



**HUMBOLDT WASTE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Staff Report

DATE: October 9, 2014

For Meeting Of: October 9, 2014

FROM: Jill K. Duffy, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive Executive Director's Report as Information, Comment as Appropriate.

ITEMS:

**Cummings Road Landfill –
Burn Ash Clean Up**

The project completion date under the Clean Up and Abatement Order was October 1, 2014. Despite material removal of greater cubic yardage than anticipated, the contractor remained on schedule, completed excavation of debris material, and began erosion control and road regrading activities – until the rainfall event of September 24th. Approximately 2.7 inches of rain resulted temporary suspension of work until the site dried enough to move equipment back in. We requested, and were granted a two week extension to October 15th by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

On Weds. October 8th, Cummings Road sub-grading activities were complete, erosion control activities are being finalized, Kernan Construction delivered rock for final grading, disposal areas covered, landfill staff are replacing leachate and gas collection lines, and equipment is being packed up for removal. Jesse Solario conducted the inspection and punch list for the contractor comprised of minor matters which were immediately remedied. Gina Morrison, NCRWQCB arrived mid-afternoon to inspect the site and noted two areas of concern which were also immediately resolved.

Steelhead Construction has initiated demobilization efforts, and equipment will depart the site on Friday, Oct. 10th. RCAA will complete erosion control installation by Weds. Oct. 15th.

A final project report is due for submittal to the NCRWQCB within 60 days of project completion.

Hawthorne Street Operations

- In accordance with the City of Eureka's new ordinance, HWMA's Recycling Center is preparing to track abandoned shopping carts - HWMA recycling center staff will contact the cart's owner/store, and if they fail to pick up their carts within 3 days, HWMA will then contact Eureka Police Department. HWMA currently recovers approximately 20 abandoned shopping carts per week.
- Tip Floor staff has been successful in recovering about two tons per month of used carpet padding (rebond urethane foam) out of the disposed material at Hawthorne Street – this material is being baled and sent south to carpet recyclers for recycling. This is part of the Carpet America Recovery Effort (“CARE”) program that HWMA has participated in for the past 3 years.

Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste

Sept 6 Red Shed -140 participants for Saturday's collection event. A total of **114** participants dropping off wastes on appointment basis during the week.

At the **September 13th** Petrolia HHW collection event, there were **35** participants.

For the October 4 Red Shed, **84** participants dropped off wastes.

And a reminder that there will be a HHW Collection event in Bridgeville this coming Saturday, **Oct 8** at the Bridgeville School.

Tire Collection/Amnesty

Admin office has handed out **165 tire coupons** since Aug 18th
52 of the “Office” coupons have been redeemed as of Sept 30th
5 other coupons from Eureka, Arcata, Rio Dell and Ferndale
5 tons of grant tires (about 500 tires) received at the transfer station
About 55-60% of those were de-rimmed by the tipping floor crew

The Eureka Free Amnesty day was held **August 16th**
190 cars brought 2,300 tires to that event at Halvorsen Park

Next Free Amnesty Day is planned for Ferndale fairgrounds
Saturday **November 8th, 9AM-2PM**

Details still being confirmed for this event. For more information, please visit HWMA's website at www.hwma.net

Pharmaceutical Collection Event

Medications Round-UP Saturday, September 27, 2014

Attendees: **30** vehicles/residents (20 Eureka, 10 other ZIPS)

Collected **150** pounds of medications, **10** lbs of medical sharps, **2** lbs narcotics

This event marked HWMA's fifth year, and 10th pharmaceutical collection event. Previous events typically had 160-200 attendees, collecting about 500 pounds of medications, 300-400 lbs of medical sharps, and 16-20 pounds of narcotic medications.

Attendance dipped by more than 80% for this event. Principal reason identified by staff was the availability of disposal of residential generated medications at the HHW Building “Red Shed”, both during the week and at the first Saturday events. A vast majority of the residents disposing medications at the Red Shed during the week are drive-up, and do not have a scheduled appointment. In addition, we noted our acceptance of residential pharmaceuticals and sharps at the summer mobile collection events.

The federal government has just enabled a DEA regulation (Sept 4, 2014) that allows pharmacies and convalescent care centers to collect narcotic medications at discretion. As a result, the federal DEA will no longer sponsor or be conducting their semi-annual National Take-it-Back Medications Round-ups. The DEA encourages pharmacies and law enforcement agencies in local communities to become narcotics drop off points.

HHW will continue to accept non-narcotic medications from residents, and will work on alternative ways to facilitate collection and disposal of medications and sharps. Staff will continue to monitor legislative efforts lending themselves to extended producer responsibility for medical sharps and pharmaceuticals.

Other Programs Activities

Climate Showcase Communities Grant – The final report for HWMA’s “Food Waste Collection Pilot Project” was submitted to the EPA on September 29, 2014. The report summarized activities and general findings that occurred over the grant program period for between April 2011 through June 30, 2014.

Legislation

Governor Brown signed two bills that the Authority and several of our member agencies have been tracking, including SB 270 – Single Use Plastic Bag Ban (Padilla); and 2) AB 1826 (Chesbro).

AB 1826 will mandate recycling of yard trimming and food scraps, and require commercial generators to subscribe to composting or anaerobic digestion service for organic waste. Businesses that generate certain levels of waste have to make arrangements to address organics by the deadlines listed below. The waste type and waste quantity triggers vary by deadline.

Date	Volume Generation
April 1, 2016	Over 8 cubic yards of organic waste per week
January 1, 2017	Over 4 cubic yards of organic waste per week
January 1, 2019	Over 4 cubic yards of solid waste per week. (This pressure point will apply to a number of businesses in Humboldt County.)
January 1, 2020	Over 2 cubic yards of solid waste per week. (Only goes to this level if California isn’t already at 50% diversion of the 2014 disposal rate.)

Authority staff has begun an analysis of the legislation, and this will be incorporated as the Authority moves forward with planning efforts to examine potential development of a regional organics processing facility (Strategic Plan Objective 1.7).