SAN MATEO COUNTYWIDE
Water Pollution Prevention Program
Clean Water. Healthy Community.

Parks Maintenance & IPM Work Group
Meeting Agenda
October 26, 2010 - 1:30 to 2:20 pm
City of San Mateo City Hall – Room B
330 West 20th Avenue, San Mateo

1.	**Introductions, Announcements, Changes to Agenda, Review and Approval of August Draft Meeting Summary** - 5 min.	*Vern Bessey*
2.	**Summary of IPM Policy, Practices and Pesticide Use from FY 2009/10 Annual Report** – 15 min. *Objective: Obtain information, conclusions, and suggestions.*	*Fred Jarvis/ Everyone*
3.	**Update MRP Provision C.9.f Requirement to Interface with County Agricultural Commissioners** - 5 min. *Objective: Obtain update - Agricultural Commissioner's biologists contact information has been added to website.*	*Fred/ Everyone*
4.	**California Department of Food and Agriculture and U.S. Forest Service Draft Permit to Apply Pesticides to Water** – 5 min. *Objective: Obtain information.*	*Fred/ Everyone*
5.	**Information About Effectiveness of Rain Gardens and Bioswales Installed at Serramonte Library in Daly City** – 5 min. *Objective: Obtain information.*	*Fred/ Everyone*
6.	**Brainstorm Ideas for Speakers and Topics for Annual Park Maintenance and IPM Workshop** – 20 min. *Objective: Obtain information.*	*Fred/ Everyone*
7.	**Share Information on Park Maintenance Type of Issues That Affect Water Quality** - 15 min. *OUTCOME: Obtain information.*	*Everyone*
8.	**Discuss Possible Future Meeting Topics and Agree on Next Meeting Date and Topics** - 10 min. *OUTCOME: Agree on future topics and next meeting on April 26.*	*Vern/ Everyone*

SAN MATEO COUNTYWIDE
Water Pollution Prevention Program
Clean Water. Healthy Community.

DRAFT

Parks Maintenance & IPM Work Group Meeting Summary

City of San Mateo City Hall

Meeting Date: August 24, 2010

Subcommittee Action: None.

Requested Technical Advisory Committee Action or Feedback/Guidance (if any): None.

Other Information/Announcements:

- **Green Gardener Pilot Program.** Beth Ross, Environmental Initiatives Manager, City of Redwood City provided information about the pilot program conducted last year in partnership with the San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program, City of Menlo Park, and Bay Area Gardeners Association. The program offered landscapers an introductory landscaping class. The training curriculum was standardized by Ecology Action in Santa Cruz. In order for a student to become certified they had to attend ten classes and pass a test. Two classes were conducted in Spanish and one is English. Ninety people enrolled and 84 became certified. About three hundred people attended the graduation ceremony that was held at Redwood City's city hall. The adult education instructor who taught the class was proficient in Spanish.

  Starting in September two classes in Spanish will be offered, one will be the introductory class and the other an intermediate class. The classes will be offered at a community school on Saturdays. Part of the class time will include installing school landscaping based on a landscaping plan.

  Beth would like to add an introductory class in English in the north end of the county. In order to accomplish this $2,000 of additional funding needs to be identified. In addition, they need a city host to help identify classroom space and to sponsor a graduation ceremony. The previous classes cost $50 and the new ones will cost $120.

  It was pointed out that the landscaping businesses may need to register as pest control businesses; individuals may need to obtain a qualified applicator certificate. Beth responded that the class instructor would be happy to have County Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff present this information to the class.
- **Annual Reporting for Provision C.9 Pesticides Toxicity Control.** Staff from one of the cities reported that they had already completed this reporting. Another person pointed out that it is a lot of work collecting information on the types and amounts of pesticides being used because three departments each use different structural pest control operators. There may be a benefit to consolidating service providers among the departments.
- **MRP Requirement to Interface with County Agricultural Commissioner Staff.** The MRP's Provision C.9.f requires regular communication with county agricultural commissioners or other appropriate staff, in part, to report on improper pesticide usage that affects water quality. Jeremy Eide reported that the Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff check when people are spraying pesticides and fumigating. Pesticide users need to report accidents. There are also general standards of care requirements that pesticide users must

follow per CCR 6600. If city staff sees something, they should forward the information for follow up by the Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff. The commissioner will decide whether an incident merits a violation notice or a civil penalty. The Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff does not get many complaints from cities. There was one incident a few years ago that involved spraying vegetation near drainage ditch in La Honda; Caltrans talked to a homeowners association.

One observation was that school district staff may not be as up to speed as city staff about proper pesticide use. Schools need to follow the Healthy Schools Act. A school sulfur bomb incident on the coastside was described. School district staff doesn't need to have operator identifications.

- **EPA Information & Mapping Tool to comply with Stipulated Injunction Restricting Use of 75 Common Pesticides.** In May the Center for Biological Diversity won a lawsuit against EPA for failing to comply with the endangered species act regarding the potential impacts of 43 pesticide active ingredients on endangered species. The results of this litigation are that no-use buffer zones have been established around some waterbodies and areas depending on the presence of threatened or endangered species and the potential harm from pesticides. EPA has maps that show the no use areas and buffer zones. Also, there is information on the Department of Pesticide Regulation's website. Since there are some exceptions and modifications depending on particular circumstances, the requirements are complicated. Jeremy offered that Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff can provide guidance, if requested. He recommended that city staff phone the district biologist. The interim injunctive relief would be enforced by citizen lawsuits.
- **Geese.** One city had been using dogs to help control geese, but the city council decided not to continue the service in order to save about $36,000 per year. The dogs that were used were border collies, which remind geese of foxes. Private citizens want to run their dogs off leash in local parks as a method of controlling geese. The former geese control service providers also used a small remote controlled boat to drive the geese further out into the local lagoon.

Subcommittee Work That Affects Other Subcommittees: The additional restrictions on where certain pesticides may be used should be of interest to Municipal Maintenance Subcommittee staff.

Next Steps: EOA will work with Agriculture/Weights & Measures staff to identify appropriate contact information for reporting pesticide problems found by municipal staff.

Next Meeting Date: October 26, 2010

San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program
Parks Maintenance & IPM Work Group Attendance List FY 2010/11

MUNICIPALITY	REPRESENTATIVE	Contact Information		Attendance			
		Email	Phone	24-Aug	26-Oct	Feb Training Workshop[1]	26-Apr
Atherton	Mike Anderson	manderson@ci.atherton.ca.us	650/752-0541				
Belmont	Daniel Ourtiague	dourtiague@belmont.gov	650/595-7441				
Brisbane	Don McClymond	dmcclymond@brisbance.ca.us	415/716-0105	√			
Burlingame	Greg Foell	gfoell@burlingame.org					
Colma	Phil Scramaglia	phil@csgengr.com					
	Louis Gotelli	Louis.Gotelli@colma.ca.gov	650/333-0295				
Daly City	Paul Thompson	pthompson@dalycity.org	650/991-8006	√			
East Palo Alto	Jay Farr	jfarr@cityofepa.org	650/853-3105				
Foster City	Bill Gomba	bgomba@fostercity.org	650/286-8140				
	Dorte Drastrup	ddrastrup@fostercity.org	650/286-3553	√			
Half Moon Bay	Charlie Voos	cvoos@hmbcity.com	650/504-8142				
Hillsborough	Gary Francis	gfrancis@hillsca.org	650/375-7506				
Menlo Park	David Mooney	damooney@menlopark.org	650/330-6794				
Millbrae	Russell Clark		650/259-2481				
Pacifica	Ron Fascenda	fascendar@ci.pacifica.ca.us	650-738-3760	√			
	Tom Lessa						
Portola Valley	Josh Maierle	JMaierle@portolavalley.net	650/851-1700, Ext.21				
Redwood City	Valerie Matonis	vmatonis@redwoodcity.org	650/780-7280				
	Beth Ross	bross@redwoodcity.org	650/780-5917	√			
San Bruno	Steve Freitas	sfreitas@ci.sanbruno.ca.us	650/616-7196				
	Rene Walsh	Rrwalsh@ci.sanbruno.ca.us	650/616-7193				
San Carlos	Guy Wallace	guywallace@cityofsancarlos.org	650/802-4144	√			
	Frank Rivera						
San Mateo	Vern Bessey	vbessey@cityofsanmateo.org	650/522-7342	√			
	Bruce Reed	breed@cityofsanmateo.org					
	Mike Blondino	mblondino@cityofsanmateo.org					
San Mateo Co. Parks	Pamela Noyer	pnoyer@co.sanmateo.ca.us					
	Jeff Pacini						
Agriculture Weights and Measures	Ronald Pummer	rpummer@co.sanmateo.ca.us	650/363-4700				
	Jeremy Eide	jeide@co.sanmateo.ca.us	650/363-4700	√			
	Koren Widdel						
Public Wks							
	Jeff Pacini	JPacini@rcn.com					
South San Francisco	David Venturini	david.venturini@ssf.net	650/829-3834				
	Norman Gok						
	Brian Brunelli						
Woodside	Eunejune Kim	EKim@woodsidetown.org	650/851-6790				
Regional Bd	Sue Ma	SMa@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov	510/622-2371				
EOA	Fred Jarvis	fejarvis@eoainc.com	510/832-2852 x111	√			
	Vishakha Atre	vatre@eoainc.com	408/720-8811				
Program	Matt Fabry	mfabry@ci.brisbane.ca.us	415/508-2134				

Notes:

[1] Number indicates number of attendees from jurisdiction at the workshop.

ESTUARY NEWS

Bay-Delta News and Views from the San Francisco Estuary Partnership | Volume 19, No.4 | August 2010

VETTING LID

In late June I had the opportunity to visit the Puget Sound area of Washington state as part of the US EPA's review of the Puget Sound Partnership (one of the other 27 other National Estuary Programs). The trip provided a wonderful way to exchange ideas and learn from another program on the West Coast facing many of the same issues we have here in the San Francisco Estuary. Particularly exciting is the Puget Sound Partnership's work on better measuring and defining the water quality benefits of Low Impact Development (LID) stormwater projects. I toured the Washington State University Puyallup Research and Extension Center, which is using a $1 million state grant to retrofit the WSU Puyallup campus to significantly reduce stormwater runoff. The project employs "green" development practices including permeable paving surfaces and stormwater bioretention facilities.

The retrofit includes a significant research and monitoring component to measure the effectiveness of various LID practices. A variety of permeable surfaces have been used to retrofit paved parking lots and various retention facilities installed. Thirty-nine bioretention cells have been built: 16 are full-scale rain gardens (measuring approximately 18 feet by 18 feet) to test different mixes of plants; 20 bioretention areas (60 inch-diameter-by-52-inch-deep tanks or mesocosms) will test the performance of different soil compositions; 3 additional bioretention areas (18 feet by 32 feet) were also built, with the same overall soil and aggregate bedding depths as the rain gardens.

Researchers can now very finely measure which approaches are most effective in directing stormwater back to the aquifer and which measures do the best job at filtering out a suite of specific pollutants. The retrofit also will be used

continued on page 8

INSIDE

2 Grass Grazers

3 Slow Fish

5 More Barges For Bay?

6 Rabbit Rebounds

PUTTING PARKING LOTS TO WORK

Can a parking lot mitigate for its dirty guests? Built with funding from a small increase in vehicle license fees in San Mateo County (see "Slow It, Spread It. Sink It," ESTUARY NEWS, August 2009), four new rain gardens and bioswales at the Daly City Public Library parking lot are proving that plants and soil can filter out some of the worst pollutants before they make their way into the storm drain system, Colma Creek (inhabited by endangered clapper rails), and San Francisco Bay.

According to the San Francisco Estuary Institute's Nicole David, who monitored runoff from the parking lot before and after the rain gardens and swales were installed, initial results show a 40% reduction in PCBs and mercury to an over 80% reduction in PAHs (from motor oil, diesel, and asphalt), and heavy metals like zinc, copper, lead, and nickel. Explaining the difference in those reductions, David says, "Mercury is more of a global problem, while PAHs, copper from brake pads, zinc, lead, and nickel are more from local sources." David says the pre-rain garden concentrations of these pollutants were 5 to 80 times higher than the long-term average concentrations of the same pollutants in central San Francisco Bay, suggesting that "our transportation infrastructure is a major contributor to water quality impacts in the Bay." Eighty-eight percent of last winter's storms were successfully treated through the rain gardens and swales, she says, with only 12% exceeding their capacity and overflowing into the storm drain system. "This shows great potential for new and re-development projects to include this type of treatment right at the source. It not only improves aesthetic values but also helps downstream—and in the Bay."

The Estuary Institute will monitor the site again (through an Estuary Partnership grant) in a couple of years after the plants have matured. "We don't know if there will be saturation [of pollutants] or if the contaminants in the soil will degrade over time, but in their first year, the system is still struggling for survival. The plants will develop root systems and bacteria, and other microorganisms will develop, resulting in a healthier system." And that healthier system, says the State Water Board's Eric Berntsen, will help filter pollutants even more effectively. "It's really important to get the soil biota working for you over time." The city of Portland, Oregon's Tom Liptan, who has led that city's many green stormwater efforts, adds: "When the stormwater hits the vegetation [carrying pollutants], you get removal of total suspended solids. So it's filtered and drops out, then the sediment and the plant roots start to work."

SFEI

While some may think rain gardens are better for rainy climates, Portland's Kevin Robert Perry (with Nevue Ngan Associates, who produced the

continued on page 8

ESTUARY NEWS
Bay-Delta News and Views from the San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Volume 19, No.4 | AUGUST 2010

Editorial Office
PO Box 791
Oakland, CA 94604
lowensvi@sbcglobal.net

Estuary News Web Site
www.sfestuary.org/pages/newsletter.php

To subscribe or ask questions
(510) 622-2304

Staff

Managing Editor Lisa Owens Viani
Associate Editor Joe Eaton
Design Bobbi Sloan
Contributing Writers Linnea Due; Ariel Rubissow Okamoto

SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

ESTUARY NEWS is your news source on Bay-Delta water issues, estuarine restoration efforts, and the many programs, actions, voices, and viewpoints that contribute to implementation of the S.F. Estuary Partnership's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Views expressed may not always reflect those of Estuary Partnership staff, advisors, or CCMP committee members. ESTUARY NEWS is published bimonthly and is funded by the San Francisco Estuary Partnership.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, CA
PERMIT NO. 832

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

PUTTING PARKING LOTS TO WORK

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

award-winning *San Mateo County Sustainable Green Streets and Parking Lots Design Guidebook*) points out that in a climate with like the Bay Area's, with sometimes six months of little to no rain, it is all the more important to capture and filter that first very greasy, grimy flush.

CONTACT: nicoled@sfei.org; eberntsen@waterboards.ca.gov LOV

Hear an interview with Eric Berntsen (podcast) about rain gardens at http://sfestuary.org/podcast/

VETTING LID

(CONTINUED FROM SIDE PAGE 1)

as a public demonstration and educational facility on "green" development techniques and materials.

Here in the Bay Area, we are beginning to see local information collected on low impact stormwater measures, such as a "green" parking lot rain garden recently installed in Daly City (see cover story). The San Francisco Estuary Institute's data—and data from places like Washington and Oregon—suggest that using swales and raingardens will not only help improve water quality in our receiving waters, but will also be less costly than building and maintaining traditional stormwater management systems. The Estuary Partnership is committed to sharing this important research with our own communities, as they work toward the use of greener stormwater techniques.

—Judy Kelly, Director, SFEP

OCEAN CANARIES

(CONTINUED FROM SIDE PAGE 3)

Miller says the problem of land-sea pollution is sobering: "What are we doing about discharges of potentially contaminated freshwater to the ocean? We've removed the effect of buffering wetlands. We need to slow the water down and allow it to clean itself up." (See cover story.) She praises her State and Regional Water Board collaborators for what they've done to shape policy: "They've been a huge help in this process."

CONTACT: mmiller@ospr.dfg.ca.gov JE

SAN MATEO COUNTYWIDE
Water Pollution Prevention Program
Clean Water. Healthy Community.

2010 Integrated Pest Management Workshop
February 25, 2010

SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS

Total Number of Evaluations: 31 (48% response) **Total Number of Attendees: 64***

**Number includes 56 attendees and 8 speakers and staff.*

What did you think of the following presentations?

Water Conservation: Irrigation Design and AB 1881–
Corbin Schneider

25-Very helpful 6-Somewhat helpful 0-Not helpful 0-No answer

Soil Food Webs –
Theresa Lyngso

24-Very helpful 7-Somewhat helpful 0-Not helpful 0-No answer

Comments:
Excellent!

Sustainable Landscapes–
Sherri Osaka

26-Very helpful 5-Somewhat helpful 0-Not helpful 0-No answer

Invasive Weed Detection and Control-
John Beall

23-Very helpful 7-Somewhat helpful 0-Not helpful 1-No answer

Respirator Regulatory Refresher and Online Pesticide Use Reporting–
Jeremy Eide

20-Very helpful 8-Somewhat helpful 0-Not helpful 3-No answer

Did this workshop meet your expectations?
Yes: 30
No: 0
No Answer: 1

Suggestions for future workshop topics
Weed prevention, mechanical / biological removal
Trapping gophers and other critters
Beneficial insects and their environments
More on irrigation retrofitting for water conservation
Sheet mulching
Bring samples of weeds if possible, soil and organic compost (different kinds of compost), provide information on when/where to use them.
San Francisco State IPM Program (speaker from 2007 workshop)

General Comments
Practical, helpful
COFFEE!
Hang black plastic sheet over door for better screen visibility
Fantastic- as usual. Thank you!
Great location
Good lunch, good site for this event.
I wish more people like you were running our government. Thank you very much.
Napkins with lunch
Lunch was lovely. I like food!
Great location, need trash receptacles for bag lunches, good speakers, thanks.
Coffee and tea please!
All the speakers were very informative!
Excellent
More short breaks
All the workshops were very helpful and easy to understand in a short time.
Very good!