

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUREAU SERVICES OVERVIEW**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUREAU DESCRIPTION**

The Environmental Health Bureau is an integrated team of professional and support personnel dedicated to safeguarding the health and safety of the residents and resources in Monterey County by way of education and enforcement of Federal, State and local environmental statutes. This is accomplished through six service activities: Consumer Health Protection Services, Hazardous Materials Management Services, Solid Waste Management Services, Recycling and Resource Recovery Services, Drinking Water Protection Services, and Environmental Health Review Services.

### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Consumer Health Protection Services (CHPS)*, comprised of 15 Environmental Health Specialists primarily responsible for:

- Food protection of approximately 1950 food facilities under the California Retail Food (Cal Code) regulations of the California Health and Safety Code
- Permit and inspect approximately 30 cottage food operations
- Agricultural Field toilet inspection program
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for the California Department of Public Health
- Tobacco licensing inspections under the Monterey County Code
- General health protection/complaint investigations
- Substandard rental housing inspections/complaint investigations (tenant/landlord)
- Employee housing (including farm labor housing) under the California Housing and Community Development program.
- Recreational water quality control monitoring under State of California
- Beach water monitoring (beaches visited by 50,000 people or more) under AB411
- Public swimming pools and spas, and vector control.

### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Hazardous Materials Management Services (HMMS)*, comprised of eight Environmental Health Specialists responsible for:

- Designation as the local Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) by the State of California for Monterey County and is responsible for inspecting approximately 2,000 facilities in the County to verify proper storage, handling and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes. As the CUPA, HMMS staff is responsible for permitting and inspections of :
  1. Underground storage tanks
  2. Aboveground petroleum storage tanks.
  3. California Accidental Release Reporting Program Facilities (ammonia and chlorine gas storage)
  4. Pesticide exposure reporting program
  5. Complaint investigations

Additionally, HMMS staff provides 24/7 emergency response, and oversees hazardous material spill site mitigation and cleanup activities.

### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Solid Waste Management Services (SWMS)* comprised of four Environmental Health Specialists is:

- Designated as the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) by Cal Recycle of the State of California for Monterey County and is responsible for:
  1. Permitting, ensuring compliance with regulations, and inspecting facilities that handle solid waste, such as open and closed landfills, solid waste transfer stations, and compost facilities.
  2. In addition, SWMS staff oversees the Body Art program under Monterey County and State regulations.
  3. Medical Waste facility inspections under the Medical Waste Management Act.
  4. Waste Tire Enforcement under Cal Recycle of the State of California
  5. Solid Waste Vehicle, Liquid Waste Vehicle inspection programs under the Monterey County Code.
  6. Vegetable Cull Feeder programs under the Monterey County Code.
  7. SWMS is responsible for the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement program and staff responds to all illegal dumping complaints to ensure the timely clean up and proper disposal of abandoned waste.
  8. SWMS also administers State-funded grants that support program activities.

### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Recycling and Resource Recovery Services (RRRS)* comprised of one Recycling Coordinator and one Management Analyst responsible for:

- Oversight of the Residential, Business, Multi-family, and Special Events Waste Diversion program under Cal Recycle of the State of California.
- The Green Business Certification program and the Recycling Public Education program.
- RRRS also coordinates the annual Countywide Cleanup Day Event, which supports the SWMS Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement program to combat illegal dumping.
- Staff also administers the Unified Franchise Agreement (UFA), and the grants that fund program activities for solid waste disposal for the unincorporated County.

### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Drinking Water Protection Services (DWPS)* comprised of seven Environmental Health Specialists and one Technician responsible for:

- Protecting public health drinking water standards under Monterey County Code and State of California Drinking water standards for water systems with 5-199 connections and operates as the Local Primacy Agency for the State Water Board for 385 water systems with 15-199 connections.
- Permitting, inspection and enforcement of over 1,250 water systems in the

- County. DWPS provides assistance to regulated water systems to assist in compliance with regulations and to resolve water quality and quantity issues.
- Permits all water well construction, repair and destruction activities in the County.
  - Obtaining water samples from 900 water systems for water quality analysis.
  - Operates a cross-connection control program and a water reuse program.

#### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Environmental Health Review Services comprised of four Environmental Health Specialists (EHRS) responsible for:*

- Working with Resource Management staff (Planning Department) in review of land use projects and building permits to ensure adequate quantity and quality of water and proper sewage disposal under the Monterey County Code.
- Annual inspections of sewage treatment and wastewater reclamation facilities.
- Issues, permits and inspects the installation of septic systems (Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems) under the Monterey County Code and pending Local Area Management Plan (LAMP).

#### **UNIT DESCRIPTION**

*Administration and Fiscal Services comprised of one Director, one Assistant Director, one Finance Manager, one Management Analyst, two Account Technicians, and 11 Office Assistants to provide:*

- Administrative and fiscal oversight for all six Environmental Health Programs.
- Services provided include budget oversight, procurement, accounts payable, accounts receivable, billing, permits issuance, customer service, information management systems and clerical support.