

# County Name

Mailing Address

Contact Information for Director (phone # and email address)

Contact Information for Training Coordinator (phone # and email address)

## MODEL REHS TRAINING PLAN

### Introduction

Section 106615(e) of the H&SC defines the “scope of practice in environmental health” as the practice of environmental health by an REHS in the public and private sector. The duties of an REHS include organization, management, education, enforcement, consultation, and emergency response for the purpose of prevention of environmental health hazards and the promotion and protection of public health and the environment. The work of an REHS contributes to improve the quality of life and health through education, consultation, protection and enforcement (see Code of Ethics, attachment D). Typical REHS activities in local government include inspections of food facilities, public recreational swimming areas, community drinking water systems, landfills, hospitals, schools, public housing, onsite septic systems, underground storage tanks, hazardous waste generators, body art, medical waste, and other regulated facilities in order to determine compliance with federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and ordinances.

Prior to employment, all Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) Trainees shall be in possession of a current “Trainee Certification Letter” from the California Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Specialist Registration Program. Certified dairy inspectors who have been employed as a certified dairy inspector in the state of California for at least 24 months, immediately prior to applying to the REHS program will be eligible for admission into the exam without additional training or experience.

The Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Training Plan outlines the training requirements and procedures to be followed by all EHS Trainees in the Department of Environmental Health (DEH) who are preparing to take the REHS Exam required to obtain their California REHS. Those jurisdictions that cannot provide the required training elements within their jurisdictions shall initiate a program of training exchange with another jurisdiction having an approved training program.

The REHS Certification Program is currently administered by the Environmental Management Branch of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The Environmental Health Specialist Registration Act, Sections 106600-106735 of the California Health and Safety Code (H&SC), mandates the REHS Certification. The REHS Certification Program ensures that individuals who possess an REHS have met prescribed education, training, and experience requirements and have passed a comprehensive examination reflective of the demands encountered within the environmental health profession.

All trainees shall complete basic training in at least six (6) elements. Three (3) primary training elements must be selected from the following basic program services:

#### Basic Program Elements:

1. Food protection
2. Solid or liquid waste management, or both
3. Water supply
4. Housing and institutions

5. Recreational water and public pools
6. Vector control
7. Hazardous materials management, or underground tank program or both
8. Medical Waste and Bloodborne Pathogens (Body Art)

The remaining three (3) elements may include any other basic elements or any of the following elements:

**Other Elements:**

1. Land Development and Use
2. Occupational Health
3. Air Sanitation
4. Safety and Accident Prevention
5. Disaster Sanitation
6. Electromagnetic Radiation
7. Milk and Dairy Products
8. Noise Control
9. Rabies and Animal Disease Control

**Please Note:**

It is the responsibility of each REHS candidate to ensure adherence to and compliance with the REHS statute and Training Plan in every respect (California H&SC, Section 106600-106735). All required program elements as outlined herein and as outlined in their personal training program shall be completed prior to initiating a request to take the REHS examination.

Required training hours and months of experience vary depending on specific course work completed by the trainee. California H&SC, Section 106635 describes five (5) education, experience, and training options; a trainee’s placement within a designated option will be determined by CDPH and will be indicated in their certification letter. The options are summarized below:

| <b>OPTION</b> | <b>Total Experience</b> | <b>Training Hours – Primary Elements</b> | <b>Training Hours – Secondary Elements</b> | <b>Total Training Hours</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>I</b>      | 18 months               | 120 each = 360 hours total               | 80 each = 240 hours total                  | 600                         |
| <b>II</b>     | 12 months               | 90 each = 270 hours total                | 60 each = 180 hours total                  | 450                         |
| <b>III</b>    | 9 months                | 60 each = 180 hours total                | 40 each = 120 hours total                  | 300                         |
| <b>IV</b>     | 6 months                | 40 each = 120 hours total                | 27 each = 80 hours total                   | 200                         |
| <b>V</b>      | None*                   | NA                                       | NA   | NA                          |

\*No requirement for training or experience; only graduates from an approved university program are eligible for Option V

Employees designated as EHS Trainees are limited to a three-year appointment, after which they must be registered as an REHS (had to have passed the REHS exam) or be dismissed from employment as a trainee (California Health and Safety Code (H&SC), Section 106625).

*A trainee who does not pass the exam after their second attempt shall not be allowed to take the exam for at least one year from the second attempt exam date. A trainee who fails the third examination attempt shall not be eligible to take the exam a 4<sup>th</sup> time until at least two years have elapsed from the date of the third exam (H&SC, Section 106670).*

### **EHS Training Plan:**

- a. **Role and Authority of Training Coordinator:** The Training Coordinator is empowered by the Director to make decisions on the accuracy and relevancy of all REHS training.
- b. The Training Coordinator will meet with REHS Trainee candidates to develop a training plan. The candidate shall select three basic program elements and a minimum of three additional elements from either the basic or secondary elements -- as described previously in this document. If training is not available in the discipline chosen by the candidate, training in additional program elements may be approved by the Training Coordinator.
- c. As required by state statute, a training period cannot exceed a total of 3 years from the date of hire. A trainee who is or has been employed by another jurisdiction must count the time in the other jurisdiction toward their 3 years of training.
- d. Training credit may be given at the discretion of CDPH for related past work experience; substantiating documentation with signatures of the trainer (proxies are not acceptable) will be required from past employers. All fieldwork or training hours that are claimed on a training log that were completed prior to employment may require letters or signatures from previous employers who immediately supervised that fieldwork. Additionally, the field work and training hours need approval by CDPH. Please note internship hours done in conjunction with degree requirements for option V candidates are not eligible for training credit.

### **Classroom Training:**

While classroom training is not a substitute for REHS field training hours, it may count toward the required hours for a given training element. Classroom Training is classified as follows:

- a. **DEH Training:** DEH Instructor must sign training log for training attended by REHS candidate.
- b. **Training Provided Outside DEH:**
  - i. The Training Coordinator must approve in advance all classroom training provided outside DEH. Only the course instructor is authorized to sign training log for classroom training hours.
- c. **Onsite-Approved Reading:** Pre-approved reading, monitored by the Training Coordinator or a DEH Supervisor, may be counted towards a specific training element. Monitoring staff is authorized to sign training log for onsite-approved reading.
- d. Ensure your classroom training in addition to being tailored to your jurisdiction is comprehensive, detailed, and includes assessment tools to ensure trainees are prepared for field work.

### **Training Documentation**

#### **1. Daily Log –**

- a. A daily log documenting the date, program element, training activities and topics, facilities inspected (both joint and independent inspections), and trainer(s) shall be maintained.

- b. Notes shall be made in the field concerning references, additional contacts, important citations, methods, paperwork, and procedures learned.
  - c. For classroom or field training conducted outside the confines of DEH, the contact person or department, site location, and name of trainer(s) shall be documented.
  - d. The daily log shall be reviewed and signed on a weekly basis by the REHS Training Coordinator (or Supervisor). The daily log shall be submitted to the training coordinator and reviewed monthly. A copy of the daily log shall be maintained in the trainee's training file.
2. Monthly Narrative Report / Schedule –
- a. Monthly narrative reports or schedules shall be generated to:
    - i. Track the cumulative progress of the trainee;
    - ii. Document additional training needs;
    - iii. Document hours of direct one-to-one supervision by an REHS; and
    - iv. Total training hours by program element.
  - b. Monthly narrative reports can be composed of the daily log.
  - c. Monthly narrative reports will be reviewed and maintained in the trainee's training file.
3. Quarterly Log – Quarterly log forms verifying the accuracy of the daily and monthly narrative report/schedules shall be generated, reviewed, signed by the Director, and maintained in the trainee's training file.
4. Certificate of Training and Experience (attachment A) – Upon completion of all required training elements and hours, the CDPH provided "Certification of Experience and Training" form shall be prepared and forwarded to the CDPH REHS Program Administrator.
- a. This form shall certify:
    - i. Trainee's dates of full-time employment experience;
    - ii. Total hours of training in each program area;
    - iii. Hours of direct training by an REHS in each program area; and
    - iv. Statement that Trainee has followed the approved training plan.
  - b. A copy of the final "Certification of Experience and Training" form shall be maintained in the trainee's training file for a minimum of one (1) year.
5. Retention – All training documentation shall be maintained in the trainee's training file for a minimum of one (1) year after the trainee successfully completes the REHS examination.
6. The Coordinator may use the County's time accounting system to verify training logs.

Field Training Components: A minimum of 150 hours of field instruction with direct supervision by an REHS shall be completed within the first 6 months of hire, with a minimum of 20 hours per month.

### **Summary of Roles and Responsibilities**

Responsibilities for maintaining required training documentation include:

**1. Trainee shall:**

- a. Ensure daily and quarterly records are accurate and complete, reflecting time and activities.
- b. Ensure all logs and records are complete and turned in to Training Coordinator on time.

**2. REHS Training Coordinator shall:**

- a. Verify and sign the trainee's daily log on a weekly basis (if not signed by Supervisor).
  - b. Generate a monthly narrative report documenting the trainee's training and progress.
  - c. Provide the Director of Environmental Health with the narrative report on a monthly basis.
  - d. Prepare "Certification of Experience and Training" for Director to review and sign.
3. **Supervisor shall:**
- a. Review all trainee Official Inspection Reports (OIR)
  - b. Verify and sign trainee's daily log (when applicable)
  - c. Allow independent study time
4. **Director of Environmental Health shall:**
- a. Notify CDPH within thirty (30) days of hiring or terminating a trainee.
  - b. Review the trainee's records on a monthly basis.
  - c. Certify the trainee's records for accuracy on a quarterly basis.
  - d. Forward "Certification of Experience and Training" to CDPH once the training is complete. Certification shall include the program areas, length of time, dates for employment, and a statement that the trainee followed the approved training plan. Trainees will not be admitted to the REHS examination without this certification.
  - e. Maintain copies of the trainee's daily log, quarterly log, and monthly narrative report in the trainee's training file for a minimum of one (1) year after the trainee successfully completes the REHS examination.

### Training Activities

Training is accomplished under the supervision of a REHS Training Coordinator (or Supervisor) and by assignments chosen by the Director of Environmental Health, who shall designate the schedule, methods, elements, and types of training.

The trainee will assume progressive responsibility for conducting inspections and investigations.

1. The training program shall be integrated into the trainee's job assignment and **SHALL** consist of the following:
  - a. A minimum of twenty (20) hours per month of field instruction with direct (one-on-one) supervision by a REHS for the first six (6) months (no less than a total of 150 hours);
  - b. Each of the primary elements shall equal 20% of the required training hours;
  - c. Total training hours in the secondary elements (combined) shall equal 40% of the required training hours;
  - d. Independent study time with adequate supervision and guidance;
2. Training hours **MAY** also include the following:
  - a. Office training with pre-testing and post-testing
  - b. Lectures (including College lectures, in house training lectures, and continuing education opportunities)
  - c. Online training
  - d. Office time for independent study and review (see REHS study guide, attachment B and Reading Materials Reference List, attachment E)
3. All training hours shall be counted as part of the experience requirement. Training activities may consist of the following inspection and reporting techniques:
  - a. Participating in joint inspections to observe the inspection process
  - b. Conducting inspections with direct one-to-one REHS supervision
  - c. Conducting independent inspections followed by review and consultation with REHS oversight

- d. Collecting environmental samples
  - e. Operating monitoring equipment, including calibration and cleaning
  - f. Documenting conditions with properly identified photographs
  - g. Reviewing facility records for required documentation
  - h. Writing reports and formal correspondence
  - i. Conducting phone calls and personal interviews related to primary or secondary program elements
  - j. Use of “chain of custody”
  - k. Writing notices of violation, compliance orders, and citations
  - l. Making referrals to other agencies
  - m. Researching and reviewing statutes, regulations, and code sections
  - n. Conducting disease surveillance
  - o. Investigating nuisance, public, or environmental complaints
4. Previous training and experience while working for a governmental or non-profit agency may be credited towards the requirement if determined by CDPH, to be equivalent to what would be gained in a local environmental health jurisdiction.
  5. For trainees requiring more than one (1) year of experience (Option I), the additional experience shall be in one (1) or more training elements (as designated above) and may be from outside of a local environmental health program.
  6. Other training opportunities may be approved by the Director of Environmental Health, including but not limited to:
    - a. Private companies, such as: those providing food safety manager certification training; courses for certified pool or aquatic facility operator (CPO or AFO); HAZWOPPER; or food manager certification.
    - b. Public entities, such as: other local jurisdictions; California Integrated Waste Management Board; Cal EPA; Mosquito Abatement Districts; University of California Extension; Air Resources Board; or the Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

### **REHS Review Course(s)**

The REHS Review Course is not required, but may be beneficial to those taking the REHS exam. In recognition of this benefit, the Department may, at its discretion, allow educational leave/educational release time to attend the REHS review course.

### **The REHS Exam**

**Offered in March, July and November of each year in Northern and Southern California locations.**

- a. Upon completion of education (additional course work) and training (see attachment C), candidates may formally request admission into the REHS exam.
- b. Candidates must notify the Training Coordinator of their intent to take the exam at least 2 months (60 days) prior to exam date.
- c. The Coordinator will generate a letter of certification (attachment A) to accompany the “Certificate of Experience and Training”, only after all education and training hours are completed.
- d. Leave and Reimbursement:

- i. Depending upon county policy, the department may approve up to eight (8) hours of leave to take the REHS exam. Candidates are responsible for their own transportation to the exam and are not compensated for time or travel related to taking the exam.

Depending upon county policy, the department may reimburse for the cost of the exam.

### **Recommended Program For Independent Study In Preparation For REHS Exam**

22 HALF DAYS, PLUS 4 FULL DAYS: routine morning office hours must be covered on each of the half days; the selection of the 5 hours for study can be made by each REHS candidate/trainee to best suit their individual learning style. It is expected that the REHS candidate/trainee will devote considerable personal time to preparing for the exam. *(Note: consider allowing a "bank" of time to be divided at the discretion of trainee, supervisor and training coordinator.)*

- a. 8TH, 9TH, and 10TH week prior to exam (1 HALF DAY of study per week – 5 hours of study per day)
- b. 5TH, 6TH, and 7TH week prior to exam (2 HALF DAYS of study per week – 5 hours of study per day)
- c. 2ND, 3RD, and 4TH week prior to exam (3 HALF DAYS of study per week – 5 hours of study per day)
- d. Last week immediately prior to exam (4 HALF DAYS of study – 5 hours of study per day)
- e. 4 work days prior to exam (4 FULL DAYS of study – 10 hours each day)
- f. Exam day provided on County time
  - i. The REHS candidate/trainee is responsible for the exam fee and any lodging and meal expenses.
- g. For REHS exam re-takes, 10 hours of additional study time will be allowed during the two weeks leading up to the exam. The exact study schedule will be coordinated between the REHS candidate/trainee and their immediate supervisor.

### **Registration, Renewal Fees, and Stipend**

- a. The candidate is responsible for the cost of the initial REHS registration fee.
- b. Depending upon county policies, the department may reimburse the REHS for renewal fees only if the REHS is a condition of employment. The Department will pay for each subsequent bi-annual renewal fee, if the employee's position requires an REHS.
- c. Each EHS Trainee and REHS must notify DEH personnel staff and CDPH of any name change or change of address.

## Appendix 1 - EXAMINATION CONTENT OVERVIEW

The examination covers a wide range of environmental health topics. Below are the highest, mid-level, and least emphasized environmental health categories. For a detailed description of the categories and the subcategories refer to the REHS study guide (attachment B). The interrelated nature of environmental health knowledge, skills, and abilities means that many questions will relate to more than one topic. The examination contains 260 questions. For administration purposes the 260 questions are split into two booklets—each comprised of 130 questions. Below are the Environmental Health Areas of Competency listed in order of highest to least emphasis:

### ◆ Highest Emphasis on the Exam (not in any order of importance):

- Inspections and Investigations
- Food and Consumer Protection
- Drinking Water

### ◆ Medium Emphasis on the Exam (not in any order of importance):

- General Math and Science
- Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste Management
- Solid Waste/ Medical Waste Management
- Wastewater Management

### ◆ Lowest Emphasis on the Exam (not in any order of importance):

- Recreational Waters
- Air Quality
- Housing and Institutions
- Land Use
- Noise Control
- Radiation Protection
- Disaster Management
- Pest and Vector Control

## Appendix 2 - APPROVED REHS TRAINING ELEMENT CRITERIA

Below is a brief description of each program area as listed in Health and Safety, Section 106665, followed by a list of specific content areas within the program. The specific content areas should be interpreted broadly. For example, when assessing the candidate's "knowledge of water reclamation", the REHS exam may have questions relating to process, regulations, guidelines, protocol, or generally accepted practices.

### PRIMARY PROGRAM ELEMENTS

#### 1. FOOD PROTECTION

**To assure safe and wholesome food, food products, and food establishments wherever food is produced, processed, distributed, transported, or served. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP)
- b. Knowledge of acute and chronic disease causation
- c. Knowledge of the biological factors of bacteria and viruses
- d. Knowledge of chemical contaminants
- e. Knowledge of environmental health sampling, testing methods, and instruments
- f. Knowledge of epidemiology
- g. Knowledge of etiological agents, infectious agents, and resultant diseases
- h. Knowledge of interrelatedness of multiple environmental factors in disease causation
- i. Knowledge of labeling
- j. Knowledge of microbiology
- k. Knowledge of environmental factors and epidemiology



- l. Knowledge of modes of disease transmission
- m. Knowledge of toxicological modes of action
- n. Skill in applying food histories to assist in agent identification
- o. Skill in applying incubation periods to assist in agent identification
- p. Skill in applying symptomatology to assist in agent identification
- q. Skill in calculating attack rates/morbidity rates
- r. Skill in constructing an epidemic curve to determine average onset time
- s. Skill in interpreting all data to identify agent and transmission mode
- t. Skill in reviewing construction plans
- u. Skill in utilizing appropriate epidemiological methods
- v. Introduction and orientation to the California Health and Safety Code and retail food facility inspections
- w. Familiarization with notice procedures; administrative hearings and impound and condemnation procedures
- x. Familiarization with facility grading, downgrading and closure procedures and policies

## 2. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

**To assure that all solid, medical, and body art wastes are managed so as not to create environmental or aesthetic problems. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of state agencies and regulations
- b. Knowledge of acute and chronic disease causation
- c. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- d. Knowledge of hazardous materials management
- e. Knowledge of landfill operations
- f. Knowledge of medical waste issues
- g. Knowledge of waste management and minimization
- h. Knowledge of integrated solid waste management
- i. Introduction and orientation to the Local Enforcement Agency
- j. Inspection of landfills, transfer stations, and solid waste facilities
- k. Knowledge of infectious and potentially infectious materials
- l. Knowledge of bacteria and viruses and the diseases they cause
- m. Knowledge of the elements of an Exposure Control and Infection Prevention Plan
- n. Knowledge of sharps container requirements
- o. Knowledge of workplace controls to prevent cross-contamination
- p. Knowledge of decontamination and sterilization techniques
- q. Knowledge of safe handling and disposal of contaminated sharps and waste
- r. Knowledge of personal protection strategies

## 3. LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT

**To assure the proper design, operation, and maintenance of waste water treatment systems in order to prevent contamination and disease transmission. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of aerobic versus anaerobic principles
- b. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- c. Knowledge of epidemiology
- d. Knowledge of on-site wastewater treatment
- e. Knowledge of percolation principles
- f. Knowledge of reclaimed water
- g. Knowledge of soil science
- h. Knowledge of water sampling techniques

## 4. WATER SUPPLY (DRINKING WATER)

**To restore or maintain the quality of water resources by the treatment or prevention of polluted water and to assure the provision and maintenance of water supplies which are safe and adequate in quantity and quality. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- b. Knowledge of epidemiology
- c. Knowledge of field water sampling instruments and methods
- d. Knowledge of laboratory vector sampling and testing instruments and methods
- e. Knowledge of water quality standards
- f. Knowledge of water reclamation
- g. Knowledge of water supply
- h. Knowledge of well construction/destruction
- i. Knowledge of the Safe Drinking Water Act
- j. Skill in applying symptomatology to assist in agent identification
- k. Skill in interpreting all data to identify agent and transmission mode
- l. Skill in utilizing appropriate epidemiological methods
- m. Introduction and orientation to water supplies
- n. Sampling procedures
- o. Review laws and regulations regarding water supply systems

## **5. HOUSING AND INSTITUTIONS**

**To assure adequate, safe, and healthful housing for all persons whether in a home or an institutional setting. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of acute and chronic disease causation
- b. Knowledge of environmental factors and epidemiology
- c. Knowledge of agent factors, etiological agents, and resultant diseases
- d. Knowledge of housing safety
- e. Knowledge of interrelatedness of multiple environmental factors in disease causation
- f. Knowledge of lead poisoning programs
- g. Knowledge of maintenance, occupancy, and structural standards
- h. Knowledge of the biological factors of viruses
- i. Knowledge of biological factors of bacteria
- j. Knowledge of the modes of disease transmission
- k. Knowledge of toxicological modes of action
- l. Introduction to housing codes, regulations and policies
- m. Inspections of apartments and hotels/motels
- n. Investigation of complaints

## **6. BATHING PLACES (RECREATIONAL WATERS AND PUBLIC POOLS)**

**To assure that recreational and bathing facilities are designed and maintained so as to prevent health and safety problems. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of acute and chronic disease causation
- b. Knowledge of construction criteria
- c. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- d. Knowledge of sanitation issues for recreation areas and bathing facilities (especially spas and swimming pools)
- e. Knowledge of environmental factors and epidemiology
- f. Knowledge of modes of disease transmission
- g. Knowledge of toxicological mode of action
- h. Knowledge of water sampling techniques
- i. Inspection of public swimming pools, explanation of filters, chemical sanitizers, skimmers, flow meters, etc.
- j. Demonstration of pool test kit (Cl and pH)
- k. Knowledge of disinfection and water chemistry

## 7. VECTOR CONTROL

**To control pests and vectors which adversely affect human health and safety and the management of the public's exposure to pests and vectors. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of acute and chronic disease causation
- b. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- c. Knowledge of environmental factors and epidemiology
- d. Knowledge of etiological agents and resultant diseases
- e. Knowledge of general pesticide information
- f. Knowledge of the modes of disease transmission
- g. Knowledge of toxicological modes of action
- h. Knowledge of vector and reservoir sampling instruments and methods
- i. Knowledge of applying incubation periods to assist in agent identification
- j. Knowledge of applying symptomatology to assist in agent identification and calculating attack rates/morbidity rates
- k. Knowledge of time-identifying vectors
- l. Skill in identifying pests
- m. Skill in interpreting all data to identify agent and transmission mode
- n. Skill in utilizing appropriate epidemiological methods
- o. Introduction to Vector Control Program, including identification and control of mosquitoes, fleas, flies, etc.
- p. Introduction to rodent control

## 8. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

**To assure protection of employees and the public by proper handling, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous waste. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of environmental health sampling, testing methods, and instruments
- b. Knowledge of chemical factors
- c. Knowledge of first response procedures
- d. Knowledge of groundwater hydrogeology (flows, impedance)
- e. Knowledge of hazardous materials storage principles
- f. Knowledge of hazardous waste management and minimization
- g. Knowledge of inorganic chemicals (alkali, earth, and transitional metals)
- h. Knowledge of organic chemicals (straight chain hydrocarbons, alicyclic hydrocarbons)
- i. Knowledge of other inorganic chemicals (nitrates, asbestos, fibrous glass, selenium)
- j. Knowledge of site remediation and clean-up
- k. Skill in applying symptomatology to assist in agent identification
- l. Skill in interpreting all data to identify agent and transmission mode
- m. Skill in utilizing appropriate epidemiological methods
- n. Regulatory Overview
- o. Medical Waste
- p. Underground Storage Tanks
- q. Hazardous Materials Business Plans
- r. Enforcement
- s. Automotive Repair

## 9. UNDERGROUND TANK PROGRAM (UST)

**To assure the prevention of contamination from and improper storage of, hazardous substances stored underground. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of general provisions of the UST Laws and Regulations
- b. Knowledge of the components and layout of a typical UST system
- c. Knowledge of new versus existing tank design, construction and monitoring requirements

- d. Knowledge of the principles of tank, sump and line testing, and the process for reporting test results
- e. Knowledge of UST repair and upgrade requirements
- f. Knowledge of release recording and reporting requirements
- g. Skill in assisting owners and/or operators with the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS)
- h. Skill in noting compliance and violations during a basic UST inspection and ensuring completion and documentation of appropriate inspection follow-up.
- i. Familiarization with UST enforcement action

## SECONDARY PROGRAM ELEMENTS

### 1. AIR SANITATION

**To assure a community of an indoor and outdoor air resource conducive to positive human health that does not injure our environment and is aesthetically desirable. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of dangerous gases (carbon monoxide, sulfur oxide, nitrogen oxide, oxidants)
- b. Knowledge of environmental health sampling and testing methods and instruments
- c. Knowledge of etiological agents, infectious agents, and resultant diseases
- d. Knowledge of indoor air pollutants (radon and asbestos)
- e. Knowledge of the modes of disease transmission
- f. Knowledge of toxicological modes of action
- g. No training available

### 2. SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION

**To assure the protection of workers from health and safety hazards on the job. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of emergency and disaster conditions (natural/man-made)
- b. Knowledge of emergency and disaster response (incident command systems, risk assessment, damage assessment, coordination of staff/resources, disaster service worker, responder safety, evacuation planning, mass care and shelter)
- c. Knowledge of disease prevention and control measures
- d. Knowledge of radiation protection

### 3. LAND DEVELOPMENT AND USE

**To assure that land resources are planned and developed in such a manner that will mitigate or prevent health and safety problems for this and future generations. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of environmental health principles such as water, liquid waste, noise, percolation, vectors, electromagnetic fields
- b. Knowledge of land use laws (CEQA, variances, use permits)
- c. Knowledge of soil science issues
- d. Knowledge of hydrogeology
- e. Introduction and orientation to Land Use Program
- f. Explain percolation tests, disposal system layouts, lot splits, parcel maps, subdivisions
- g. Inspect septic tanks, leach lines, and seepage pits
- h. Review of land use laws, regulations and policies
- i. Miscellaneous inspections of fly complaints, camps and picnic grounds
- j. Introduction to septic tank and chemical toilet pumping
- k. Introduction to land use development process

### 4. DISASTER SANITATION

**To assure the planning for and response to disasters. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of control and disease prevention measures
- b. Knowledge of disaster response methods
- c. Knowledge of emergency/disaster conditions and sanitation issues (earthquakes, floods, riots)

## **5. ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION**

**To protect the public from the harmful effects of radiation. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of ionizing radiation (harmful)
- b. Knowledge of the principles of radiation protection

## **6. MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS**

**To ensure that California's milk, milk products, eggs, egg products, and products resembling milk products are safe and wholesome. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of Grade A and B standards
- b. Knowledge of pasteurization process, public health concerns regarding raw milk, pasteurization process, and microbes associated with milk and eggs
- c. Knowledge of holding temperatures (pasteurized milk and raw shell eggs)
- d. Knowledge of raw milk and raw milk product handling
- e. Requirements regarding bulk milk dispensing tubes
- f. Knowledge of prohibited ready to eat foods

## **7. NOISE CONTROL**

**To prevent or protect the public from hazardous or annoying noise levels in residential, business, industrial, or recreational areas and structures. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of general noise principles
- b. Knowledge of sound wave dynamics
- c. Knowledge of physiological damage to humans from noise

## **8. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

**To assure the positive health and safety of the public and workers in places of employment by controlling hazardous environmental factors. Major knowledge, skill, and ability areas include:**

- a. Knowledge of accident prevention programs
- b. Knowledge of control and prevention
- c. Knowledge of epidemiology
- d. Knowledge of industrial hygiene
- e. Knowledge of occupational health factors

## **9. RABIES AND ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL**

- a. Knowledge of federal, state and local laws regarding the control of animal vectors that transmit and/or maintain a reservoir of disease agents.
- b. Knowledge of field sampling procedures for detection and monitoring of vector-borne disease.
- c. Skill in field identification of vertebrates and invertebrates of public health significance.
- d. Knowledge of maintenance and transmission cycles of the etiological agents.
- e. Knowledge of the incubation period, initial signs, and common symptoms related to various vector-borne diseases.
- f. Knowledge of biology, behavior and habitats of the vertebrates and invertebrates that contribute to vector-borne disease.
- g. Knowledge of disease prevention measures through effective vector control.
- h. Skill in properly handling and transporting samples.

- i. Knowledge of lawful pesticide use related to the control of vectors with public health significance.

### **Appendix 3 – ATTACHMENTS**

- A Certificate of Training and Experience/Letter of Certification
- B REHS study guide (coming soon)
- C Completion of Requirements to Take the REHS Exam
- D California REHS Code of Ethics
- E Reading Materials Reference List