



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

February 2016

EARLY LEAD INTERVENTION: Safety Practices

The International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Northern Chapter recently invited the Environmental Management Department's in house lead expert, Debbie Katz, to give a presentation on common lead sources to a group of refugees newly immigrated to the United States. Debbie eagerly met with approximately 25 refugees and discussed common materials brought to the United States by refugees and immigrants that have high lead content and pose a possible health risk, particularly to children and their developing nervous system, brains and kidneys. The presentation was translated into Farsi, Dari, Arabic and Russian, exemplifying the cultural diversity found in the Sacramento Region. The IRC hopes to reduce lead exposure to children as they begin their life in the U.S.

Everyday products produced outside of the United States that may have high lead content include: candy

(containing chili and/or tamarind), turmeric and other spices, zachoba, salt, and surma (kajal).

Lead from these products is ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the tear ducts, then

swallowed, when used as a cosmetic or used during religious ceremonies. Ceramic pots used for cooking can also be a significant source of lead. Alternative cosmetic products that look similar but are lead-free are readily available and can be used as cosmetics and for religious purposes.



The question of lead in our drinking water is on everyone's mind in light of Flint, Michigan's severe water quality issue. Water purveyors in

California are required to produce an Annual Water Quality Report in accordance with section 116470 of the California Health and Safety Code. Most water purveyors post these online rather than sending them in the mail so they are readily available to the public. This report includes information about the quality of drinking water and detected contaminants in the water.

WATER WISE HEALTH TIP

- Run water for 30 seconds before drinking to avoid water that has been standing in pipes. Collect unused water to water plants!



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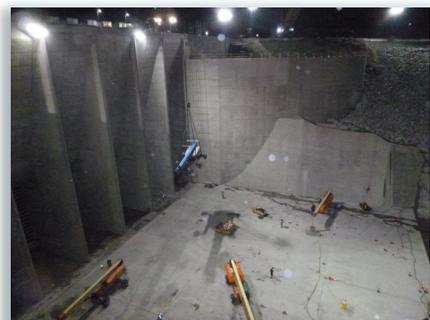
Val F. Siebal, Director, Environmental Management Department



Environmental News

Incident Response Team at Folsom Lake Dam

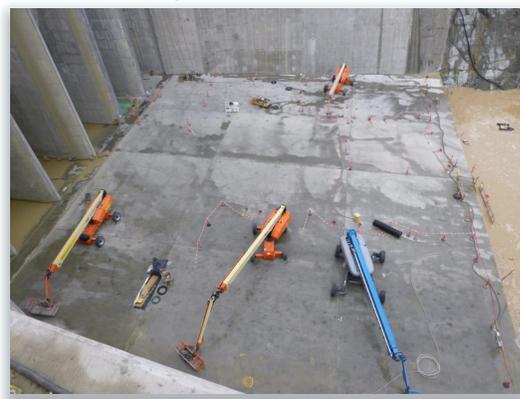
A cofferdam (temporary structure built to keep water out of an area) at the Folsom Lake Dam developed a leak into the construction zone near the auxiliary spillway gates. The IR Team was onsite with advice on contingency planning, should the cofferdam fail and cause the release of diesel fuel and oil contained in the heavy machinery located in the threatened area. The cofferdam was repaired, construction machinery was removed from the area and no hazardous materials were released.



Heavy equipment being lifted out of flooding area.



Construction site at Folsom Lake Dam below the leaking cofferdam. Heavy equipment present contained approx.2000 gallons of diesel fuel.



Photos courtesy of Dennis Karidis

Restored Habitat Success...Happy Customers Seen Again

Two inhabitants return to the region after a long absence. Seen in habitat restoration projects completed by River Partners.



Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle found in 2 mitigation sites on the Feather River.

Least Bell's Vireo

believed to have been extirpated from the Central Valley, first time seen in the valley in 60 years!



Photos and news courtesy of River Partners.

1. Who, at EMD, played music at Ronald Reagan’s 2nd inauguration and had music recordings played on the Weather Channel as background music on the live radar weather page ?
2. What is the approximate population of Sandhill Cranes in the Pacific flyway (don’t search Google!) 265,000 or 350,000 or 525,000 or 600,000
3. Which mosquito transmits the Zika Virus?



Aedes aegypti



Culiseta



Culex

4. Who quoted the following in regards to Electric Vehicle Mileage Range : “It will be possible to have a 500-mile range car. In fact we could do it quite soon, but it would increase the price. Over time you could expect to have that kind of range.”
5. Researchers at UC Riverside have announced a method for accurately tracking an object’s location within a (an) inch, centimeter, or foot using GPS?

SAFETY TIP FOR FEBRUARY



Take steps to prevent eyestrain

Do you ever find yourself rubbing your eyes, blinking repeatedly and looking away from your computer screen? You may be experiencing eyestrain. The American Osteopathic Association notes that as more and more workers stare at computer screens and monitors all day, side effects from eyestrain – including blurred vision, headaches, dry eyes and frequent blinking – are becoming common.

For most people, eyestrain results from focusing too intently on a screen and not blinking enough, according to AOA. To help relieve eyestrain, try to blink more or use artificial tears. Other tips AOA recommends to prevent eyestrain include:

- Ensure your working space is properly lit. This may mean closing blinds to prevent glare and avoiding fluorescent lights.
- To help diminish glare, place an anti-glare screen on your monitor and paint walls dark colors.
- Take regular rest breaks (every few hours for five minutes) to allow your eyes to relax.
- Position your monitor 20 to 26 inches away from your eyes.
- Ask your eye care provider about devices that might help, such as anti-reflective lenses or bifocal lenses.
- If the text size on your monitor is too small, adjust it until it is big enough to comfortably read. Generally, this means increasing the text size by about three times.
- If you are younger than 40, AOA recommends seeing an eye doctor at least every other year; people 40 and older should make annual appointments.

<http://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/11178-take-steps-to-prevent-eyestrain>

1. Charlie Langer
2. 600,000
3. Aedes aegypti
4. Elon Musk
5. Centimeter

NEWS YOU CAN USE...

EMD has a new way to communicate its news and information updates through email/text subscription notifications. This is a valuable service for you and our regulated community.

Subscribers will get website updates, latest news bulletins and press releases on programs we regulate, for both Environmental Health and Hazardous Materials divisions.

Subscribe using the sign-up links on the following web pages:

[EMD Latest News and Information](http://www.emd.saccounty.net)

www.emd.saccounty.net (on individual program pages)

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Subscribers can sign up for the entire Public Health and Environmental Protection category or individual topics:

Public Health and Environmental Protection

- Food Safety Information
- Preparing for and Responding to Pandemic Influenza
- Body Art
- Hazardous Materials/Waste (CUPA)
- Plan Review (Food Facilities & Public Pools/Spas)
- Recreational Health (Public Pools & Spas)
- Site Assessment and Mitigation (Toxic Site Cleanup)
- Solid Waste (Solid Waste Facilities, SWA Recycling, Medical Waste, Waste Tires)
- Tobacco Retailer Program
- EMD News and Information
- Water (Wells, Septic, Cross Connection, Small Water Systems, Recycled Water, Stormwater)

Educational Outreach



EC Division offered 1 **Underground Storage Tank Workshop** in January. During the workshop, EMD staff assisted 3 people in submitting their Underground Storage Tank forms electronically through the California Environmental Reporting System.



Hazardous Material Plan Workshops

The Environmental Management Department offered 2 Hazardous Material Plan Workshops for 7 attendees during December 2016. 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 January 2016

Attendees 118

Facilities Represented 20

Onsite 4
Offsite 3

Languages Represented

English 4
Spanish 1
Cantonese 1
Vietnamese 1

By the Numbers January 2016	
	Jan-16
Food Facility Placards Issued	
A. Green – Pass	1204
C. Red – Closed	13
B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	96
Inspections	
Abandoned Wells	53
Above Ground Storage Tank	2
Body Art	44
Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1712
Farm Labor Camps	0
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	2
Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	17
Liquid Waste	11
Medical Waste	10
Small Water Systems	5
Wells and Monitoring Wells	43
Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	94
Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	113
Underground Storage Tank Facilities	61
Underground Storage Tank Removal, Installations, Upgrades, Repairs	10
Storm Water Non Food Facility	31
Waste Tire	119
Tobacco Retailer	18
Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	100
Refuse Vehicle Inspections/	1
Septic Tank Pumper Trucks	27
Total	2473
Investigations	
Body Art	7
Consumer Complaints	44
Food Borne Illness	16
Incident Response	42
Solid Waste	1
Storm Water	0
Waste Tire	0
Childhood Lead	1
Total	111
Class Attendance	
Food Safety Education (Food School)	118
Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	7
“How To Get A Green Placard For Food Inspection” Workshop Online Video	online
Underground Storage Forms Workshop	3
Total	128
Plans, Permits, and Reviews	
Abandoned Wells	12
Hazardous Materials Business Plans	50
Body Art	1
Monitoring Wells/ Water Wells	88
Food Facilities	103
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	68
Underground Storage Tanks Plans and Permit Reviews	4
Land Use	16
Local Oversight Program	4
Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	1410
Total	1744
Imaging	
Document Pages Imaged	19958