



EMD News & Notes

Fall 2013 Edition

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www.emd.saccounty.net

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FROM THE DIRECTOR



I want to highlight just a few of the important articles in this edition of News & Notes.

In this issue we continue to demonstrate the critical work that staff performs in behalf of the citizens of Sacramento County.

EMD was the singular county department to receive a 2013 National Association of Counties Achievement (NACo) Award. The

Award was received in recognition of positive changes made within our Cross Connection Program. The Cross Connection Program protects County residents from contaminants which may be contained in drinking water due to erroneous pipe connections. We are honored to receive the award!



This issue also contains information regarding 595 food operators in EMD's Consumer Protection Program who were recognized by the County Board of Supervisors for their consistent attention to food safety practices. Over 96% of the food facilities in Sacramento County receive a Green "Pass" Placard. EMD staff continues to partner with food facility representatives to provide guidance and education to insure food safety.

An article regarding the election of Elise Rothschild, Chief, Environmental Compliance Division as Chairperson of the CUPA Forum Board is also contained in this issue. I am always proud when a talented member of the EMD executive team is chosen to lead an important statewide organization!

And lastly, Vicki Kloock, my Executive Secretary for the last 4 years, has earned a well-deserved promotion. Unfortunately for EMD, the promotion is with another department! We will miss Vicki and wish her well in her new job!

2013 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

EMD received the 2013 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award in recognition of our Cross-Connection Control Program Web Portal. The award is presented in recognition of innovative county government programs that have made significant contributions in improving government services. EMD was selected as an award recipient due to our approach toward reducing paper consumption, improving backflow industry e-Commerce, and conserving financial resources.

In 1987, EMD commenced a contractual agreement with local public water suppliers to administer their cross-connection programs. EMD notifies operators of backflow prevention assembly installation and annual testing requirements; registers certified backflow testers to field test their assemblies; and issues enforcement orders to non-compliant operators. The number of assemblies has grown from 1,000 in 1987 to 15,000. The large number of regulated assemblies in the cross-connection program currently requires over 4,400 annual staff hours and 75,000+ printed pieces of paper.

In order to streamline the program, EMD recently developed and launched a web portal to provide the backflow industry with the flexibility to conduct business online. Annual assembly test reports and program fees can now be processed automatically through the portal.

Users appreciate the portal's simple and intuitive design and 97% of compliance paperwork is currently being e-

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2013 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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reported. Water agency representatives enjoy access to real time field test results and facility operator information. Perhaps most importantly, program staff is now able to view testing trends instead of performing direct data entry. The transition to electronic reporting, along with other efficiency upgrades, has resulted in a reduction of 60,000 printed pieces of paper and an annual savings of 3,000 staff hours.

The Award can be viewed at <http://www.naco.org/programs/recognition/Pages/2013AchievementAwards.aspx>

ELISE ROTHSCHILD ELECTED CUPA FORUM BOARD CHAIR



Elise Rothschild, Chief, Environmental Compliance Division, was elected Chair of the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Forum Board. Elise assumed chairperson duties effective July 1.

The CUPA Forum is a statewide association representing CUPAs and participating agencies that implement the Unified Program. The organization works to update, and continuously improve, the Unified Program by providing a single, strong, consistent statewide voice.

EMD is certified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) as the CUPA for Sacramento County. CUPA is comprised of six regulatory programs including: Hazardous Materials, Hazardous Waste Generators, Aboveground Tanks, California Accidental Release Program (CalARP), Underground Tanks, and Hazardous Materials Business Plan Reporting.

CalCUPA Forum objectives include:

- A. To work with all parties, both internal and external, to develop guidance, regulations, and policies regarding CUPA administration.
- B. To establish positions on statewide issues affecting CUPAs and provide a unified CUPA response to such issues.
- C. To coordinate information exchange between CUPAs and the State regarding statewide issues.
- D. To assist in making training available to CUPAs.

FOOD SAFETY AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



Loaves and Fishes

EMD's Environmental Health Division issued 595 Food Safety Awards of Excellence for 2013. The award was designed to recognize operators of food establishments in Sacramento County who have demonstrated excellent food safety and sanitation standards during their recent routine inspections.

Food establishments eligible for the Award include restaurants, school, coffee shops, delis, licensed health care facilities, retail markets, bars and bakeries. To qualify for the award, facilities must have had no documented major violations during the last three routine inspections conducted prior to July 1, 2013 and only a limited number of minor violations (number of minor violations allowed depends upon facility category).



99 Ranch Market



Wenelli's Pizza

National Food Safety Education Month is celebrated each September—especially here at EMD. We take this opportunity to issue Awards of Excellence and recognition letters to qualified food operators.

Five hundred and ninety-five award-winning food operators were acknowledged during a presentation at the September 10 meeting of the County Board of Supervisors. In addition, one operator from each Supervisors district (Central Station Grill, Crosswood Oaks Senior Living Facility, Loaves and Fishes, 99 Ranch Market and Wenelli's Pizza) was in attendance to personally receive their Award.



Crosswood Oaks

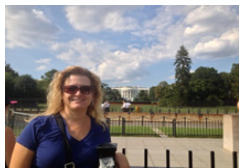


Central Station Grill

These Awards are a pleasurable way to highlight both the hard work of operators that make food safety a prior and the work of EMD employees.

This is the ninth year during which EMD has issued Food Safety Awards of Excellence.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS (NACCHO)



Environmental Specialist (ES) Kari Wagner was accepted into the NACCHO Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards Mentorship Program earlier this year. Participants in the mentorship

program meet with peers from other local health departments (LHDs) to share experiences, learn, and provide tools and resources related to the nine Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards.

The objective of the mentorship program is to match LHD practitioners experienced in the application of Retail Program Standards with LHDs currently enrolled in the Program Standards who are seeking guidance, tools and resources, and recommendations for achieving a standard or standards. The program helps to strengthen relationships between LHDs and Food and Drug Administration Regional Offices.

Kari met with Andre Pierce, Director, Wake County (North Carolina) Environmental Health Department earlier this year to receive information and guidance toward completion of Standard 5 – Foodborne and Food Defense Preparedness and Response.

Seventeen mentorship program participants met in Washington D.C. last month to share experiences. Kari provided information on EMD's placarding program and shared EMD food safety education materials during the recent Mentorship Meeting. Kari also met with Congressman Ami Bera's staff to promote local health department efforts in the area of food safety and to stress the continuance of grants and technical assistance provided by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

EMD will receive \$9,952.00 from NACCHO due to participation in the mentorship program.

2013 CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR



The 2013 California State Fair was held at Cal Expo from July 12 through July 28. This year marked the 160th edition of the State Fair and CBS News reported that there was an increase in attendance of 4,000 over attendance in 2012.

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2013 CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR

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ES Liz Olson worked closely with representatives from Cal Expo, Ovations Food Services, and Butler Amusements to coordinate food vendor inspections. Supervising ES Zarha Ruiz and ES Jason Smalley provided assistance with coordination.

On July 11, ES Tuan Nguyen presented two food safety training classes—one in English and one in Spanish. The classes were specifically focused toward the unique environment of a temporary food event and common violations witnessed at prior State Fairs. All food vendors were invited to attend the training and encouraged to ask questions during the classes. Food vendors also received a self-inspection checklist prior to initiation of food inspections to ensure their success.

One hundred sixty-one food inspections were performed by fourteen ESs. Twenty-nine vendors received no violations. The most common violations observed during the inspections were food temperature violations. All major violations were corrected during the initial inspection; follow-up inspections were performed as needed to ensure continued compliance and food safety throughout the duration of the Fair.

EMD has observed a significant reduction in major violations during routine food inspections at the Fair since the 2012 implementation of food safety training classes.

VICKI KLOCK PROMOTED



Vicki Kloock, Executive Secretary to Director Val Siebal, has accepted a promotion to Administrative Services Officer I in the Department of Human Assistance. Vicki will be joining DHA's facilities management team located at 28th and R Streets.

Vicki began her career as Executive Secretary to Penelope Clarke, previous Countywide Services Agency Administrator. When Ms. Clarke retired in 2006, Vicki was offered, and accepted, the Executive Secretary position with EMD. Vicki also serves as Executive Secretary to the Sacramento Environmental Commission.

Vicki will be dearly missed, but we wish her well in her new position.

EMD ACTIVITY SUMMARY

EMD Program Element

July 2013–
Sept 2013

Food Placarding **Total: 1,111**

Green (Pass)	1,049
Yellow (Conditional Pass)	50
Red (Closed)	12

Inspections **Total: 4,531**

Food Protection	1,506
Farm Labor Camps	5
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	2,065
Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	55
Liquid Waste	44
Medical Waste	11
Small Water Systems	1
Water & Monitoring Wells	135
Underground Storage Tank (UST) Facilities	68
Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	123
Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	122
Stormwater	116
Waste Tire	165
Tobacco Retailers	43
Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	72

EMD Program Element

July 2013–
Sept 2013

Investigations **Total: 81**

Food Borne Illness Complaint	38
Incident Response	37
Stormwater Complaint	4
Waste Tire	0
Childhood Lead	2

Workshop Attendance **Total: 290**

Food Safety Education (Food School)	243
Hazardous Materials Business Plan	47
How To Get A Green Placard	0

Permits, Plans & Reviews **Total: 5,590**

Hazardous Materials Business Plans	636
Monitoring Wells	251
Food Facilities	184
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	74
UST Installations, Upgrades/Repairs & Removals	29
Land Use	18
Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	4,398

Information Management **Total: 39,853**

Documents Imaged	39,847
Public Record Reviews	6

County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors

Phil Serna, District 1

Jimmie Yee, District 2

Susan Peters, District 3

Roberta MacGlashan, District 4

Don Nottoli, District 5

Bradley J. Hudson
County Executive

HELLOS, GOODBYES & SERVICE RECOGNITION

For July thru August 2013



New Hires	None
Promotions	Parmjit Flora Kelly McCoy
Service Awards	Fannie Thai—25 years Marie Woodin—25 years Renee Manwaring—10 years Elizabeth Valtierra—10 years
Retirements	None

Countywide Services

Vacant
Chief Deputy County Executive

Val Siebal
EMD Director

EMD News & Notes is EMD's periodic newsletter providing information on EMD activities and services that enhance our community.

EMD is a Department within the Countywide Services Agency of Sacramento County which serves the businesses and residents of the County. EMD is committed to protecting public health and the environment by ensuring compliance with environmental regulations.

For more information about EMD's News & Notes newsletter, or to offer your feedback, please contact Linda Jimenez by email at ljimenezl@saccounty.net