

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

2019  
ANNUAL  
REPORT





# 2019 STANISLAUS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**Kristin Olsen**  
District 1

**Vito Chiesa**  
District 2

**Terry Withrow**  
District 3

**Tom Berryhill**  
District 4

**Jim DeMartini**  
District 5

## Board of Supervisors' Priority:

***Delivering Efficient Public Services and Community Infrastructure***  
to benefit residents and businesses

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

### MISSION:

We protect our community by promoting a safe and healthy environment

### VISION:

Supporting our mission through a balance of science, education, partnerships and environmental regulation

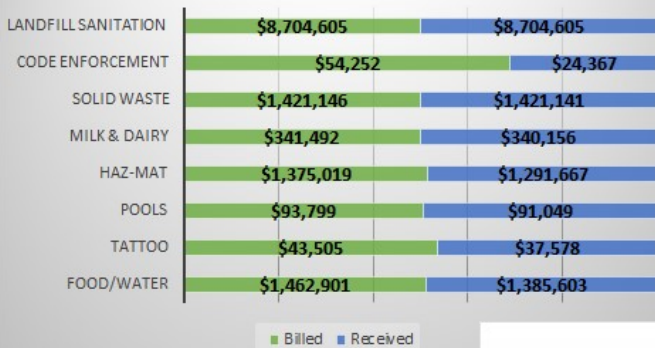
### WHO WE ARE:

Dedicated professionals who skillfully interface with local, state and federal agencies to administer a comprehensive environmental protection program.

Led by Director Jami Aggers, the Department is comprised of two Assistant Directors, administrative staff, and seven separate divisions and program managers: Code Enforcement, Environmental Health, Groundwater, Hazardous Materials, Landfill, Milk & Dairy, and Solid Waste.

## FISCAL SERVICES

### DER Fee Revenue - FY 2018-2019



Accounting collects payments by mail, web, phone and in-person for fines, fees for services, grant claims, changes of ownership, plan reviews, and various state surcharges.

All Environmental Resources program accounts are maintained, invoiced, and processed through the accounting office.

**DER's Proposed FY 19/20  
Total Operating Budget is  
\$34,094,293**

### DER Operating Budget FY 14/15 - FY 18/19



15 Budgets
Manage/Track over 25 Funds
Accounts Payable
Accounts Receivable
Purchase Orders
Vendor Insurance Approval
Contract Functions
Grant Administration
2 Separate Payrolls (for DER and Landfill)
Auditing Responsibilities
2 Separate Billing Systems
Program Billing Reconciliations
Special Projects

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Recruitments and Onboarding

Pre-employment Background Process

Personnel

Personnel Action Forms (PAFS)

Benefits Management

HR Investigations

Discipline

ADA/Civil Rights Complaints

Interactive Process and Medical Work Restriction Agreements

Leave of Absences

EEO & ADA Compliance

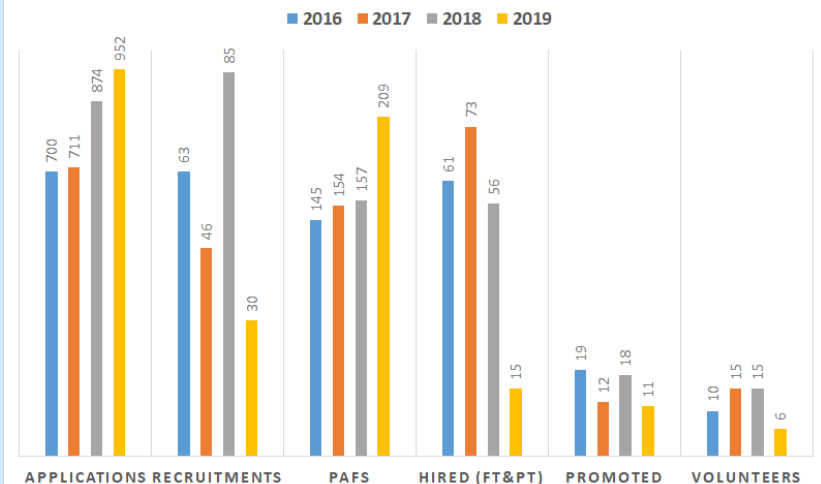
Required Trainings Compliance

Records Retention

County/Department Policies & Procedures Compliance

Human Resources is staffed by one Manager and partially utilizes three Confidential Assistants for recruiting efforts that support 8 uniquely different divisions within DER, which includes 39 different classifications with various multiple program responsibilities.

### HUMAN RESOURCE STATS 2016-2019





# Code Enforcement

**Before**

**After**

**164**

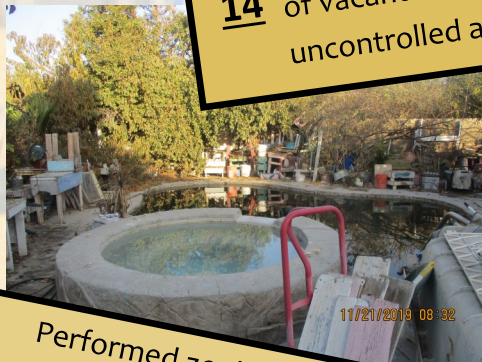
Investigated complaints for unlawful accumulations of junk, refuse and rubbish



In **2019**, the Department maintained code enforcement by investigating **1,364** complaints regarding environmental concerns such as zoning violations, abandoned vehicles, and nuisances creating health & safety issues.

**175** Investigated complaints of improper or illegal use of recreational vehicles being used for permanent occupancy

**14** Investigated complaints of vacant structures with uncontrolled access



**80** Investigated complaints associated with vehicle storage yards, junkyards and automobile dismantlers

**468** Performed zoning enforcement activities related to non-permitted or illegal land use

In addition to investigating these **1,364** environmental complaints, CE also covered up over **500** instances of graffiti and abated **125** abandoned vehicles.



**463**

Investigated abandoned vehicles complaints

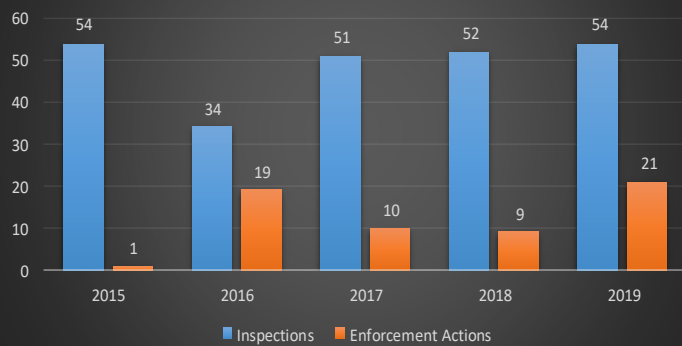


# Environmental Health

## Programs include:

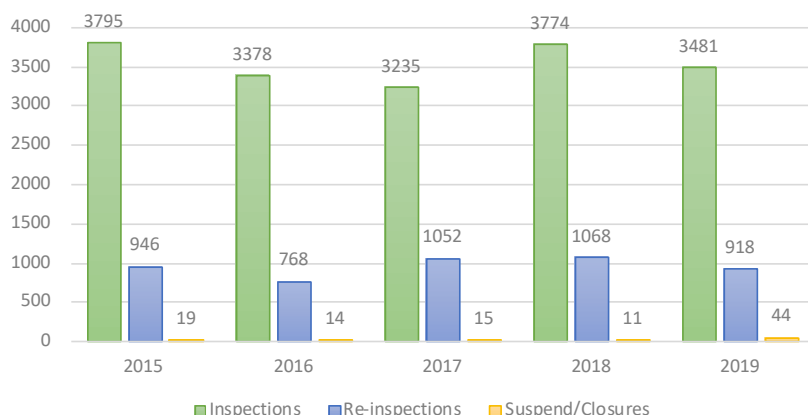
- ⇒ Food Program
- ⇒ Recreational Health Program
- ⇒ Housing Program
- ⇒ Liquid Waste / Land Use Program
- ⇒ Water Program
- ⇒ Body Art Program

**Stanislaus County Drinking Water Inspections and Enforcement Actions**



- + July 2019 - Hosted EHTER (Environmental Health Training in Emergency) Awareness Training
- + July 2019 - Assisted Salvation Army and the Homeless Initiative with bedbug concerns
- + Sept 2019 – Completed the annual LPA Audit with the Water Board
- + Oct 2019 – Participated in the City of Modesto’s “Imagine a Day Without Water” Event

**Stanislaus County Food Program Inspections and Enforcement Actions**



## In 2019

- ◇ Inspected **2,167** Food Facilities and **378** Mobile Food Facilities
- ◇ Served **67** Cottage Food Operations
- ◇ Conducted **392** food-related complaint inspections.
- ◇ Inspected **281** businesses with pools/spas
- ◇ Resolved **115** Housing complaints
- ◇ Issued **192** septic system permits and **201** water well permits
- ◇ Served **200** State Small and Public Water Systems
- ◇ Inspected **64** permitted body art facilities and **168** registered practitioners

**Department of Environmental Resources  
Food Facility Inspections**

**Welcome to the  
Food Facility Inspections Online**

[Continue](#)

All EH's food-related inspections can be found here:

<http://sbtapp1.co.stanislaus.ca.us/DERFoodFacilities/>

The site allows users to search by facility name, street name or by city.

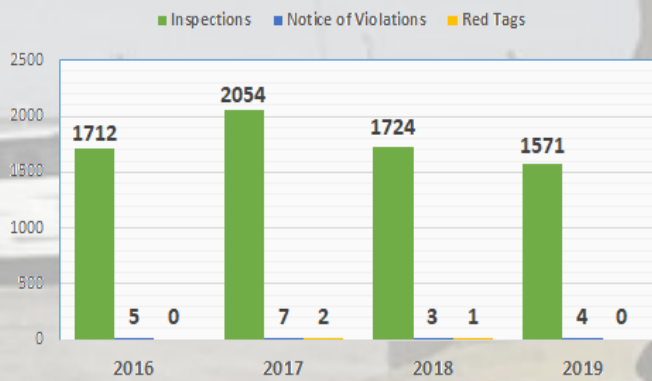
## Also In 2019...

- + Conducted a presentation to CSU Stanislaus students
- + Responded to food facility and water system operator customers during the PG & E Emergency power shut-offs
- + Recruited, hired and trained four new EHS and one volunteer



# Hazardous Materials

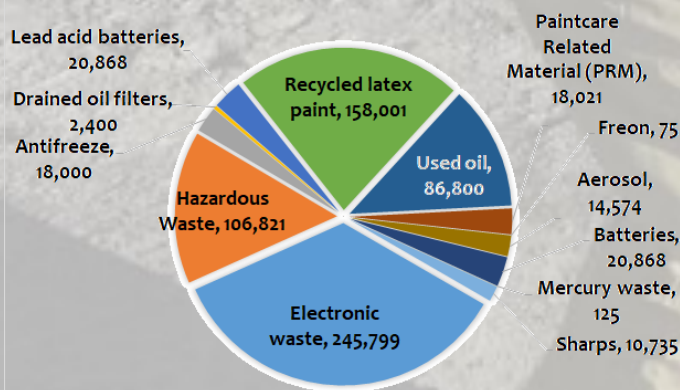
HazMat Inspections, Notice of Violations, and Red Tag Enforcement Actions



## 2019 Household Hazardous Waste Facility and Program Statistics

- **10,136** Households Served
- **455,143** lbs of HHW received at the permanent facility Including:
  - ♦ **245,799** lbs of E-waste
  - ♦ **47,501** lbs of Universal Waste
  - ♦ **10,735** lbs of Sharps
- **26** temporary collection events
  - ♦ **65,198** lbs of HHW received at events
  - ♦ **71,449** lbs collected into our Reuse Program
- **268** Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator Visits

2019 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY COLLECTION (TOTAL OF 703,850 POUNDS)



[facebook.com/StanislausHHW](https://facebook.com/StanislausHHW)

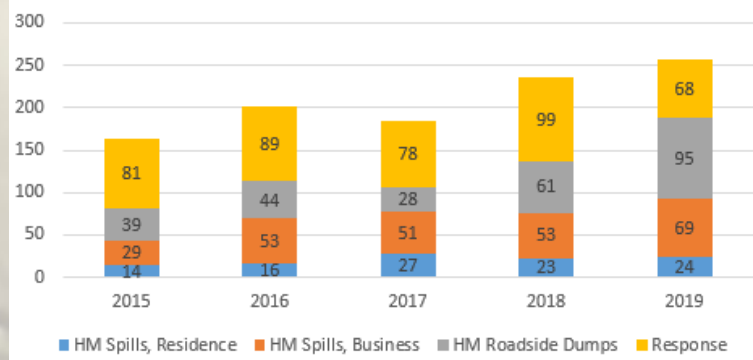
[stancounty.com/er/hazmat/pdf/household-hazardous-waste.pdf](https://stancounty.com/er/hazmat/pdf/household-hazardous-waste.pdf)

2019 Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources

## 2019 HazMat Training and Community Outreach

- ♦ Ammonia Live Event Response Training
- ♦ Central Valley Chemical Safety Day
- ♦ CalARP/RMP Workshop
- ♦ HazWaste Generator Workshop
- ♦ Storm Water Workshop
- ♦ CERS Workshop
- ♦ California CUPA Forum's 21th Annual Training Conference, presenting "CalARP Program"
- ♦ Earth Day
- ♦ 9th Annual Chemical Safety Day hosted by Stanislaus County
- ♦ America Recycles Day
- ♦ 4 Drop the Drugs events in partnership with Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Sheriff's Departments

HazMat Responses 2015-2019



## HazMat CUPA Programs served

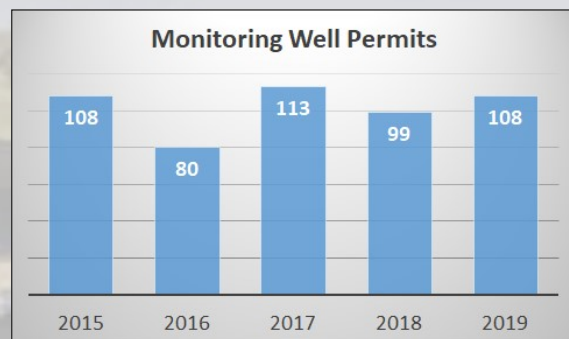
**2,385 businesses in 2019**

- ⇒ Hazardous Materials Business Plan Program
- ⇒ California Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP)
- ⇒ Hazardous Waste Generator/Tiered Permitting Program
- ⇒ Underground Storage Tank (UST)
- ⇒ Aboveground petroleum Storage Act (APSA)

## 2019 Committee Representation

- \* Local Emergency Planning Committee (Local Environmental Position)
- \* CUPA FORUM Board Member
- \* Central Valley Chemical Safety Committee (Chair)
- \* Stanislaus County Emergency Response Team (Technical Reference)





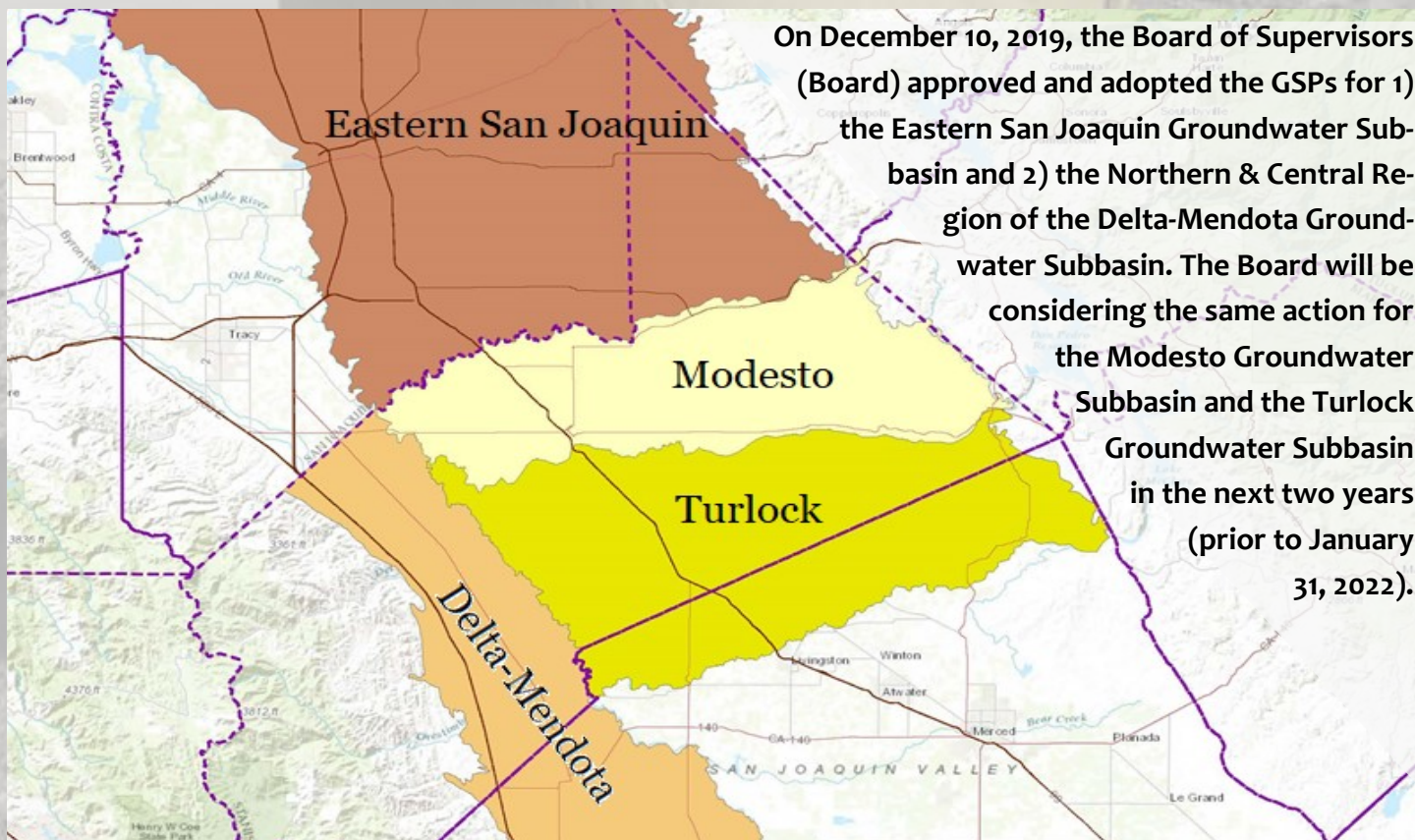
Four HazMat staff attended the Cal OES CSTI (California Specialized Training Institute) Hazardous Materials Technician Training

### **Additional Programs and Services provided by HazMat**

- ⇒ Medical Waste
- ⇒ Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- ⇒ Monitoring Wells
- ⇒ Mitigation Programs
- ⇒ Emergency Response Team
- ⇒ Area Plan



# Groundwater





# Landfill

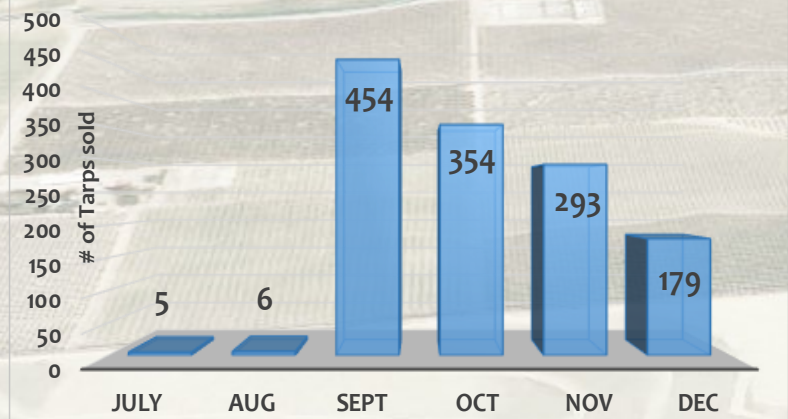


The Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the flare station was replaced/upgraded to include the ability for management to remote view and control the flare system. The ability to view and control the system remotely is a great benefit to management during shutdowns, when less experienced staff respond to the auto dialer callout.



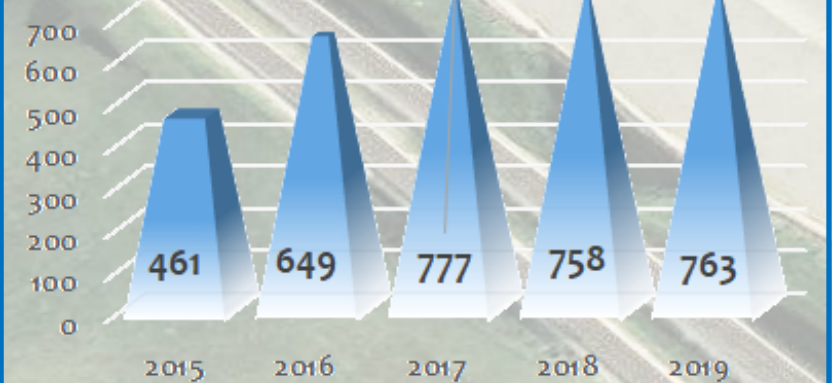
The Landfill recently purchased a new Vibratory Roller, replacing a 1991 (Tier 1) Vibratory Roller, with a (Tier 4) modern equivalent. The Vibratory Roller is used to compact cover soil, creating a flat area for vehicles to drive and back up on.

2019 Tarping Totals

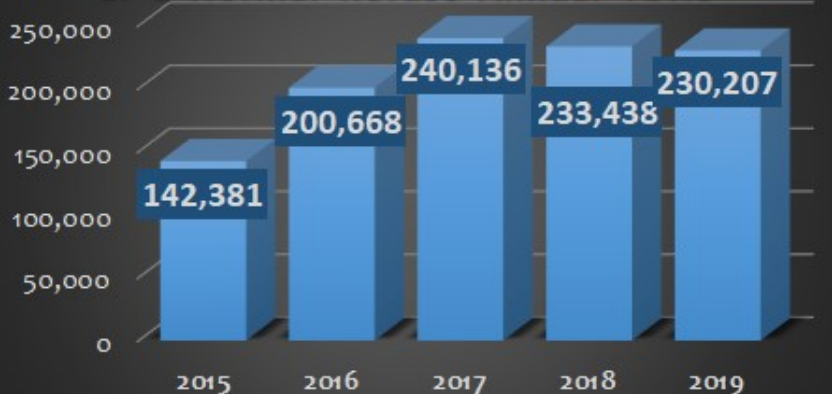


Implementation of a covered load program began July 1, 2019. This program charges customers the cost of the tarp (currently \$5), if they come in with their load uncovered. This program helps to prevent litter from blowing out of the vehicle, while in route to the landfill. The results are above.

LF-2 DAILY TONS AVERAGE



LF-2 Normal Refuse Annual TONS







Completed Landfill-2 Cell-6 construction project which has created an additional 5 years of landfilling capacity for municipal solid waste.



A Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS) was installed on Landfill 2 (LF-2) during 2019. This new expansion of the existing GCCS included the addition of **33** vertical wells, and **14** horizontal wells. This will help eliminate emissions, as well as potential ground water contamination.



The design for the In-fill Project at the Fink Road Landfill is complete and has been approved by the State; the Department is moving forward with the design and construction of the Project's onsite expansion, giving the an additional 150 feet of landfill capacity for solid waste disposal with an expected closure date of 2052.

Landfill crews responded to approximately **1,435** illegal dumpsite reports and picked up approximately **670** tons of refuse. Roadside clean up crews collected **2,190** illegally dumped tires.



Fink Road Landfill received two Ford F-250 trucks which help mobilize staff around site, as well as to transport staff and materials to the closed Geer Road Landfill for maintenance activities.



# Milk and Dairy

Stanislaus County has **177** cow, **7** goat and **4** sheep dairies. This is the same number of dairies as in 2018, however, **10** dairies canceled permits and **10** permits were issued.

Federal inspection: Interstate Milk Shippers (IMS) inspection is performed every 2 years by a state inspector who is trained by the Food and Drug Administration to inspect a random selection from Stanislaus County. This month 36 dairies were drawn out of a hat and inspected using criteria from the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) that Stanislaus County adopted last year. The dairies are scored in 2 categories: Condition and Enforcement. The Condition portion is how the dairies are producing milk in a sanitary condition with regards to cleanliness, protection from contamination, water and chemical protection. The Enforcement portion is how we handled issues on the dairies, being able to identify violations, correcting the violations in a timely manner, taking samples of milk and water in the timeframes outlined in the PMO. We passed with a Condition score of 95 and an Enforcement score of 99. Our last inspection in 2017 was a Condition score of 95 and an Enforcement score of 98.

Stanislaus collaborated with Tulare and Sonoma Counties in sharing program best practices during 2019



Antibiotic violations rose from **10** in 2018 to **15** in 2019



Starting July 1, 2019, the County issued new permits to all dairies that must be posted in the milk house, along with the most recent score sheet.



The **2nd** Robot dairy for Stanislaus County broke ground in 2019



On April 12, 2019, Stanislaus County assisted in an illegal milk/alcohol undercover operation with the CDFA Milk Branch Special investigations unit, Alcohol Beverage Control, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, Stanislaus County Animal Control, Code Enforcement, and Environmental Health. Milk was being milked out of a cow and a goat into a cup, mixed with tequila, and some spices. The mixture was then sold to the undercover agents. Later the undercover agents purchased some illegal cheese. Since the occupants didn't have a permit to sell alcohol or dairy products, the owner of the property was cited with a felony.





# Solid Waste



Like Willy Recycle on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/StanslausRecycles](https://www.facebook.com/StanslausRecycles)

Stay current and up to date on what's going on in our world.



Our Solid Waste team is a fixture at community events, where they provide resources on recycling throughout the County.

## Mandatory Commercial Recycling AB 341

Since implementation of AB 341 in 2011, we currently realize a **94%** compliance rate for qualifying **businesses** and **multi-family complexes**. Outreach and education efforts will continue through 2020 and beyond.



The 2019 **2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Week** is our **7<sup>th</sup>** year working with the **City of Modesto**, and our **second** year collecting used eyeglasses. This year, we collected **1,084** pairs of eyeglasses!

## Outreach, Education & Fun!

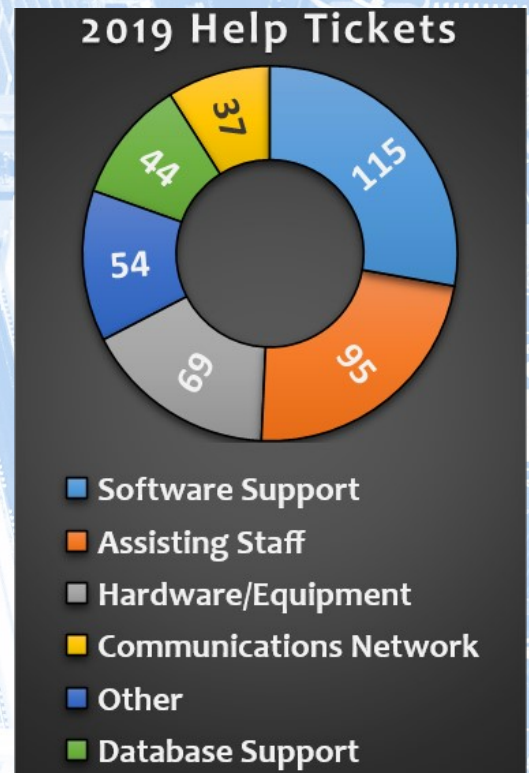
- ◆ Attended **12** Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Temporary Events promoting recycling used oil/used oil filters
- ◆ Earth Day
- ◆ Hughson Fruit & Nut/Car Show
- ◆ American Graffiti Car Show
- ◆ Collected **820** used oil filters during the July Used Filter Exchange
- ◆ Turlock Swap Meet
- ◆ Hosted the Cal Recycle Northern California HHW Information & Exchange Workshop
- ◆ FREE Paper Shredding and Recycling Event
- ◆ **647** tires were recycled through the Tire Amnesty Collection Program
- ◆ Hosted two showings of *The Clean Bin Project* at the State Theatre on America Recycles Day
- ◆ Conducted **48** recycling/stormwater school presentations reaching over **1,118** K-5 students
- ◆ Preschool *No Litter Bugs* library presentations were conducted at **9** County libraries engaging over **132** children and their caregivers
- ◆ Salmon Festival
- ◆ Implemented a Clean Boating Program at both County Reservoirs



# Information Technology

## 2019 Accomplishments

- Switched computer antivirus security to CrowdStrike and started using spotlight software to ensure software compliance with updates.
- Relocated Parks and Recreation staff hardware and completed the separation of information systems from Environmental Resources.
- Installed a new Virtual Machine software from VMware creating multiple virtual servers using a single physical server.
- Procured newer mobile phones that will get software updates and installing Microsoft Intune for management purposes.
- Purchased a new air conditioner for the server room to maintain appropriate temperature and prevent system overheating.
- Setup faster internet connection at the Fink road Landfill using a Virtual Private Network with a Next Generation Firewall to quickly encrypt traffic back to corporate.
- Information Technology staff responded to 834 help desk tickets for the year of 2019.



## Clerical

Clerical provides support to Environmental Health Inspectors, Hazardous Materials Inspectors, Code Enforcement Officers, Milk & Dairy Inspectors, Solid Waste Inspectors, Parks & Recreation, and to all Customers who come in to our reception.

**In 2019, clerical staff processed, tracked and recorded over 4,464 complaints and 21,500 phone calls**

## Safety

- ⊗ 105 Active Drivers
- ⊗ 100% Driver Compliance
- ⊗ 99% Ergo Compliance
- ⊗ 97% HazCom Compliance
- ⊗ 24 CPR/FA Trained
- ⊗ 16 BBP Trained

**The Safety Analyst conducted the following training in 2019:**

Wildfire Smoke Training, Heat Illness Prevention, Dog Bite Prevention and Spray, Active Shooter Training, Blood Borne Pathogens, Back Safety, HazCom, and Slips/Trips/Falls.



# Celebrations / Accomplishments



**Modesto  
Spirit of Giving  
5k Run**



**Ali Arshad  
Employee Mentor Program  
Site Coordinator of the Year**



**Robert Riess  
25 years with  
Stanislaus County**

## 2019 CONSOLIDATION AWARD

### Stanislaus County

Department of Environmental Resources

is hereby recognized for achieving extraordinary success in providing public health through increasing drinking water system sustainability, economies of scale, and local water resource sharing.



SIGNED BY:

*Darin Polhemus*

Darin Polhemus, P.E.,  
Deputy Director, Division of Drinking Water  
March 9, 2020



**Diversity Week  
Celebration**



# DER on Social Media