



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT JULY 2017

Settling into Summer – The Hidden Dangers in Freshwater

By Eric Haupt

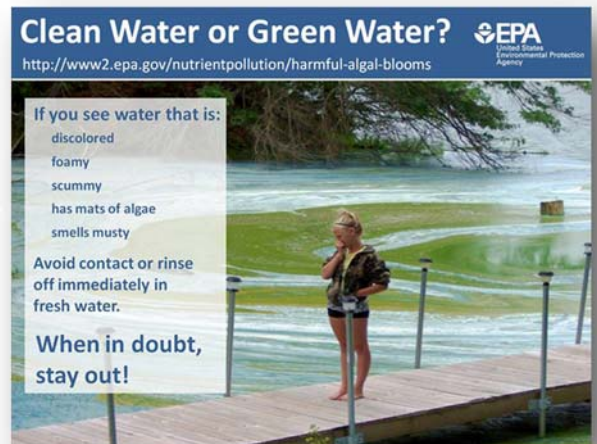
As summer hits us with record breaking temperatures, many area residents seek shelter from the heat by visiting one of the many freshwater public access points Sacramento County has to offer. Whether it's boating in the Delta, swimming or fishing in the American or Sacramento River, or kayaking in one of the many lakes found throughout the County, the Environmental Management Department urges water-seeking visitors to be informed of the microscopic dangers that could be lurking in the water they so fervently seek out in an attempt to cool off.

Unlike swimming pools that use potable water, freshwater ponds, streams, and rivers are not filtered and disinfected. Natural bodies of water have the potential to harbor harmful microorganisms including E. coli, Cryptosporidium, Giardia, and Cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae). Microorganisms such as these can make individuals extremely ill if ingested or inhaled. Dermal or skin irritation can also occur from prolonged contact with certain

microorganisms and/or the toxins they may produce. Pollution from sources such as humans and wildlife, and environmental conditions such as warm temperatures and slow moving water, all contribute to the progressive proliferation of these microorganisms. Rancho Saco Lake was closed to swimmers this month (early July) due to high coliform bacteria levels in the lake. Park officials suspect high coliform levels were most likely from the fecal material of the ducks and geese that inhabit the lake and warm water temperatures. Another case involving a harmful Blue-Green Algal bloom occurred in June of this year at the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, located southwest of Elk Grove. Cyanobacteria was present in the water with four different toxins confirmed in the water samples. The refuge suspended kayaking privileges

until water conditions improve .

To be safe when recreating in freshwater bodies, use caution and be informed of the potential hazards and signs of unsafe water. Look for warning signs posted by local health departments or park officials warning the public of potential health threats and follow their recommendations. Look for indications of harmful



water conditions such as dead fish or other aquatic species, dead wildlife near the shore line, floating algal mats or scum, cloudy water with a green, greenish-blue, brown, or red tint. Water bodies such as lakes and ponds with an abundance of waterfowl have the potential for increased

Board of Supervisors

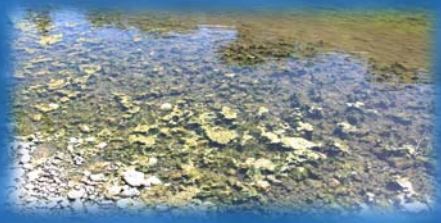
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bacterial loads which in turn can also create unsafe water conditions for certain activities. Lastly, never drink the water as it has not been treated to

drinking water standards. If water contact is necessary, it is recommended to rinse off with clean portable water once recreational activities are over. For more information on water quality, visit mywaterquality.ca.gov.

Anabeana



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Example of Harmful Algal Bloom

RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITY INSPECTIONS

Public recreational water facilities may appear perfectly innocent, but what can be lurking unseen in the water, may silently sicken hundreds of people. EMD inspects 2,200 public aquatic facilities (pools, spas, wading pools,

Over 2,200 aquatic facility inspections each summer

spray grounds) at apartments, homeowner associations, parks, and health club. Inspections are an important tool in preventing recreational water-associated illness and injury.

During inspections, environmental health specialist serves as illness-and-injury-prevention advisors to pool operators. Inspections offer an opportunity to educate operators about the “how, why and what” involved in properly operating and maintaining aquatic facilities.

Illnesses that spread from Recreational Water Facilities. They commonly present with diarrhea and may include other serious symptoms.





Lisa Jameson encountered a bald eagle while hiking the Spooner Lake Trail in South Lake Tahoe.

What's trending?

Ryan Bailey: "I believe the next important technology advancement for environmental health is to integrate disparate sources of data or databases that don't currently connect to each other, thus eliminating the need for double-entry."



Ryan Bailey accepting his award.

Congratulations Ryan Bailey, Acting Chief of Environmental Compliance, for being one of 9 professionals to be awarded a 2017 scholarship to attend the National Environmental Health Association's Annual Educational Conference. The scholarship was awarded by Accela Environmental Health and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) to "the best in Environmental Health." The event took place July 10–13, 2017 in Grand Rapids, MI.

Safety Tip...Spider Bites

For outdoor workers, including inspectors, gardeners, farmers, construction workers and mail carriers, spiders can present an occupational hazard. With the United States being home to venomous arachnids such as the black widow, brown recluse and hobo spiders, the danger is real. However, The National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) notes that spiders are generally not aggressive, and bites tend to happen when a spider feels trapped or is unintentionally disturbed.

Symptoms of a spider bite can range from mild to severe. Mild symptoms include pain at the site of the bite, itching, muscle cramps and sweating. More serious symptoms include difficulty breathing, vomiting, fever and high blood pressure.

If you are bitten by a spider, NIOSH recommends taking the following steps:

- Do not panic. If the spider is still nearby, do your best to identify it.
- Wash the bite area with soap and water.



Brown Recluse



Black Widow



Hobo Spider

- Use an ice pack or cool, damp cloth to help reduce swelling. Keep the bite area elevated.

- Never try to remove venom.
- Contact your supervisor. Seek professional medical help.

To help prevent spider bites:

- Give your work clothes, shoes and equipment a thorough shake before use.
 - If working near undisturbed piles of material outdoors – where spiders are known to reside – wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants, as well as gloves and boots.
 - Remove piles of debris from outdoor jobsites, and trim tall grasses.
 - Keep outdoor clothing and equipment tightly sealed in plastic bags.
- Stay up to date with your tetanus boosters; spider bites can become infected with tetanus spores.

<http://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/12169-spider-bites>

By the Numbers June 2017		
	Jun-17	YTD 16/17
Food Facility Placards Issued		
A. Green – Pass	695	13632
C. Red Closed	12	172
B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	43	699
Inspections		0
Abandoned Wells	1	82
Above Ground Storage Tank	7	27
Body Art	149	415
Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	991	17903
Farm Labor Camps	2	45
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	941	2607
Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	28	295
Liquid Waste	34	253
Medical Waste	10	96
Small Water Systems	2	26
Wells and Monitoring Wells	79	948
Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	254	1372
Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	364	1718
Underground Storage Tank Facilities	36	474
Underground Storage Tank Removal/Installations, Upgrades, Repairs	17	144
Storm Water Non Food Facility	82	675
Waste Tire	4	635
Tobacco Retailer	85	483
Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	0	812
Refuse Vehicle Inspections/	0	239
Septic Tank Pumper Trucks	3	98
Total	3089	30715
Investigations		
Body Art	1	29
Consumer Complaints	86	920
Food Borne Illness	16	162
Incident Response	69	661
Solid Waste	1	19
Storm Water	4	78
Waste Tire	0	0
Childhood Lead	7	84
Total	184	1953
Class Attendance		
Food Safety Education (Food School)	53	1151
Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	15	98
"How to Get A Green Placard for Food Inspection" Workshop Online Video	NA	NA
Underground Storage Tanks Workshops	9	70
Total	77	1315
Plans, Permits, and Reviews		
Abandoned Wells	40	274
Hazardous Materials Business Plans	385	5455
Body Art	3	61
Monitoring Wells/ Water Wells	66	1255
Food Facilities	200	1718
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	143	1138
Underground Storage Tanks Plans and Permit Reviews	14	137
Land Use	14	250
Local Oversight Program	2	22
Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	2111	20309
Total	2978	30614
Imaging		
Document Pages Imaged	3394	128838



Hazardous Material Plan Workshops

The Environmental Management Department offered two Hazardous Material Plan Workshops for **fifteen** attendees during June 2017. EMD staff assisted each person with the process of submitting their Hazardous Waste Plans electronically, as mandated by the California Environmental Protection Agency, effective January 1, 2013.



Food Safety Education Classes June 2017

Attendees 53

Facilities Represented 12

Onsite 3
Offsite 1

Languages Represented

English 1
Spanish 1
Cantonese 2
Korean 0
Punjabi 0
Vietnamese 0

EC Division offered two **Underground Storage Tank (UST) Workshops** in June 2017. During the workshops, EMD staff assisted **nine** attendees with submitting UST forms electronically through the California Environmental Reporting System.

