

# Environmental Management Department

## Special points of interest:

- Tubbs Fire Mutual Aid
- EMD Cannabis Workshop
- EMD Program Highlight
- Annual Certified Unified Program Agency Training

## Mutual Aid Provided to Sonoma County

The Environmental Management Department deployed nine Environmental Specialists to Sonoma County, January through March 2018, in response to Sonoma County's request to assist with oversight of fire damage clean up efforts. The Tubbs fire began on October 8th, burning 36,807 acres, destroying 5636 structures and damaging 317 structures.

Burned properties contained



Environmental Specialist Amanda Hakim

hazardous materials such as ash (potentially going airborne), asbestos, batteries from cars and solar panels, solvents, waste oil, propane tanks and damaged septic systems. If not properly removed, these hazardous materials could eventually seep into the ground/ground water, or get washed away in nearby streams, creeks or storm drains.

Deployed staff assisted in

overseeing and documenting the clean up of burned properties so that ultimately a letter of determination could be issued to property owners by Sonoma County and residents could begin rebuilding. This could occur after the Army Corps of Engineers had tested the soil on the burned parcels and it fell-within acceptable ranges for hazardous chemicals.

Environmental Specialists were deployed for 14 days at a time. Each morning the mutual aid teams would meet to determine their survey area for that day. Clean up of properties was under way before EMD Inspectors arrived to Sonoma. Common hazards documented by inspectors included ash, burned cars, steel and damaged septic tanks.

Two phone apps were utilized by the response teams, GIS Explorer and GIS Collector. Properties affected by the fire were viewed using the apps and coded with colored dots as the clean up progressed. The parcel would eventually be coded

green on the app, indicating completion of clean up. Using GIS Collector, photos and information regarding hazards on parcels were uploaded, documenting site clean up.

Phase I clean up of household hazardous waste had been performed by the Environmental Protection Agency in Sonoma and Napa Counties, and by the California Department of Toxic Substances in



Lake and Mendocino Counties. In phase 2, property owners signed a

right of entry form and the Army Corp of Engineers or private contractors remove hazardous materials from the site, including soil from 3-5 inches deep.

Burned cars remain where they are until the DMV and/or CHP can tow them and verify ownership.

(photos: Jeni VanDusen)

Phil Serna, District 1

Patrick Kennedy, District 2

Susan Peters, District 3

Sue Frost, District 4

Don Nottoli, District 5

Marie Woodin, Interim Director, EMD

## Cannabis Workshop

Beginning January 1 of 2018 the sale of recreational Cannabis became legal in the State of California. This industry is now regulated under the Hazardous Materials/Waste programs through EMD's Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). EMD completed outreach to the cannabis industry earlier this year to provide education about compliance requirements and to introduce the facilities to government agencies that would be inspecting them in the course of business. During this outreach, EMD invited Sacramento City Fire Prevention, Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) and a representative from The Agriculture Commission to introduce themselves and their agency and explain their regulatory role in the Cannabis industry in Sacramento.

Industry had opportunity to ask regulatory questions such as: how to make proper waste determinations, what records would be required, what chemicals would they be allowed to use for extraction, which pesticides were illegal, as well as more specific

ic questions about properly labeling hazardous materials and wastes and specific trainings required for their employees. The biggest compliance hurdles may



face cultivators and manufacturers. Cultivators are asking for clearer guidelines on handling soil/plant wastes as the composting regulations currently restrict this activity. Manufacturers may struggle with disposing of hazardous waste if the waste is determined to contain Cannabis, as any state to state transportation would possibly be restricted/prohibited.

Hazardous Materials/Waste regulations will be applicable in the following processes; cultivation, distribution, manufacturing, and dispensary operations. Cultivators store hazardous materials such as fertilizers, nutrient additives and carbon dioxide. Solvent wastes are gen-

by Natasha McClurg

erated during equipment cleaning processes and can include chemicals such as isopropyl alcohol. There will potentially be solvent wastes generated from distribution and dispensary facilities but this may be subject to change once regulations become effective in July of 2018. Manufacturers store hazardous materials and generate hazardous wastes during their process.

Sacramento City Fire Prevention as well as Sacramento City Code Enforcement have teamed up with EMD CUPA to begin surveying each Cannabis facility within the City of Sacramento. Education is pivotal during the survey stage for facilities, providing guidance

through the regulatory process which is streamlined by the partnership of these three agencies. This collaboration has also provided cross training opportunities that will be extremely valuable for the implementation of regulations within this industry.



Soil/Trim Waste



Storing Ethanol and Volatile Gases

## EMD Wellness Team

EMD has an in-house Wellness Team committed to promoting healthy activities and educational opportuni-



ties for staff.

### WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Two Wednesday's a month,



the team has plans for fitness activities that will fit into the work day. The first walking activity took place at 7:30 am on a brisk morning in March, led by Kevin Smith.

May 3rd, at noon, is the Bike Month EMD ride, including a "pro" group and a "slower" group for those that only get on a bike a few

times each year. You can order a lunch for after the ride and enjoy a complete, wellness experience. Future plans include inviting speakers to EMD to talk about health and well being,

### Your EMD Wellness

#### Team:

Kevin Smith

Kelli Fry

Lisa Robbins

## EMD Program Highlight

### COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER COMPLIANCE

by Eric Haupt

Since 2004, the County of Sacramento Environmental Management Department (EMD) has implemented a region wide Commercial and Industrial Stormwater Compliance Program on behalf of the County of Sacramento, and the Cities of Sacramento, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, Galt, Citrus Heights, and Folsom. The program was implemented as a result of a State mandate requiring larger municipalities (population 100,000 or greater) to incorporate a commercial and industrial stormwater pollution prevention element into their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit; a permit that allows municipalities to legally discharge stormwater from urbanized areas to waters of

the United States. Compliance with the MS4 permit is a requirement of the Federal Clean Water Act and California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act enacted to help restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters by prohibiting water pollution and the improper disposal of wastes.

The program oversees activities of nine different business types identified by the State with the greatest potential of generating stormwater pollutants such as food waste, oil and grease, heavy metals, and toxic chemicals. Those business types include auto body shops, auto dealers, auto repair shops, equipment rental facilities, nurseries, kennels, restaurants, retail gas outlets,

and industrial facilities requiring coverage under the State's Industrial General Permit. Through outreach, education, inspection, and enforcement, the program ensures businesses comply with local stormwater regulations.

In 2008, the program received the Clean Water Act Excellence in Stormwater Management award by the Federal EPA. Many thanks go out to Cecilia Jensen, John Lewis, Ken Ballard, and Tiffany Beaudry for the initial development of the program and leg work needed to implement a program that has stood strong for over a decade.

With the exception of clean potable water, landscape



Dog Kennels are inspected under the Stormwater program

irrigation, dechlorinated swimming pool water, emergency fire-fighting activities, and a few others, only clean potable water or uncontaminated stormwater is allowed to enter the municipality's storm drain system. Common storm water violations include litter and trash on the ground, unattended oil leaks or



spills not promptly cleaned up or shielded from rain water contact, over-

flowing grease interceptors, greasy/oily engines stored outside without protection from rain water contact, car wash water flowing to a storm drain, and open barrels or containers of hazardous waste such as motor oil or oil filters that are stored outside and not covered with a clean tight fitting lid. All these conditions either directly discharge to the storm drain system or pollute stormwater on its way to the storm drain system.

Since the inception of the program, EMD staff has conducted over 26,000 stormwater inspections and currently has 5,500 active businesses in its inventory. To maximize department efficiency, when possible, stormwater inspections are incorporated into other routine inspections conducted by EMD staff. This keeps

program costs down and minimizes visits from environmental regulators.



Car Wash Waste Water

## DID YOU KNOW?

Garlic infused oil is a potentially hazardous food due to its low pH range of 5.3 to 6.3 and needs to be refrigerated. Garlic oil left at room temperature or below the proper storage temperature of 32 degrees



### Keep it Cool!

garlic oil can be safely stored in the refrigerator for up to 4 days. Chopped garlic can be stored in the freezer for up to 4 months. Commercially prepared



chopped garlic contains citric or phosphoric acid to increase the acidity.

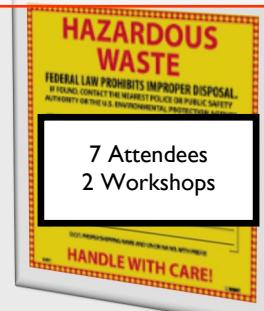
Chopped garlic added to vinegar should be stored in the refrigerator also in order to inhibit mold growth.

Fahrenheit will support the toxin production of Clostridium Botulinum. Prime conditions include moisture, room temperature, lack of oxygen and low acid conditions. The

### Food Safety Education Classes Jan/Feb 2018

<b>Attendees</b>	225
Facilities Represented	33
Onsite	6
Offsite	9
<b>Languages</b>	
English	7
Spanish	5
Cantonese	1
Korean	1
Punjabi	0
Vietnamese	1
Russian	0

### Hazardous Material Plan Workshops Jan/Feb 2018



7 Attendees  
2 Workshops



### Underground Storage Tank Workshops Jan/Feb 2018



14 Attendees  
4 Workshops

## Certified Unified Program Agency Annual Training

*“new perspective  
about ...the darker  
side of body  
language”*



Environmental Compliance staff attended the annual certified unified program agency training in Burlingame, CA February 2018. The agenda was packed with possibilities to attend dynamic sessions. Environmental Specialist Jennea Monasterio attended an outstanding session taught by John Wilson, titled **Fundamental Body Language**, about learning to recognize body language indicators that would signal escalating danger signs. Field Inspectors face not only technical challenges but engagement challenges as they visit facilities where owners or their staff are mistrustful of government inspectors. Mr. Wilson's class targeted public safety professionals whose course of work may take them to rural areas or who work singularly and wouldn't have support in the event of a critical incident, whether verbal abuse or an actual attack. He described the basics of biology and the interaction of the human body systems working together to result in the fight or flight phenomena. Body language indicators to look for include:

- Body positioning
- Excessive thirst
- Grooming—touching hair, mustache
- Shifting from right to left

- Hands in the pockets
- Sniffing/watering eyes
- Stretching
- Bending back/stretching/stretching neck

The class provided a new perspective about public interactions and the darker side of body language. By understanding nuances it is possible to understand what a person may do and in turn, protect yourself from harm.

Environmental Specialist Megan Floyd attended an eye opening presentations titled **War in the Woods: Combating Cartels on America's Public Property**" presented by Lieutenant John Nores from the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW).

Mr. Nores described how the cartel is diverting water from creeks and streams to provide



irrigation for cultivation at

higher elevations in the mountains and forested areas which can't be seen using aerial surveillance. This process is destroying entire ecosystems and killing off certain animal populations that are dependent on the water. Animals also eat the pesticides left on site and later

die. Streams are being overloaded with nitrates from fertilizers and toxins from pesticides and aquatic systems are being decimated. He showed video of CDFW missions entering grow sites, documenting both the environmental devastation and destitute living conditions of the workers.

Environmental Specialist Douglas Osborn attended an Underground Storage Tank (UST) Enforcement Case Studies class presented by the District Attorneys for San Bernardino County and Alameda County. The statewide case was against a large, national gasoline distributor operating in California. The case was built by the District Attorneys accessing hundreds of CUPA Agency UST inspection reports from annual tank inspections conducted throughout the State. The reports documented major UST violations over time. Doug's takeaway was that detailed inspection reports with a clear narrative made all the difference in this case and in future cases. "Having clear, consistent language across multiple agency inspection reports was, in the end, the single most important detail in the successful prosecution of this case."

By the Numbers Jan/Feb 2018			
	Jan-18	Feb-18	FY to Date
<b><u>Food Facility Placards Issued</u></b>			
A. Green – Pass	1253	1180	8394
C. Red – Closed	24	15	148
B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	101	97	557
<b><u>Inspections</u></b>			
Abandoned Wells	5	0	33
Above Ground Storage Tank	4	1	66
Body Art	28	12	151
Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1811	1651	11402
Farm Labor Camps	0	0	4
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	1	0	1531
Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	16	18	176
Liquid Waste	63	19	274
Medical Waste	7	6	63
Small Water Systems	4	2	20
Wells and Monitoring Wells	62	42	527
Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	88	68	925
Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	96	74	1092
Underground Storage Tank Facilities	46	36	296
Underground Storage Tank Removal, Installations, Upgrades, Repairs	6	9	97
Recycled Water	0	1	1
Storm Water Non Food Facility	45	201	564
Waste Tire	61	70	501
Tobacco Retailer	27	41	177
Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	83	78	516
Organics Recycling	12	12	171
Refuse Vehicle Inspections/	0	0	265
Septic Tank Pumper Trucks	47	2	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>2512</b>	<b>2343</b>	<b>18951</b>
<b><u>Investigations</u></b>			
Body Art	3	2	54
Consumer Complaints	65	76	677
Food Borne Illness	13	9	78
Incident Response	51	53	417
Solid Waste	0	0	1
Storm Water	7	15	60
Waste Tire	0	0	0
Childhood Lead	20	6	63
Small Water Systems		2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>1350</b>
<b><u>Class Attendance</u></b>			
Food Safety Education (Food School)	98	127	740
Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	7	7	59
Underground Storage Forms Workshop	3	3	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>838</b>
<b><u>Plans, Permits, and Reviews</u></b>			0
Abandoned Wells	8	38	159
Hazardous Materials Business Plans	449	440	2930
Body Art	8	6	88
Monitoring Wells/ Water Wells	98	111	840
Liquid Waste	39	31	330
Food Facilities	163	183	1353
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	36	48	860
Underground Storage Tanks Plans and Permit Reviews	13	9	63
Land Use	18	14	154
Local Oversight Program	1	1	8
Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	2335	1202	13902
<b>Total</b>	<b>3168</b>	<b>2083</b>	<b>20687</b>
<b><u>Imaging</u></b>			
Document Pages Imaged	11695	11681	87819