



# SANITARIANS' NEWS

## SANITARIAN TRAINING AUG 1 - NOV 18, 2016

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Liaison Committee - 2*
- Food News - 6*
- Legislative Update- 2,4*
- NEHA Review Course - 2*
- What have you been up to?- 3*
- IEHS - 3*
- EH Mobile Apps - 3*
- Training Opportunities - 5*
- Paying Tribute To Those We Lost - 5*
- Capital Crud - 5,6*
- Public Health Impact Taskforce - 5*
- Sewage News—7*
- WVAS Information—3, 7*

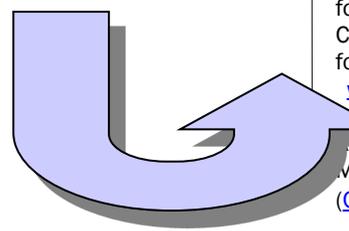
Any photos, stories, or any good news? Share in the August, 2016 issue of the:

#### Sanitarians' News Letter

Please contact:

Judy Vallandingham  
([Judy.E.Vallandingham@wv.gov](mailto:Judy.E.Vallandingham@wv.gov)).

## GET INVOLVED WITH WVAS!



## WVAS MID-YEAR SANITARIANS EDUCATION CONFERENCE MAY 24-26, 2016

WVAS is proud to be sponsoring the Mid-Year Training Conference this year at the Cedar Lakes Conference Center. 2016 Mid-Year Training Conference will again kick off with Environmental updates on Tuesday afternoon followed by the WVAS business meeting and annual picnic. In advance we want to thank Kroger Company and TJ Whitten for sponsoring the picnic. And a big thank you to Bill "Flay" and Jeff "Fieiri" for cooking our dinner.

Wednesday : CPO Certification Course and the alternate session topics include: Soil & Septic Systems, Web Soil Survey, and Introduction to Backflow Prevention, Wednesday evening will be the networking session.

Thursday ; CPO Certification course & exam and in the alternate session the topics include: USDA Rural Development Rural Repair & Rehabilitation Loans & Grant Program, WVHDF On-site Loan Program, and Produce Safety.



- Week One**  
August 1-5, Charleston  
Public Health 101, Epidemiology, Microbiology, OLS Lab Tour
- Week Two**  
August 15-19, Morgantown  
Recreational Water Facilities, Rodent Control, Cross Connections, CIAR
- Week Three—**  
August 29- September 2, Cedar Lakes  
On-Site Sewage
- Week Four**  
September 12-16, Morgantown  
On-Site Sewage, Home Loan/Complaints, EHERS training, IMW, WVU School of Public Health
- Week Five**  
September 26 - 30, Charleston  
Manufactured Home Communities Environmental Engineering, Water Well Drillers, Private Water Wells, Public Water (Water Plant tour), Waterborne Diseases, Rabies Program
- Week Six**  
October 17-21, Morgantown  
Insect Control, General Sanitation, Daily/Monthly Reports, Child Care Program, EHERS Training, Food Program
- Week Seven**  
October 31—November 4, Charleston  
Food Program
- Week Eight**  
November 16-20, Morgantown  
Tattoo & Body Piercing, EHERS Food Training, Milk Program. RTIA Programs (Asbestos, Radiation, Meth Labs, Lead ) Occupational Safety, Threat Preparedness, Bottled Water, Review for Comprehensive Final.

[www.wvdhhr.org/phs/training/](http://www.wvdhhr.org/phs/training/)

**Nominate!**  
Know anyone that deserves recognition for their contributions to environmental health? Nominate them by August 2016 for the Steve Bayer, Recognition, Citizen, or Bubba Award. Info is found at <http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/awards.asp> or contact Awards Committee Chair, Chad Meador ([Chad.E.Meador@wv.gov](mailto:Chad.E.Meador@wv.gov)),

**Run!**  
If you would like to run for WVAS Vice-President or 2-Year Board Member, please contact Nomination Committee Chair, Bill Nestor ([Bill.E.Nestor@wv.gov](mailto:Bill.E.Nestor@wv.gov)). Ballots must be mailed to members at least 30 days before the annual meeting.

Election results and awards will be announced at the WVAS business meeting that will be held September 22, 2016, at Canaan Valley Resort, Davis, WV as part of the WVPHA Annual Conference.

## News Liaison

### Algae Bloom

Brad informed the committee that there is a group that has been looking at how to address the algae bloom issues in West Virginia. WV group will be using the Ohio EPA model for guidance, staff will need to be trained to recognize the harmful algae bloom and Environmental Chemistry lab will be testing for the type of algae and then for the toxin. Greg added that the oxidation process at a water treatment plant will cause the toxin from the algae to be released. He also commented on the quick colorimetric test- that the indicator of a negative result will be a dark color and the indicator of a positive result will be a light color.

### Growlers

Brad reported that in the legislation that was passed in 2015 that the ABCA was to consult with WVDHHR on the cleaning and sanitizing requirements for the growlers, in the proposed legislation. PHS has contacted the ABCA, but the ABCA did not consult with PHS for input on the Rule. (i.e. 176CSR1 Non-intoxicating Beer Licensing and Operations Procedures. Sections 5.4.e.6&7 relate to the cleaning & sanitizing of the growlers and section 8 relates to the cleaning of the beer pipelines and equipment.)

Brad indicated that PHS will be working on a Procedure related to this for consistency regarding the requirements in the establishment and role of the LHD in this process. PHS will be requesting input from the craft beer industry and LHD's. He indicated that PHS is also researching rules in other state i.e. North Carolina. He also stated the attorney for BPH has been in contact with the attorney for ABCA and requested information on industry participants for this process. **(continued on pg.4)**

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This year's WV Legislature was faced with an unprecedented budget shortfall of nearly \$350 million by the end of June, FY 2016, with projections of deficits exceeding \$790 million by the June 2017 fiscal year-end. The plummeting of the coal severance, the elimination of the sales tax on food, phasing out the business franchise tax, reducing the corporate net tax and the expansion of gambling in neighboring states are all reason cited for the massive shortfall. In addition, a sharp drop in global energy prices dragged down income tax collection, as energy-sector employment and royalties have declined.

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's proposed budget contained a package of tax hikes, revenue reallocations and other measures to close the gaps for FY 2017. The governor's budget called for a tobacco tax increase of 45 cents to raise \$78 million in new revenue. The Senate budget proposal balanced the state's \$4.2 million general revenue budget with increases in the state's tobacco tax and revenue from raising the state sales tax, gasoline taxes and fees for the Division of Motor vehicles. The House budget proposal would sweep \$72

million out of various state agency accounts and take \$32 million out of the state's Rainy Day reserve funds to close the budget gap, a move that Tomblin said he will veto.

A total of eight bills were introduced that would increase the excise tax on tobacco products. SB 420 (SI HB4494 & SB607) passed the full Senate, on a 26-6 vote before it was killed in the House Finance Committee. The bill would have increased the tax on a pack of cigarettes by \$1.00, an increase from 7% to 12% on other tobacco products and a 7.5 cents per /mil of e-cigarettes and generate an estimated 140 million in new revenue. One million dollars of the revenue was allocated for Tobacco Education Program, providing tobacco cessation programs, and the remaining balance for Public Employees Insurance Agency.

The proposed budget submitted to the Legislature contained a line-item cut of \$4 million for aid to local health departments. The current aid for health departments is \$16.6 million but that would be reduced to \$12.6. Representatives of local health departments from around the state gathered in Charleston

to talk about the impact the cuts mean to their agencies. HB 4659 was introduced by the governor and touted by the state health officer as a solution to the cuts. The bill authorizes local health departments to bill health insurance plans. A committee substitute version of the original bill passed into law.

Two new bills were introduced relating to the regionalization of local health departments and modification of administration. After debates and discussions, SB372 & SB506, remained in committees. HB 4471 would allow for the Commissioner to intervene in the operation of the local board of health to cause improvements to be made that will ensure the consistent performance of duties relating to basic public health services, other health services, and the enforcement of the laws and rules of this state pertaining to public health. The expenses incurred would be charged against the counties or municipalities concerned. The bill did not make it out of committee.

**Continued on Pg. 4**

## NEHA REVIEW COURSE

A review class for the NEHA RS exam will be held at OEHS Training Room 1 Davis Square in Charleston, WV April 27-28, 2016. Sanitarians from LHDs across the state have signed up to attend the review course. The class was designed to cover the sections of the RS exam that sanitarians are tested on, but do not have to deal with on a daily basis.

These sections included Occupational Health and Safety, Solid Waste, Radioactive Waste, Air Pollution, Hazardous Waste, and Housing, Institutions and Recreation. A review on Microbiology and Epidemiology was included as well (we all love those little critters and statistics, don't we!). Subject matter experts who gave presentations included Nathan

Douglas (Safety Officer, Marshall University), Steve Blankenship (Bureau of Public Health), Jason Frame (BPH, RTIA), Christi Clark (BPH, OLS) and Judy Val-landingham (BPH, OEHS).



# WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO ?

## Keeping your stomach safe



The Herald Dispatch : February 2016: [http://www.herald-dispatch.com/zapp/keeping-your-stomach-safe/article\\_7653fe32-d84a-11e5-ae2-0f15c9f798ad.html](http://www.herald-dispatch.com/zapp/keeping-your-stomach-safe/article_7653fe32-d84a-11e5-ae2-0f15c9f798ad.html)

## Central Region—Retail Food Seminar:



Presentation by Jessica Douglas.

## WVU Job Fair—Fall 2015

Rick Hertges promoting Public Health Careers



WVDHHR/OEHS and WVDA staff at the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards Conference:



## Celebrating Halloween at the McDowell County Health Department



## ?? Sampling the water from the LPP at Cedar Lakes



## WVAS Scholarships and WVAS Membership to Sanitarian Trainees

### WVAS Mid Year Scholarships

WVAS is pleased to announce the opportunity for two (2) members to be awarded scholarships to attend this year's WVAS Mid-Year Training Conference. Each scholarship will cover two (2) nights lodging and the conference registration fee. The two (2) recipients of the scholarships were selected by a random drawing from the applications that are received.

### Recipients of the Scholarships for 2016 Mid-Year Conference are:

**Amy Edwards—Berkley County Health Department**

&

**Jeff Kiger—Grafton-Taylor Health Department**

### WVAS Memberships to Sanitarian Trainees

Again this year, WVAS will also be offering a one (1) year paid WVAS membership to all the new sanitarian trainees. This membership will be for a full year membership for the next calendar year. WVAS Executive Council hopes that this will encourage newly hired sanitarians to take an active role in WVAS.

## 70TH ANNUAL INTERSTATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR

### 2016 Interstate Environmental Health Seminar

The Interstate Environmental Health Seminar was held April 12-14th, in conjunction with Alabama Environmental Health Association Annual Education Conference, at Lake Guntersville State Park, Guntersville, AL. Topics presented by representatives from WVAS were "WV RRT—

Small Staff—Large Challenge, "How We Make It Work" and "CHALLENGING FOOD DESSERTS: A Program to Promote Healthy Choices in Convenience Stores "

The evening activity was a Tailgate Party with games and prizes. WVAS would like to thank AEHA for a great conference.

In 2017, Tennessee will host

for IEHS conference which will be held in conjunction with their state's annual environmental health conference: October 4-6th at Edgewater at the Aquarium, Gatlinburg, TN.

WVAS will host IEHS in 2018. Information will be posted for the 2017 IEHS soon on the the IEHS website at <http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/IEHS/index.asp>

## MOBILE APPS AND MOBILE FRIENDLY WEB SITES FOR THE TECHIE IN ALL OF US (OR SOME OF US)

### New CDC Website - Mobile Apps—CDC Mobile Application (Main Agency App)

<http://www.cdc.gov/mobile/applications/cdcgeneral/promos/cdcmobileapp.html>

**Healthy Swimming** - Find at the App Store

**Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)**<http://www.cdc.gov/mobile/applications/MobileFramework/mmwrpromo.html>

**FDA** launched a mobile friendly version of the Food Code August 2015, just google on you smart phone, choose mobile friendly version and start using.

**NSPF Math App and Chemical Dosing App**—[http://www.nspf.org/en/products/iphone\\_apps.aspx](http://www.nspf.org/en/products/iphone_apps.aspx)

### WEB SOIL SURVEY

A Smartphone App Provides New Way to Access Soil Survey Information:

NRCS Soil Scientist Dr. Dylan Beaudette developed the SoilWeb application for mobile devices while he was a graduate student at UC Davis. The app provides soil survey information in a mobile form and is particularly useful for those working in the field.

A new smartphone application, or "app," is available as a free download for both iPhone and Android users to access soil survey information. The app, SoilWeb, combines online soil survey information with the GPS capabilities of smartphones.

## News Liaison Committee (continued)

### Source Water Protection Plans

Brad mentioned about some sanitarians attending meetings regarding Senate Bill 373 and Senate Bill 423 on the subject of the source water protection plans and the health departments' roles. The local health departments' roles are to be part of the protection team but are not required to attend the meetings if they choose to. The local health departments should know their local roles and their utilities that are in their district and the facilities that may influence these systems. JD Douglas said that these systems should be in contact with you to participate in the planning, but also there is specific language that states the confidentiality of these plans and possible jail time if leaked.

### WVDEP UIC Permitting

PHS and WVDEP cooperative efforts to resolve the LHD concerns are ongoing. There are 2 issues that are being addressed: 1. Submitting of unnecessary applications to WVDEP – establishing a clearer designation of when an on-site sewage system would need a UIC permit. Right now it is everything but a single family dwelling. 2. Premature issuance of on-site sewage permits that may require a UIC permit. Like for RV campgrounds /beauty shops – some items in the memo have been modified or retracted.

Minutes from the Liaison Meetings can be found at : <http://www.wvdhhr.org/phs/liaison/index.asp>

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CONTINUED

A flurry of preemption bills were introduced targeted at removing or impeding the authority of WV Local Boards of Health to pass public health regulations without political interference. SB 284 made it to the agenda of the Senate Health and Human Resource committee but was ultimately pulled. HB4472 would establish a procedure by which a local governing body may review and vote upon the adoption, amendment or revocation of existing local board of health rules and to require that a governing body officially adopt all proposed local board of health rules by a majority vote before any new rule may be enforced. Because the bill was single referenced to House Government Organization Committee and passage would send it straight to the full house for a vote, the American Heart Association filed papers calling for a public hearing. Numerous public health organizations and individuals spoke against the bill at the public hearing, including the Association of County Commission. No one spoke in favor of the bill. By a 12-10 vote, the House Government voted down the gambling industry legislation. SB284 & HB4472 were replaced with Originating Bills 1 & 2 and placed on both committees agendas. An originating bill does not go through the normal committee process and are not assigned a name until approval of the committee. After outcry from public health advocates from across the state, both bills were pulled. SB666, was introduced by Senator Trump and would exempt certain veterans' organizations and video lottery licenses from local clean indoor air regulation. The bill lacked support to make it to the agenda.

A number of bills were introduced that threatened or weakened local standing pub-

lic health laws in WV. HB 2859, a 2015 Carryover, would exempt charitable food services and direct retail home and farm producers from the food establishment regulations requiring inspections of facilities or licensing of food preparation. SB 434 would allow home-based micro-processed foods sold at farmers markets. SB 434 made the agenda but the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee adjourned before addressing the bill. SB 387, Shared animal ownership agreements to consume raw milk passed the full legislature and was signed into law by the Governor on March 3rd, 2016. The bill allows people to strike agreements to share milk-producing animals and drink raw milk. It would maintain a ban on selling or distributing raw milk. People would have to sign a document acknowledging the health risks. Animals would need to have passed health tests within the last year. Just a year earlier, the same bill was vetoed by Governor Tomblin citing concerns of "serious risk to public health, since raw milk can contain particularly dangerous bacteria for children, pregnant women and people with compromised immune systems". SB387 becomes effective in late May.

During the last hours of the regular session, both chambers agreed to a version of Senate Bill 298 known as the "Brunch" bill. The bill allow restaurants, wineries, breweries and distilleries to serve alcohol beginning at 10 a.m. was pushed to help the state's tourism industry. Under provisions of the bill, alcohol could be served on-premises only. The Senate agreed to go along with a provision added by the House of Delegates requiring a county referendum before Sunday morning alcohol sales would be allowed. The Infectious

Medical Waste Rule (64CR56), the Farmers Market Vendor Rule (64CSR102) and Fees for Service (64CSR51) passed as part of the DHHR Rules Bundle. The Farmers Market Vendor Rule was amended which changes the expiration date of the permit from June 30 to December 31.

The second session of the 82nd WV Legislature came to a close on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016, with 276 new bills passed into law. For the first time in 7 years, the WV Legislature ended its regular session without a passing a budget. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin said, he will have to call the Legislature back in special session to resolve the budget impasse. Tomblin said he has no authority to continue operations of state government beyond June 30 if no state budget is passed by then.

## Public Health Impact Task Force (PHIT)

Information on the PHIT can be found on the Center for Local Health Web page

### Meeting Agendas & Presentation

<http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/localhealth/Public%20Health%20Impact%20Task%20Force/Pages/default.aspx>

### PHIT Draft Final Report - December 2015

<http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/localhealth/Public%20Health%20Impact%20Task%20Force/Documents/Report/WV%20PHIT%20Final%20Report%2012%2018%202015%20DRAFT.pdf>

### Notes from the Sewage Advisory Board

Please email any agenda topics or any comments and suggestions re: Rules and Design Standard changes to Rick at [Rick.A.Hertges@wv.gov](mailto:Rick.A.Hertges@wv.gov).

The next meeting for the Sewage Advisory Board is tentatively scheduled for June 2, 2016 at WVDEP Office in Kanawha City, WV

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOSE WE LOST

### The Year's Top Ten Food Safety Stories

By [Dan Flynn](#) | December 30, 2015

Here are the Top Ten food safety stories for 2015 as compiled by Food Safety News.



**No. 1—The massacre on Dec. 2, 2015 of 14 people in San Bernardino County, CA mostly involved those responsible for local food safety and related county health inspections and the homicides were carried out by Islamic extremists, including a county restaur-**

**rant inspector.**

Another 22 were injured in the unprovoked and cowardly attack on a staff meeting and holiday luncheon being held at the Inland Regional Center. The unarmed public servants who were cut down by the killers included: Shannon Johnson, 45, Los Angeles; Bennetta Bet-Badal, 46, Rialto; Aurora Godoy, 26, San Jacinto; Isaac Amanios, 60, Fontana; Larry Kaufman, 42, Rialto; Harry Bowman, 46, Upland; Yvette Velasco, 27, Fontana; Sierra Clayborn, 27, Moreno Valley; Robert Adams, 40, Yucaipa; Nicholas Thalasinios, 52, Colton; Tin Nguyen, 31, Santa Ana; Juan Espinoza, 50, Highland; Damian Meins, 58, Riverside and Michael Wetzel, 37, Lake Arrowhead.

Most of those killed and injured were environmental health specialists for San Bernardino County. Others held department administrative and management jobs. One exception was Larry Kaufman who ran the coffee shop at the Inland Regional Center. Syed Rishwan Farook, a county environmental health specialist with five years on the job, and his Pakistani wife Tashfeen Malik, who he picked up in Saudi Arabia, were both killed in a shootout with police. A third suspect, Enrique Marquez was arrested Dec. 17. An Islamic convert, he purchased guns for the jihadists and helped them build bombs.

## CAPITOL CRUD OR UNPASTEURIZED PATHOGENS, A GUT-WRENCHING TALE - FOOD SAFETY NEWS

By Coral Beach | March 13, 2016

What's more ironic than a raw milk fan sharing unpasteurized milk with fellow legislators in celebration of a new herd-share law and having the toasts coincidentally followed by an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness? One of the reporters who broke the story is named Gutman. And I thought Coral Beach was a great byline. The gut-wrenching news reported March 8 by David Gutman and Eric Eyre of the Charleston Gazette-Mail newspaper triggered a spurt of reports across

the country by drive-time disc jockeys, TV newscasters and all ilk of milk reporters. Who could resist, especially after reading what Republican Delegate Scott Cadle told the Charleston newspaper about the raw milk he shared from his secret source.

"It's just bad timing," the Gazette-Mail's Gutman and Eyre reported the one-term legislator said.

"It ain't because of the raw milk. With that many people around and that close quarters and in that air and environment, I just call if a big

germ. All that Capitol is, is a big germ. ...A lot of people get sick every year we go down there. They call it the Capitol crud."

Public health officials in West Virginia's capital city of Charleston are investigating the Capitol outbreak.

Seems like that shouldn't require too much sleuthing. There's a relatively short list of people who drank the milk Cadle offered in his celebratory frenzy.

**Continued on Pg. 6**

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### May

May 24-26, 2016

WVAS Mid-Year Conference  
Cedar Lakes Conference Center  
Ripley, WV

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/Events/index.asp>

### June

June 8, 2016

Planning for Remediation and Restoration after an Intentional Contamination Event - Sutton, WV

### July

July 27-28, 2016

ER 310 Food Safety Issues in the Event of Disasters: Practical Application - Morgantown, WV

### September

September 21-23, 2015

92nd Annual WV Public Health Conference—Canaan Valley, WV  
<http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas/events/index.asp>

## Continued

### Capitol crud or unpasteurized pathogens, a gut-wrenching tale - Food Safety News

If I was one of their constituents — or co-workers at the “big germ” as Cadle calls the Capitol — the least I would expect would be for them to provide samples so public health officials could determine if they had contracted an E. coli infection from the raw milk so that measures could be taken to avoid person-to-person transmission.

For the record, public health officials believe raw milk is too dangerous to allow to be sold in interstate commerce.

Some states do allow limited sales under herd-share laws and even fewer allow retail sales of unpasteurized raw milk. California officials are currently investigating an E. coli outbreak that has sickened several children and been traced to raw milk from Organic Pastures Dairy Co. in Fresno.

Follow up story can be found here: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2016/03/124871/#.VvkjFXD85s>

[www.foodsafetynews.com/2016/03/124871/#.VvkjFXD85s](http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2016/03/124871/#.VvkjFXD85s)

### No ignorance of the law and just plain ignorance - Food Safety News

By Coral Beach | March 27, 2016

West Virginia Delegate Scott Cadle got a pass this week from the state’s public health cops after violating state law in the Capitol building. The state lawmaker didn’t even attempt to use ignorance of the law as a defense and, in fact, admitted his crime after the fact.

Cadle also made public his intent to break West Virginia state law by offering raw milk to the public — from the floor of the House of Delegates — on March 3.

**Continued Pg. 8**

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROS PRACTICALLY INVISIBLE, PROFOUNDLY IMPORTANT

By Roy Costa, RS, MS (MBA) | February 1, 2016 Opinion

The Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) plays an important role in public health. Environmental health workers perform a down-to-earth job that seeks to protect the public from hazards originating in living environments.

The disciplines of environmental health encompass programs to address a wide range of potential human health risks including contaminated water, air, food and the control of vectors of disease. It isn’t well known, but environmental health improvements are considered the most important reasons behind the increase in human life spans in the past century.

The EHS profession can be traced back several hundred years to the “sanitarian.” Before the germ theory became accepted as scientific fact, sanitarians were hard at work getting things cleaned up in our cities, waterways and air. They believed unsanitary conditions led to health problems. This was long before medical science made the connection between microbes and disease.

Today, the EHS goes about his or her work mostly unnoticed. Few people outside of those who work

with them know what their field is about. Lack of visibility has hampered the profession, and there are few outspoken leaders with a public profile.

Though many of them have education and experience giving them uniquely informed perspectives on public health issues, limitations placed on government regulators can prevent an EHS from playing a more vocal, and visible, role in their community. Many government employees, from local to federal levels, are prevented by employment policies from participating in public debates and discussions without the approval and assistance of public relations handlers.

However, when there is a danger to the public, the EHS can speak with a loud voice, such as during an outbreak of Hepatitis or the contamination of a public water supply. Once their message is delivered, and the public is no longer in jeopardy, these folks slip back into anonymity until the next threat emerges.

On Dec. 2, 2015, the 14 people killed and 22 seriously injured in a terrorist attack in San Bernardino, Calif., included environmental health workers. The mass shooting and attempted bombing, perpe-

trated by a married couple living in the city of Redlands, targeted a San Bernardino County Department of Public Health training event and holiday party.

About 80 public servants were in the rented banquet room when the event turned into an outrageous mass murder. The shock and horror of what happened to environmental health workers that day in San Bernardino is going to stay with us for a long time. The awful memories will never be erased from minds of the survivors.

But we must go on and continue with our calling. That’s the way it should be. Part of the terrorist’s strategy is to frighten their victims into losing faith in themselves and their ideals of freedom and liberty. We will never let that happen.

As EHS professionals we send a strong message of public support to our brethren in San Bernardino: You and your work are not forgotten and all of us in this field stand behind you. You will overcome this tragedy and continue the incredibly important work you do protecting your communities.

God bless you as you go forth, and keep the faith that what you do does make a difference.

## NEW U.S. FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM TAKING SHAPE

By Coral Beach | March 3, 2016

Beam by beam, the federal government is building the superstructure of a new food safety system in the United States. Using 2011’s Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) as the foundation, the USDA and FDA set the footings for two weight-bearing pillars of the new system recently with grant awards for regional



training centers.

Iowa State University and the University of Vermont received the grants, respectively, for the North Central Regional Center for Food Safety Training, Education, Extension, Outreach and Technical Assistance and the Northeast Center for Food Safety, Training, Education, Extension, Outreach and Technical Assistance.

“This is going to be a feat for large companies to comply with the new rule, but they’ll have the money and the personnel to help them get there,” said Angela Shaw, an assistant professor of food science at Iowa State who will lead the regional center there.

“The smaller firms will have a harder time getting fully compliant because they don’t have access to the same kind of resources.” In October 2015, grants for two other regional centers and a National Coordination Center went to the University of Florida-Gainesville, Oregon State University and the International Food Protection Training Institute (IFPTI) of Battle Creek, MI.

The grant program is a joint project by the Food and Drug Administration and the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

It addresses a key component of FSMA — the development and implementation of a comprehensive food safety training, education and technical assistance program for those affected by the Act.

The regional training centers are specifically charged with helping: small and medium sized farms; beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers; small processors; and small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers.

“The intention of this program is to begin building an infrastructure that will support a national food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance system and provide significant opportunities for funding through subcontracts and for partnerships with eligible stakeholder groups, including community-based and non-governmental organizations,” according to the NIFA.

## News

**On-Site Sewage Center (at ETC) Update**

The Onsite Sewage Training Center continues to take shape. Originating with commitments of space and resources from Cedar Lakes Conference Center and the WV Department of Education's Environmental Training Center (ETC), the Onsite Training Center has grown under the watch of the ETC's longtime Director, Rich Weigand. Working with PHSD and WVDEP staff, and aided by a small grant from the DEP, Mr. Weigand has assembled an impressive assortment of technologies that continue to be improved. Many thanks are due also to Bryan Easter and the Cedar Lakes maintenance staff for much hard work and assistance, as well as to the Cedar Lakes management for accommodation of the site at their facility. Numerous manufacturers of onsite technologies have been generous with donations of proprietary treatment units, as well.

The sanitarians who attended the Mid-Year Conference in May got to see the new Onsite Center first hand. There was a demonstration of the LPP system being dosed with a siphon, rather than the more-common pump dosing. There is also an operating HAU with subsurface discharge located at the Main Office, which was installed so that it can be viewed as a working model.

**Continued**

**THE BATTLE OF BEDS VS. TRENCHES**

● By Jim Anderson, Ph.D.  
[Online Exclusives](#)  
October 12, 2015

**A good design principle that results in better treatment is sometimes lost.**

Recently a colleague of mine pointed out that he is seeing lots of pictures in magazines of beds going in to serve as the final soil treatment and dispersal part of the system. These configurations are often associated with some of the rock alternatives as the distribution media.

While a lot of these configurations include pressure distribution as a part of the system, not all of them do. This led him to point out that from both a hydraulic and treatment perspective a longer and narrower system is better than a shorter and wider system. His concern and mine also is that if we

move away from this guiding principle, our systems will struggle. This is the reason that systems have moved from bed configurations to trenches since the mid-1970s.

So what are the advantages? The obvious one is the direct increase in wastewater contact with the soil. Getting the wastewater in contact and then moving through the soil is where treatment will occur.

**Related: [5 Simple Tips to Teach Homeowners About Onsite Systems](#)**

Here is an easy exercise that we used to teach in classes. Let's take a soil treatment unit that is located in a loam soil and is designed to take a flow of 450 gallons per day. The long-term acceptance rate for this soil is 0.6 gallons per square foot. This means the soil-sizing factor is 1.67 square feet per gallon. So the soil area needed to accept this amount of septic tank effluent is approximately 750 square feet (1.67 square feet per gallon x 450 gallons = 750 square feet).

So let's compare a bed that is 10 feet by 75 feet long with three 3-foot-wide trenches, which means there is 250 lineal feet of trench. Contact area for the

bed is  $2 \times 10 = 20$  plus  $2 \times 75 = 150$  for a total of 170 lineal feet of contact. For 250 feet of trench the numbers are  $2 \times 3 \times 3 = 18$  plus  $6 \times 83.33 = 500$  or a total of 518 feet of contact, or about three times as much! Contact with the soil means that there will be more opportunity for treatment and for the effluent to infiltrate the soil in the trench configuration. This coupled with more opportunity for oxygen exchange through the soil, which is an important part of the treatment process, means that treatment will be more efficient when the oxygen has to travel less distance through the soil under the trenches as opposed to a bed.

There are two other brands of HAUs installed as working units, two HAU's as static displays, a peat module (including the critters that you sometimes find living in a peat module), a septic/pump tank combo, a working siphon, a constructed wetland, and coming soon, a drip irrigation system, and recirculating sand filter (RSF) demonstration.

Part of the onsite sewage training for sanitarian class is now held at Cedar Lakes to take advantage of all this center has to offer. OEHS is now offering the Class II Septic Installers Course at Cedar Lakes and also the HAU (class H) service providers training is held at Cedar Lakes.



## West Virginia Association of Sanitarians

350 Capital Street, Room 313  
Charleston, WV 25301  
E-mail: [Linda.K.Whaley@wv.gov](mailto:Linda.K.Whaley@wv.gov)

We're on the Web  
[www.wvdhhr.org/wvas](http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvas)

## WVAS Executive Council

### Elected Officers

**President:** Jimmy Casdorph

**Vice-President:** Brad Cochran

### Members at Large

**2-Year:** Mark Hawkins

**1-Year:** Rich Lucas

### Appointed Members

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Linda Whaley      **Newsletter:** Judy Vallandingham

### Ex-Officio Member

**Public Health Sanitation Director:** Brad Cochran

### Continued

**No ignorance of the law and just plain ignorance - Food Safety News—**

The Mason, WV, delegate's open invitation to all within the sound of his voice to stop by for a swig of unpasteurized raw milk was a celebratory move in response to the governor signing a bill into law that will allow herd-share dairy operations to provide members/investors with raw milk.

Eric Eyre and David Gutman (really, that's not a pun, it's his byline) have been reporting on Cadle's departure from the straight and narrow for the Charleston Gazette-Mail since his milk toasts were linked to an outbreak of gastro illnesses among lawmakers and their staff at the Capitol.

### Congratulations

**ON YOUR NEW JOB**

#### *Stacy King*

Food Program—  
Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards Coordinator & Bottled Water -Assistant Program Manager

#### *Addison Hostetler*

Milk Sanitarian - Fairmont/Kearneysville Districts

#### *Haley Sharp*

Milk Sanitarian - Beckley District

And to the newest

**REGISTERED  
SANITARIAN(S)**

*Derrick Haggerty*  
Hampshire County

