



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

April 2015

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Val F. Siebal, Director, Environmental Management Department

INSPECTORS ENLISTED TO IDENTIFY SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN SACRAMENTO

Sacramento is among the top cities identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a hub for human trafficking, including both forced labor and sex trafficking. Forced labor can include domestic labor, food service labor, sweatshop factory labor and agricultural labor. Some of the factors that contribute to making Sacramento a hub are the confluence of major highways in and out of the city and its large immigrant population. Approximately 14,500-17,500 people are trafficked into the US each year (Opening Doors resettlement agency website).

Environmental Health Deputy Chief Kelly McCoy and Supervising Environmental Specialist Zarha Ruiz recently attended a training sponsored by the Department of Justice that enlisted inspectors from industries such as food inspection and construction to be on the look out for, and learn how to identify, signs of human trafficking. Agencies participating in the training included the U.S. Department of

Labor, The FBI, Homeland Security and the Department of Industrial Relations. Health Inspectors who are performing large restaurant inspections are in a unique position to observe activities and behaviors that the general public wouldn't necessarily be exposed to. Some indicators of human trafficking are:

- Workers housed together, no key to residence
- Restriction of movement, being escorted with limited outside communication, kept isolated
- Signs of physical abuse
- Behavioral indicators of dependency or fear
- Oppressive or excessive working hours, conditions
- Confiscation of identification, immigration or travel documents

Call 1-888-373-7888, 24 hours a day, to receive help if you suspect human trafficking.

If you or someone you know needs help, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) toll-free hotline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at **1-888-373-7888** to speak with a specially trained NHTRC Call Specialist.



City of Elk Grove Joins the Sacramento Environmental Commission

The City of Elk Grove recently took action to gain representation on the Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) in conjunction with the revision of Sacramento County Code adding a seat from Elk Grove to the Commission. Eric Rivero-Montes

attended his first meeting of the SEC in March as the City of Elk Grove's representative. Eric is a chemical engineer and has extensive knowledge of green house gas emissions and air quality permitting.

THE CAL-EPA SITE DESIGNATION COMMITTEE PROCESS By D. Von Aspern

ES3 David Von Aspern participated in the March 2015 meeting of the Cal-EPA Site Designation Committee (SDC) meeting held at the Cal-EPA Building in downtown Sacramento. The purpose of the meeting was to garner regulatory agency input on a hazardous materials contamination site, evaluate the nature of the contamination based on reports available at the time of the SDC application, and ultimately have the SDC “designate” the lead regulatory agency. David was asked by a landowner to participate in the SDC process and to serve as the caseworker of the newly designated **brownfield site**. The site is near downtown Sacramento and the Oak Park community (Broadway and 1st Avenue) and its contaminants are heavy metals and petroleum hydrocarbons.

Here’s some background on the SDC process. In 1994 the California Legislature responded to the potential duplication of effort of state and local regulatory agencies involved in the oversight of private sector cleanups (AB 2061 – Umberg). The designated lead regulatory agency is authorized to supervise all aspects of site cleanup and is granted sole jurisdiction over all activities necessary to respond to hazardous materials releases. However, the designated agency is required to lead “consultative working group” meetings with sister regulatory agencies

such as the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

The staff of the Site Assessment and Mitigation Section within the EMD Environmental Compliance Division has been infrequently asked to participate in the SDC process over the years, although generally speaking the process is underutilized because it is not well known. David projects that the process is likely to be used more often as the universe of contaminated sites slowly shrinks along with the needed resources to address such sites. The SDC process can be viewed as a win-win situation because it



The Warehouse Artist Lofts project on R Street is an example of a brownfield that has been cleaned up and now developed. Photo by Brenda Bongiorno.

promotes governmental efficiency and mitigates potentially duplicative regulatory efforts.

Helpful, well-written (geared toward laypersons) information regarding the Site Designation Committee may be found at: <http://calepa.ca.gov/Programs/SiteDesign/>

EC Division offered two **Underground Storage Tank Workshops** in March. During the workshops, EMD staff assisted 7 people representing 7 businesses in submitting their Underground Storage Tank forms electronically through either the EMD web portal or the California Environmental Reporting System .

Food Safety Education Classes

There were 7 onsite and 4 off site Food Safety Education classes conducted in March 2015, with a total of 169 participants representing 28 facilities. Six classes were conducted in English, 3 in Spanish, 1 in Cantonese and 1 in Vietnamese.

Hazardous Material Plan Workshops

The Environmental Management Department offered 2 Hazardous Material Plan Portal Workshops during February, 2015. There were 6 individuals that attended these workshops, representing 6 businesses. During the workshops, EMD staff provided regulated businesses an overview of the electronic reporting process and also assisted each person with the process of submitting their Hazardous Waste Plans electronically. Hazardous Waste Plans are mandated by the California Environmental Protection Agency to be electronically submitted, effective January 1, 2013. EMD continues to assist consumers who need instruction filing their plans electronically.

JOHN ROGERS RECEIVES THE BOB MERRYMAN MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

John Rogers was awarded the Bob Merryman Manager of the Year Award by the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health for his years of excellent service at Sacramento County EMD. Director Siebal nominated John Rogers for the award based on his managerial leadership and innovation in improving Public Health and Food Safety in Sacramento County.

John Rogers receiving Bob Merryman Award



"It is with great pleasure that I inform you that you have been selected to receive the Robert Merryman Manager of the Year Award for 2015. Your leadership in the field, along with your proven ability to lead, develop and implement an award winning \$8 million dollar Consumer Protection Division for Sacramento County and successfully launch an innovative Green-Yellow-Red placard system for consumers in Sacramento County are a few examples of why CCDEH selected you as the 2015 recipient. Leaders like yourself help move the profession forward."

California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health

"There were several nominations from all over the state but John's experience carried the day. We are very lucky to have him on our team."

Director Siebal

Collen Maitoza Retires after 31 Years of Service

Colleen Maitoza, Supervising Environmental Specialist IV, retired from the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department after 31 years of service with Sacramento County. Colleen graduated from San Jose State University in Environmental Health and took her first job as a contract employee working in Amador County as a general specialist. She was promoted to the plan review office downtown in 1985 and has been instrumental in achieving a high quality, successful food facility plan review team since then.

Colleen is known by local contractors as being a problem solver who is willing to engage with them in finding resolution to food facility and pool facility building plan issues that must meet code while working within the scheme and style of the building project. Consumers appreciated her willingness to listen and gather all the

facts and make informed decisions. Her technical knowledge and opinions were sought after by industry workers nationwide on matters of pool safety and plan review.



"She was our go-to person whenever there was an aquatic industry question that needed a solution."

Colleen has won numerous prestigious industry awards including 4 CCDEH Presidential Citations for Recreation Health and the Stuart Richardson Award. Director Siebal noted that Colleen took the time to mentor several EMD staff over the years as well as pool industry workers across the state and she was our go-to person whenever there was an aquatic industry question that needed a solution. On Colleen's last day of work she could be found poring over the plans of the new Kings Arena, one of many major projects in Sacramento that she worked on.

EMD thanks Colleen for her years of dedication, excellent consumer service and public health protection and wishes her all the best as she pursues new adventures.

April 2015

Colleen is presented with the [Vince Dunham Memorial Award \(Outstanding Career Environmental Health Specialist\)](#) giving special recognition to an individual who has demonstrated an exceptional career performance in the field of environmental health via service to his/her community, employer or CEHA.



April Safety Tip

TICK-BORNE DISEASES

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, tick-borne pathogens can be passed to humans by the bite of infected ticks. Ticks can be infected with bacteria, viruses, or parasites. Some of the most common tick-borne diseases in the United States include: Lyme disease, babesiosis, ehrlichiosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, anaplasmosis, Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness, Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever, and tularemia. Other tick-borne diseases in the United States include: Colorado tick fever, Powassan encephalitis, and Q fever. [Lyme disease](#) is the most commonly reported tick-borne disease in the United States. In 2010, more than 22,500 confirmed and 7,500 probable cases of Lyme disease were reported to the CDC.

Outdoor workers are at risk of exposure to tick-borne diseases if they work at sites with ticks. Worksites with woods, bushes, high grass, or leaf litter are likely to have more ticks. Outdoor workers in most regions of the United States should be extra careful to protect themselves in the spring, summer, and fall when ticks are most active. Ticks may be active all year in some regions with warmer weather.

Where are infected ticks found in the United States?

Tick-Borne Disease	Common US Regions
Lyme disease	Northeast, North Central, Pacific Coast
Babesiosis	Northeast, Midwest, Northwest
Ehrlichiosis	East, Southeast, Central
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	Southeast, Atlantic Coast
Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness	Southeast, Atlantic Coast
Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever	Rocky Mountains, Pacific Coast
Tularemia	All States except Hawaii
Anaplasmosis	Northeast, North Central, Pacific Coast
Colorado Tick Fever	Northwest, Rocky Mountains
Powassan Encephalitis	Northeast
Q fever	Throughout the United States



[CDC Geographic Distribution of Ticks](#) (includes maps)

When are workers at risk of infection?

Ticks are usually more active in the months of April through October and peak in the summer months of June through August. The time of year when ticks are active may vary with the geographic region and climate. Outdoor workers should be extra careful to protect themselves in the late spring and summer when immature ticks are most active.

Recommendations for Workers

Take the following steps to protect yourself from tick bites:

- Wear a hat and light-colored clothing, including long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into boots or socks.
- Use insect repellents that provide protection for the amount of time you will be outdoors:
- Use repellents containing 20%-30% DEET on your exposed skin and clothing to prevent tick bites. Reapply repellents as needed.
- Use repellents such as Permethrin for greater protection. Permethrin kills ticks on contact.
- Permethrin can be used on clothing but should not be used on skin.
- One application of permethrin to pants, socks, and shoes typically stays effective through several washings.
- Pre-treated clothing is available and remains protective for many (up to 70) washings.
- Check your skin and clothes for ticks every day. The immature forms of these ticks are very small and may be hard to see.
- Shower or bathe as soon as possible after working outdoors to wash off and check for ticks.
- Remember to check your hair, underarms, and groin for ticks.
- Immediately remove ticks from your body using fine-tipped tweezers.
- Grasp the tick firmly and as close to your skin as possible.
- Pull the tick's body away from your skin with a steady motion.
- Clean the area with soap and water.
- Removing infected ticks within 24 hours reduces your risk of being infected with the Lyme disease bacterium.
- Wash and dry work clothes in a hot dryer to kill any ticks present.

If you develop symptoms of a tick-borne disease seek medical attention promptly. Be sure to tell your health care provider that you work outdoors in an area where ticks may be present.

By the Numbers March 2015

March 2015

Food Facility Placards Issued

A. Green – Pass	1482
C. Red – Closed	12
B. Yellow – Conditional Pass	89

Inspections

Above Ground Storage Tank	1
Body Art	25
Food Protection (includes reinspections and food events)	1872
Farm Labor Camps	1
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	2
Solid Waste Facilities (landfills/transfer stations)	21
Liquid Waste	17
Medical Waste	14
Small Water Systems	10
Wells	115
Businesses/Facilities Generating Hazardous Waste	83
Businesses/Facilities Storing Hazardous Materials	92
Underground Storage Tank Facilities	54
Underground Storage Tank Removal, Installations, Upgrades, Repairs	8
Storm Water Non Food Facility	40
Waste Tire	87
Tobacco Retailer	30
Commercial/Multi-Family Recycling	95
Refuse Vehicle Inspections/ Septic Tank Pumper Trucks	3
Total	2634

Investigations

Body Art	4
Consumer Complaints	95
Food Borne Illness	19
Incident Response	52
Solid Waste	4
Storm Water	3
Waste Tire	
Childhood Lead	1
Total	178

Class Attendance

Food Safety Education (Food School)	169
Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMP) Workshop	7
“How To Get A Green Placard For Food Inspection” Workshop	---
Underground Storage Forms Workshop	6
Total	182

Plans, Permits, and Reviews

Hazardous Materials Business Plans	443
Body Art	4
Monitoring Wells/ Water Wells	197
Food Facilities	156
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	65
Underground Storage Tanks Plans and Permit Reviews	8
Land Use	6
Local Oversight Program	3
Cross Connection Permits (Blue Tags)	1579
Total	2496

Imaging

Document Pages Imaged	23,330
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