



Office of Environmental Health E-Newsletter

Electronic version available at: www.azdhs.gov/phs/oeh/rs/ehnl.htm

Special Issue for the Southwest Food Safety Conference and Exhibition February - March 2005

On-line Registration Available for the 5th Annual ADHS Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease/Bioterrorism and Public Health Threats Conference

On-line registration for the 5th Annual ADHS Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease/Bioterrorism and Public Health Threats Conference is now available at www.azdhs.gov/phs/edc/edrp/es/conf.htm.

The registration deadline is March 31, 2005. The conference is scheduled for April 12 - 14, 2005 at the City of Mesa Public Safety Training Facility.

The Arizona Sanitarian's Council has determined the following contact hours will be awarded: 15.3 contact hours for the vector-borne portion on April 12th and 14th and 13.1 contact hours for the Bioterrorism portion on April 13th and 14th.

Join the Azsafefood Listserv!

Are you missing out on Arizona Sanitarian Council news, the Office of Environmental Health E-Newsletter, job openings, rule and statute changes, important training announcements, and other Arizona Sanitarian activities? If so, we encourage you to join the Azsafefood Listserv.

The Listserv is a collaborative effort between the University of Arizona Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Program and ADHS. The Listserv is designed for Arizona Registered Sanitarians and anyone interested in food safety issues in Arizona.

The University of Arizona owns the Listserv and, therefore, commercial use of the site is prohibited. As a result, large amounts of traffic and junk mail are essentially eliminated. You can also easily unsubscribe at any time.

If you would like to subscribe to the Listserv, please contact Bob Gomez, R.S., at (602) 364-3140 or email at gomezr@azdhs.gov.

Yavapai County Audited for FDA Program Standards

Congratulations to Yavapai County Community Health Services for successfully completing confirming audits for their selected Program Standards. The audit, performed by ADHS, confirmed that Yavapai County met Standards 2, 7 and 9.

Standard 2 involves training of regulatory staff; Standard 7 focuses on consumer and industry interaction and educational outreach activities; and, Standard 9 confirms the program's completion of their self-assessment and baseline survey.

Good work Yavapai County!

Javier Leon Retiring After 25 Years of Service to Pima County

Javier Leon will be retiring this month from Pima County Health Department after more than 25 years of devoted service. Javier started with Pima County in 1980 as a District Sanitarian and held other progressive positions including Environmental

Specialist and Supervising Sanitarian. He is currently the Division Manager for Consumer Health and Food Safety.

Javier's initial plans in retirement are to travel with his wife Mary to visit with some relatives and their sons studying at Northern Arizona University. We may also see Javier again as he may dabble back into environmental health in Arizona in a different capacity.

Good luck Javier and thank you for your notable contributions to food safety and environmental health in Pima County and the State of Arizona!

FDA Food Code Course Draft Agenda

The draft agenda for the three-day *FDA Food Code Course*, scheduled for May 24 - 26, 2005 at the ADHS Building in Phoenix is available on-line at www.azdhs.gov/phs/oe/rs/training.htm.

The Arizona Sanitarian's Council has determined that 17.8 contact hours can be earned for the course.

For course registration information, lodging, and other details, please contact Bob Gomez, RS, at (602) 364-3140 or email at gomezr@azdhs.gov.

ADHS Names David Engelthaler as the new State Epidemiologist

ADHS Director Cathy Eden recently announced that David Engelthaler has been named the ADHS State Epidemiologist.

As State Epidemiologist, David's responsibilities will include overseeing disease control and surveillance activities in the state, coordinating disease investigations and research with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other agencies, and assisting the ADHS Director in representing departmental and public health concerns to the media, legislature, other agencies and policy makers.

David has served primarily as the State Bioterrorism Coordinator, managing ADHS's emergency response activities for the past five years. He has more than ten years experience in public health, including three years with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. David will maintain his role as State Bioterrorism Coordinator, for the time being, in addition to his new assignment as the State Epidemiologist.

Congratulations David on your new added assignment. We all look forward to working with you in your new capacity.

County Food Safety Program Audits Underway

ADHS has started the audit process for each of the 15 Arizona county food safety programs. The audits are designed to focus on the Healthy Arizona 2010 initiative to reduce the prevalence of food borne illness risk factors in restaurants and retail food establishments in Arizona by 25% by 2010.

Audits have been completed for Graham, Greenlee, and Cochise counties and the remaining counties have been scheduled through April 2005.

Contact Hour Calculations

The Arizona Sanitarian's Council urges Registered Sanitarians to submit program documentation to the Council for contact hour calculation prior to participating in the educational program.

If contact hours have not been assigned by the Council, submit your documentation to Don Herrington via email at herrind@azdhs.gov or via mail at ADHS, 150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 430, Phoenix, AZ 85007.

Newsletter comments or questions can be directed to Bob Gomez, RS, at (602) 364-3140 or gomezr@azdhs.gov.