



**REHS Program Update
June 2011**

Welcome Veronica Malloy

Veronica is our new Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) Program Administrator. Veronica graduated from the University of California, Davis with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Planning and Management. She then worked for Monterey County for 5 years where she became a REHS. In 2001 she joined the California Department of Health Services which is now the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in the Drinking Water Program where she worked in the Local Primacy Agency Program and became the lead and then the supervisor for the Environmental Review Unit. We look forward to utilizing Veronica's leadership skills in enriching the REHS Program. Please join us in welcoming her to our program.

Continuing Education

Twenty-four contact hours of continuing education are now required of all REHSs when renewing. You must complete the REHS continuing education verification form and submit that along with your renewal form and fee. Please note that the regulations require that you keep copies of the training certificates for courses that you have completed for a minimum of five years. Approved courses must be accredited by an Accreditation Agency (AA) approved by CDPH. A list of approved AAs is maintained on the REHS Program website at:

www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/occupations/Pages/REHS.aspx. Prior to enrolling in any course or workshop, check that the course provider is accredited by an AA in order to be able to receive approved REHS contact hours.

What if I don't complete 24 hours of REHS continuing education?

If you do not submit documentation of your 24 approved contact hours and pay your renewal fee by January 1, 2012, your registration will be suspended and invalid. A penalty of \$88 will be charged if the renewal fee is not postmarked on or before January 31, 2012. The penalty will continue to accrue for each year or portion thereof that the renewal fee is not paid. If you have not paid the fees and associated penalties within three years, your registration will be revoked. A registration that has been revoked may not be revalidated, and a new application must be filed for registration. You also will need to meet all current requirements and pass the REHS examination. If your position required that you be a REHS, you will no longer be able to work in that position until you are registered again.

Are retired or inactive REHSs required to meet the continuing education requirements?

No. However, if retired REHSs return to active status, they must meet the continuing education requirements by completing 24 contact hours of continuing education and paying the biennial renewal fees for the past cycle.

Additional information on the continuing education requirement can be found on the REHS Program website: www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/occupations/Pages/REHS.aspx

REHS Statistics as of June 2011

Active and current REHSs	3047
Retired or Inactive REHSs	650
Suspended REHSs *1	336
New REHSs in 2010 *2	98
Certifiable applicants *3	2144

- *1 Currently suspended for failure to pay registration fees
- *2 Included with active REHS
- *3 Applicants who meet the minimum educational requirements and are qualified to work as an environmental health specialist trainee

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