability and climate change; and (4) Sheldon High School's Ecology Class for achievement of a successful education/ outreach program particularly those focused on climate change and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Electronic Reporting Of Hazardous Materials Business Plans

IT Manager Geoff Marsh participated in preliminary discussions regarding an upcoming State requirement to report Hazardous Materials Business Plans electronically.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Environmental Enforcement

ES Victoria Krohn attended environmental enforcement training presented at the Western States Project Conference. The training provided an introduction to environmental enforcement. The Project is one of four Regional Environmental Enforcement Associations. These associations are alliances of regulatory, law enforcement and prosecution agencies throughout North America.

Managing Food Safety

ESs Anne Frey-Peters, Cody Lee, Joseph Terefe and Tayjes Patel attended Managing Food Safety training presented by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Public Pool Training

EHD hosted a Public Pool Training Seminar for EHD staff as well as staff from other counties. Attendees received information on AB 1020--California's version of the Federal Pool Safety Act named after Virginia Gramae Baker which requires that all commercial pools, spa and wading pools install new compliant drain covers that meet the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)/American National Standards Institute (ANSI) performance standards. If the drain is a single blockable drain they must install a secondary safety device such as a safety vacuum release system (SVRS). AB 1020 also requires that all newly constructed pools, spas and wading pools install split main drains that are hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed with a minimum 3' separation between grates. Currently, 57% of the pools, spas and wading pools (1,272) within Sacramento County are out of compliance. Participants also received information on the Recreational Health Code.

California Hazardous Materials Investigators Association (CHMIA)

ECD Chief Elise Rothschild, Supervising ES Chris Pace, and ESs Robert Duncan, Eric Haupt, Matt Mulcahy, Justin Ross, Kevin Smith, Eric Sutton and Heather Tanner attended the 25th Annual Conference of the California Hazardous Materials Investigators Association (CHMIA). ES Robert Duncan and Brian Maloney, Criminal Investigator, Sacramento County District Attorney, presented information on foreclosed Homes and Illegal Haulers of Household Hazardous Water at the Annual CHMIA Conference. ECD Chief Elise Rothschild and ES Heather Tanner presented a case study on an Administrative Enforcement Order. CHMIA's mission is to encourage cooperation and coordination of environmental crime investigations conducted by enforcement and administrative agencies. CHMIA also facilitates and promotes educational programs in all aspect of environmental crime investigations.

Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response (EHTER)

ESs Cheryl Hawkins, Steve Moua, Tom Sechser, Jim Sherman and David Wong attended EHTER training which covered food safety, vectors, wastewater, solid waste, drinking water disaster management, shelters and how to respond to a disaster. Supervising ES Mark Barcellos presented information on Food Safety as part of the EHTER training.

Landfill Manager Training

ES Lea Gibson attended training regarding Management of Landfill Operations presented by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). SWANA is a professional association which sponsors annual conferences, conducts training, and awards credentials for solid waste management professionals.

PERSONNELPromotions

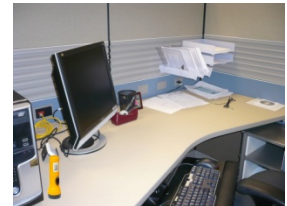
Judinae Ablang was promoted to an Environmental Specialist III in EHD.

Sara Vining was promoted to an Environmental Specialist III in EHD.

Kari Wagner was promoted to an Environmental Specialist III in EHD.

“KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR CONTEST”**DESCRIPTION OF CONTEST:**

The “Know Your Neighbor” is a new year-long contest designed to encourage staff to become familiar with our building. Each edition of *EMD Update* (May 2010 through April 2011) will contain a photo to be identified.

**ENTRY:**

To enter the Contest, please send Linda Jimenez an email with your guess as to whose cubicle is pictured. Since the cubicle may be unoccupied please provide the cubicle number. You may forward only one entry per *EMD Update* edition. The owner of the cubicle pictured may not enter that month's contest and is asked to keep it a secret just for the fun of seeing who wins.

WINNER:

You may only enter by email sent to Linda Jimenez. Winning entry will be determined by time and date stamp of email. Decision of contest judge (Linda Jimenez) is final.

SPONSOR:

Director Siebal is the sponsor of the contest to be held at EMD's principal place of business—10590 Armstrong Avenue, Mather, CA 95655.

PRIZE:

Monthly winner will be hosted to an off-site luncheon with Director Siebal at a restaurant of his choice.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Contest is open *only* to current EMD employees. Employee may win only one time during the year-long contest.

CONTEST PERIOD:

The Monthly Contest will begin at the time and date of email distribution of the Monthly *EMD Update*. Contest period will end 24-hours from date/time of email distribution.

APRIL 2010 BY THE NUMBERS

		April 2010	To Date FY 2009-10
	<u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u>		
	A. Green – Pass	1,324	10,103
	B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	58	547
	C. Red – Closed	9	83
	<u>Inspections</u>		
1.	Above Ground Storage Tank	7	34
2.	Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1,589	12,535
3.	Farm Labor Camps	4	37
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	4	2,275
5.	Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	14	173
6.	Liquid Waste	15	209
7.	Medical Waste	9	108
8.	Small Water Systems	1	46
9.	Wells	41	695
10.	Underground Storage Tank (UST) Installations, Upgrade/Repair, and Removal	11	193
11.	Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	65	765
12.	Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	80	1,077
13.	Underground Storage Tank Facilities	39	410
14.	Storm Water	95	1,603
15.	Waste Tire	44	491
16.	Tobacco Retailer	23	347
17.	Commercial Recycling	1	1,205
18.	Multi-Family Recycling	12	180
19.	Refuse Vehicle Inspections	0	21
	Total	2,055	22,404
	<u>Investigations</u>		
1.	Abandon Well Program	58	236
2.	Consumer Complaints	79	638
3.	Food Borne Illness	22	188
4.	Incident Response	18	405
5.	Solid Waste	4	65
6.	Storm Water	0	81
7.	Waste Tire	2	14
8.	Childhood Lead	2	10
	Total	185	1,637
	<u>Class Attendance</u>		
1.	Food Safety Education (Food School)	149	703
2.	Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	5	59
3.	“How To Get A Green” Workshop	35	176
	Total	189	938
	<u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u>		
1.	Hazardous Materials Business Plans	490	4,128
2.	Monitoring Wells	60	767
3.	Food Facilities	86	762
4.	Public Swimming Pools/Spas	11	265
5.	Underground Storage Tanks - Includes Removals, Installations, Upgrades and Repairs	11	111
6.	Land Use	8	45
7.	Local Oversight Program	1	20
8.	Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	1,685	17,111
	Total	2,352	23,209
	<u>Information Management</u>		
1.	Documents Imaged	10,099	105,473
2.	Public Record Reviews	18	157
	Total	10,117	105,630