
Environmental Health Program



Annual Report 2014

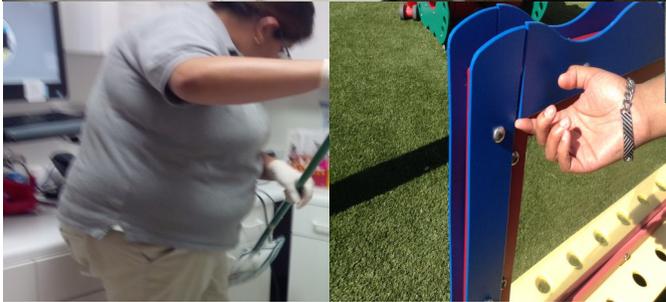


2014 ANNUAL REPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

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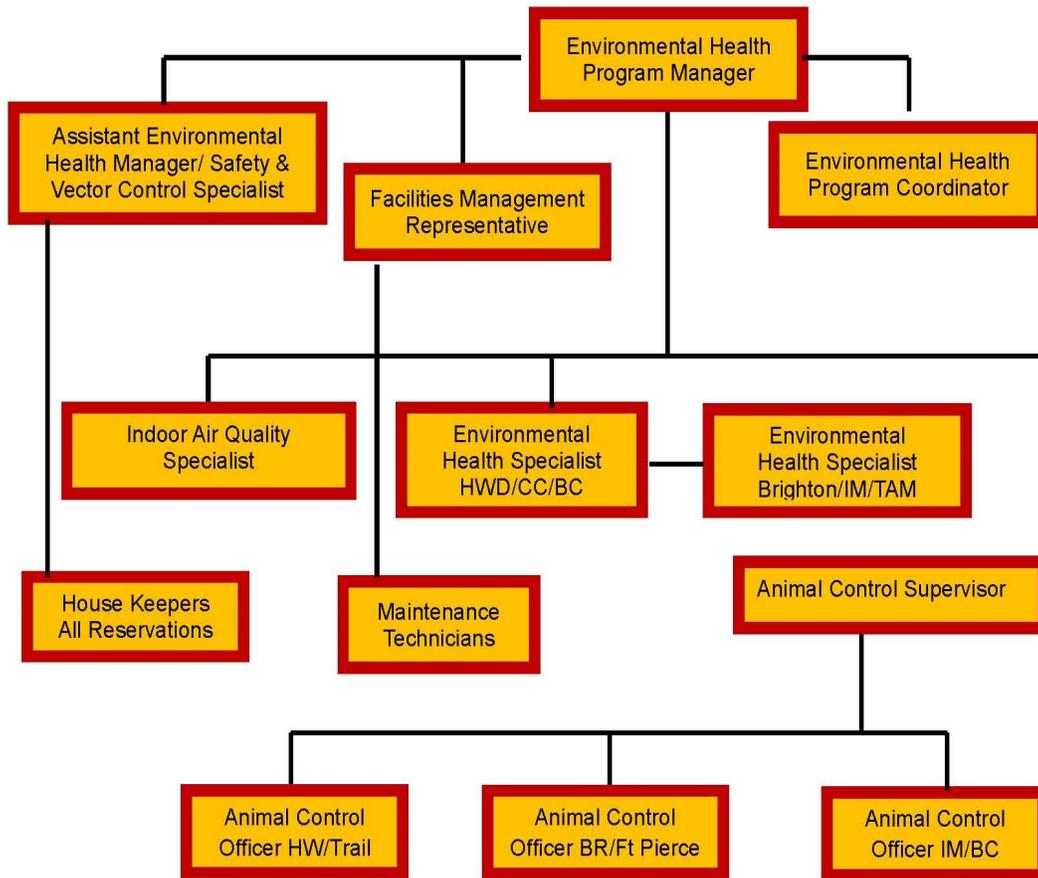
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ACTIVITIES IN A NUTSHELL



EHP ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Coverage is provided to each reservation on a scheduled daily basis



SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

HEALTH DEPARTMENT



2014 EH STAFFING

Environmental Health Program

Patrick Peck, MA Program Manager (TW)

Ava John, Asst Mgr., Safety Infection & Vector Control Specialist (TW)

Tim Neal, Health Facility Management Rep (TW)

HOLLYWOOD

Celia Arcia-DaSilva, Env. Health Program Coordinator

Nicholas Persaud, Environmental Health Specialist (TW)

Ana Ugalde, Environmental Housekeeper

Nestor Saenz, Facility Maintenance Tech (TW)

Jonathan Vazquez, Animal Control Officer/Coordinator (TW)

Gus Batista, Animal Control Officer (HW, TR)

Kirk Trenchfield, Indoor Air Quality Specialist (TW)

Clavio Gallerani, Facility Maintenance Tech (TW)

BIG CYPRESS & IMMOKALEE

William Shawn Heron, Animal Control Officer

Rose Gammon, Env. Housekeeper (HW, BC, IM)

Neal Wallace, Facility Maintenance Tech

BRIGHTON

Mary Roxanne Luster, Env. Housekeeper (BR, IM)

Evelyn Tiencken, Animal Control Officer (BR, FP)

Cheryl McDonnell-Canan, Environmental Health Inspector

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
MOTTO

TRUST
COMMUNICATE PRIORITIES
RESPECT
OPEN AND HONEST COMMUNICATION
RECOGNIZE AND PROMOTE EACH OTHER
FOCUS ON THE MISSION
KNOW THE PAST IS THE PAST
SEEK UNDERSTANDING
LISTEN
HAVE FUN
BE RESPONSIBLE
SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE
DISPLAY OPTIMISM
BE PERSONABLE
APPRECIATE WORK STYLE DIFFERENCES
PARTICIPATE
BE ROLE MODELS
BE ACCOUNTABLE
DEMONSTRATE CHARACTER
TAKE RISKS

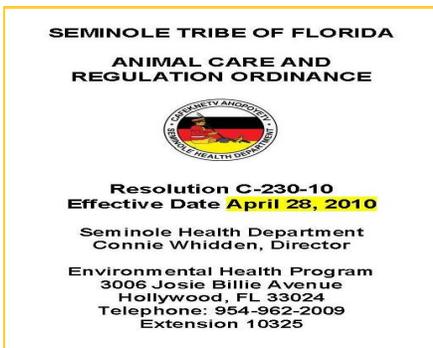
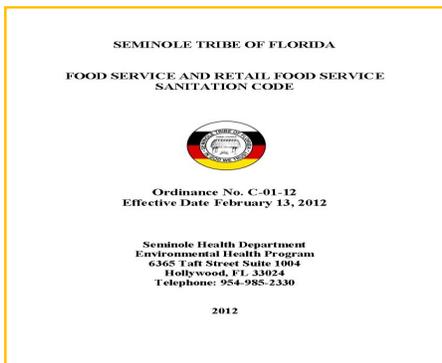
**“A CARING MOTIVATED WORK GROUP
PARTNERING WITH TRIBES TO PROVIDE A
HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERY TRIBAL
MEMBER”**

I H S-2011

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

WHO ARE WE?

A Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) is a specialty in the field of Public Health. REHS's are also known as Health Inspectors. They have many roles but are generalist on a variety of topics. An REHS can be certified in food safety, pools, septic, rodent/animal control, noise, lead, Indoor air quality (mold, radon, allergen testing), general safety, infection control, injury prevention, water and air management, underground storage tank (UST), Hazardous materials, emergency management, and hygiene / sanitation promotion. The Seminole EH staff has general expertise in all of the previously cited disciplines. Our staff represents the first line of defense when it comes to controlling and managing issues that may have a public health and environmental impact on the reservations. In 2014, all staff was provided with proper orientation on their job description. The staff is also intimately familiar with the communities in which they serve. Weekly visitation is performed on each reservation.



Environmental Health Mission Statement

The goal of the Environmental Health program at the Seminole Tribe of Florida is to safeguard the health and safety of the Seminole Tribe community through education, awareness, oversight and compliance assurance. The Environmental Health program seeks to prevent the outbreak and spread of disease throughout the Tribe's population by the implementation of Tribal and local guidelines and codes, investigation and prompt coordinated action.

We recognize that with over 3,000 Tribal members and a multitude of Tribal homes, community facilities, Tribal employees, outpatient clinics, casinos, schools, eateries, large/ small scale events, recreational pools, as well as a blend of residential, urban, rural, and natural environments on the reservations, opportunities greatly exist at any moment for hazards to be manifested.

It is the mission of the Environmental Health program to serve the residents of the Seminole Tribe under the direction and guidance of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Department as well as Tribal Council by conducting activities designed to protect public health through control of key environmental factors, including but not limited to, potable water, solid waste, food, sewage, animal, rodent and mosquito, indoor air quality, and chemical/physical hazards.

Where the scope of these activities is limited by programmatic boundaries, Environmental Health will cooperate and coordinate where appropriate with other public and private agencies such as the Humane society, County animal shelters, Tribal Housing, Building Dept., Real Estate, IT, Buildings and grounds, Education Dept., Fire Dept., Utilities Dept., Family Services, Recreation and Emergency Management

It is our intent to promote a cultural environment of shared responsibility within the community that will effectively identify hazards and manage the risk of injury and disease.

Consistent with the overall mission of the Seminole Tribe, The Environmental Health Program seeks to be at the forefront of public health concerns. Always working for a Safer and Healthier Seminole Tribe of Florida Community.

Overview

It is with great satisfaction that we submit this end of year 2014 EH report. The EH program made great strides and realized most of its Goals and Objectives in 2014.

The EH program has as its mission to manage and enforce Tribal Environmental Health codes in compliance with adopted regulations, ordinances, policies and standards.

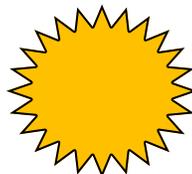
The EH program is comprised of three (3) licensed Sanitarians and one (1) Certified Environmental Health Inspector. This department continues to fulfill the needs and requirements of the community through the implementation of a multi disciplinary Environmental Health Program. In 2014, the EH team was comprised of sixteen (16) employees and provided eleven (11) core services:

- *EH Administration*
- *Food surveillance*
- *Pool/ spa / bathing places*
- *Food and pool water sampling*
- *Indoor air quality / Healthy home inspections*
- *Animal Control & Wildlife Services*
- *Vector/ mosquito control*
- *Safety and Infection control*
- *General /Community Environmental Health*
- *Safety/Injury prevention*
- *Environmental housekeeping services*
- *Facility Management*

We continue to maintain a high level of training for our staff. Our field staff have received and maintained the requisite licenses and certification in their respective areas of expertise.

We are thankful to the Tribal council and STOF Health Department Administration for adequately funding and supporting the EH program.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AT
ITS FINEST**



SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Below, please find a summary of EH accomplishments: for year 2014 :

- *Expansion of services and scope by Facility Management program*
- *Completion of biannual rabies clinics on each reservation including Fort Pierce*
- *Annual Review of Animal Control and Food ordinances*
- *Development of applicable policies and procedures*
- *Administered Indoor Air Quality program which includes mold, radon, allergen assessment, inspections, clearances, and investigations of Tribal homes and community buildings.*
- *Offering of "Tools for Schools" IAQ program at all of the preschools*
- *Supervision of mosquito control and other vector borne diseases on all reservations.*
- *Conducted routine safety and Infection control program including surveillance, monitoring, outreach, safety committee, disease tracking and incident reporting*
- *Completion of annual Health Department training on HazCom, Blood borne Pathogen and Clinic MSDS review*
- *Maintenance of staff training on AED, CPR, First Aid (American Red Cross and American Heart association)*
- *IT maintenance and upgrades of EH electronic data collection program for Food Surveillance and Animal Control programs*
- *Staff participation at Tribal Health fairs and community events*
- *Submission of monthly EH related articles for publication in Seminole Tribune*
- *Updating of STOF Health Department Hurricane policy manual*
- *Provided EH coverage for all reservations (Immokalee, Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood) including the Trail, Tampa, Fort Pierce and Coconut Creek*
- *Completion of annual food permitting, licensing, inspection, investigation, compliance /enforcement*
- *Offered quarterly Food Training Program (Food handler's certification).*
- *Renewal of mosquito control contract for 24 months*
- *Maintenance and support of Medical Waste Program*



Hollywood Medical & Dental clinics



Big Cypress Medical & Dental clinics



Brighton Medical & Dental clinics



Immokalee Medical & Dental clinics

FOOD SURVEILLANCE

Mission: To ensure that all foods that served, prepared and stored on the Reservations are safe, wholesome, sanitary, and in compliance with the Seminole Tribe and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Codes and meet State minimum standards. When non-compliance is identified, regulatory enforcement is taken so that unsafe or unlawful products are removed from the Market.

The EH Food Surveillance Program focuses on Food Service licensing and inspections of food establishments on all Seminole Reservations. Per the Tribal Food Code, in 2014, the EH Program collected \$7,884.00 in revenue from Food Establishment licenses fees (non-Tribal venues; Tribal-owned venues are exempt from fees).

The Reservations Food establishments cover a wide range of venue types: Preschools, Grade, Middle and High Schools, Elder Care Hot Meals, Tribal Kitchens, small restaurants, Subway sandwich shops and high-end restaurants and bars at the Seminole Casinos. Through methodical, periodic inspections, operators of these venues are monitored for sanitation, organization, worker competency, and compliance with the Seminole Tribe of Florida Food Code. There are 168 licensed food establishments requiring biannual inspections on Seminole Trust lands. In addition, temporary vendors selling food at the following events were also inspected: Hollywood Pow Wow, Brighton Field Days, Big Cypress Shoot Out and Immokalee Balloons Over Paradise.

In 2014, the Tribal Food Inspectors obtained their Professional Food Manager Certifications. A total of 492 inspections, 27 re-inspections and 8 food-related investigations were conducted. Tribal Inspectors performed food sampling on 16 occasions. There were no reported food-related illness outbreaks and no food safety advisories sent out to the communities. There were 2 food establishment closures and no Administrative Hearings held due to non-compliance. Additionally, 2 food-related articles were submitted for publication in the Seminole Tribune.

The EH Program has continued with Tribal-sponsored Food Safety Training classes, which have been offered to Tribal members and employees of Tribal-owned food establishments on each of the Reservations. In 2014, 5 classes were held. The E.H. Program is now in the process of transitioning to the Indian Health Service (IHS) Online Food Safety Training Classes, but will continue to hold classes for those persons uncomfortable with com-

pleting an online class. In 2014, 8 recipients were given Food Safety Excellence Awards for excelling at the food safety standards set by the Tribe's Food Code. They are listed by Reservation as follows: Hollywood – Hard Rock Live; Big Cypress – Ahfachkee School; Immokalee – Preschool and Senior Center; Brighton – Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School, Brighton Elder Affairs Center and Subway; and Tampa – Hard Rock Rise Kitchen Bakery & Café.

We trained 136 individuals on basic Food safety practices and held 5 Food safety classes.



Food sampling

# of Food Inspections	2013	2014
Inspections	446	492
Re-inspections	37	27
Complaints/ Investigations	14	8



Kitchen Health Inspection / Audit

BATHING PLACES

AQUATIC FACILITIES

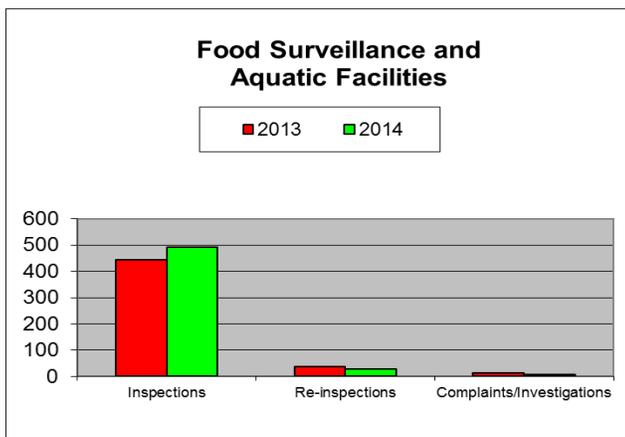
Mission: To ensure the safety and sanitary operation of pools and spas on Tribal lands. The goal of this program is to routinely inspect pools and spas for compliance with State standards. The water at these facilities is routinely sampled and checked for the presence of fecal coliform; other waterborne infectious diseases, such as cryptosporidiosis and giardiasis, are checked when needed.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida has a total of 23 aquatic facilities: 2 indoor pools, 14 outdoor pools and 7 spas. All pools and spas are inspected regularly and randomly tested for water quality throughout the year to ensure the health and safety of all bathers.

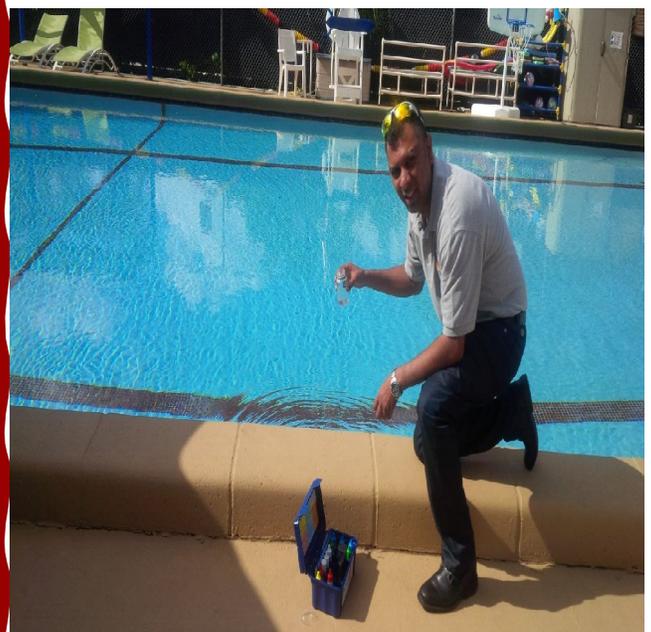
In 2014, a total of 46 swimming pool/spa inspections were conducted and 18 water samples were sampled and tested for fecal coliform. No bathing facilities were closed for non-compliance.



Food Facility Plan review



Water quality Pool inspection



Pool Water sampling

ANIMAL AND WILDLIFE CONTROL

Mission: To provide administration and enforcement services of the STOF Animal Control Ordinance while continuing to promote programs of animal care, responsible pet ownership and population control, including providing Tribal members assistance in a variety of animal related problems, while fostering rapport with Tribal members and ensuring the integrity of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Animal control Program.

The Animal and Wildlife Control Program has responded to a total of 1807 complaints in 2014 year. There were a total of 463 wildlife animals handled. There were 385 animals surrendered to county. There were 11 animal bites reported tribal wide. 170 animals were returned to the owners. There were 167 deceased animals and 48 livestock animals handled in total. In total the program impounded 566 animals in 2014. Some of the activities included the following:

- Conducted inspections at IGFA of the alligators on loan throughout the year
- Continued inspections at Billie Swamp Safari and during construction of Okalee Village and temporary housing facility.
- Conducted Housing Inspections in Hollywood and Brighton town homes throughout the year
- Met with FWC for Licensing Inspections and trainings throughout the year.
- Provided rodent baiting service tribe wide throughout the year.
- Conducted 9 rabies clinics bringing the yearly total animals vaccinated to 431.
- Represented the STOF and assisted in numerous events including Croc Fest 2014, Croc University Biologist field training and Everglades Conservation Club Wild Hog 2014.
- Conducted two Venom One Training Courses with Capt. Jeff Fobb of Miami Metro Dade Fire Rescue and Venom One team for the STOF Fire Rescue new recruits.
- Participated in the University of Florida Historical Publishing of the Historical Value and Impact of Alligator Wrestling and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.
- Commencement of incineration of animal carcasses.
- Our officers attended Large animal training, Python Patrol training and FACA Conference.



Animal & Wildlife control

Animal Control Stats	2013	2014
Complaints	2032	1807
Animals Surrendered to County	645	385
Animal Bite Reported	13	11



Rabies clinic– Vaccination Drive



Alligator Trapping

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Mission: To systematically evaluate and improve indoor air quality in Tribal homes and facilities utilizing an efficient and customer friendly approach. Staff will use state-of-the-art technology and be responsive to our clients. We aim to improve indoor air quality one home at a time! This program offers mold inspection and testing, allergen assessment, radon Testing, and general IAQ assessment (temperature, humidity, Carbon Monoxide, air velocity readings). On a requested basis, specialized testing can be performed such as testing for Chinese dry wall, asbestos, Volatile organic compounds, NO2, and Formaldehyde.

The Seminole Tribe EH program continues to expand its role by servicing homes off reservation. As a courtesy, we continue to offer IAQ Inspections off reservation to Tribal members.

2014 was a successful year for productivity and efficiency. We conducted a total of 290 inspections, which was a record high. In addition we continued to conduct meetings and consultations with Housing, and contractors to facilitate the completion of projects. We worked closely with Housing to manage the efficiency of these projects from start to finish. The Health Dept. consulted with Housing on the different reservations to help come up with a plan of how to better contact Tribal members to conduct inspections. An increase in pre-occupancy inspections was accomplished due to the number of new home constructions. Unannounced remediation monitoring was a significant part of our duties. We conducted 46 such monitoring site visits, which benefited Housing, contractors and ultimately, the Tribal members.

We also made continued progress with the Tools for Schools Program adopted from the EPA. This included monthly inspections of the Pre-Schools and Hot Meals (Senior Center). Over time, implementing this program has led to fewer complaints, due in part to the proactive nature of the program. Issues were often identified and corrected before becoming bigger IAQ or environmental problems. It was also a very successful year for continuing education. We completed 24 credit hours of IAQ courses to maintain credentials as State of Florida Licensed Mold Assessor and Council Certified Indoor Environmentalist. In addition, we began working with Housing on the Healthy Homes Program to promote and deliver IAQ classes to the seniors.

Statistical Data

227 inspections
63 clearances
49 meetings/consultations
68 unannounced monitoring site visits

IAQ Statistics	2013	2014
Investigations	187	227
Clearances	87	63



Moisture meter reading—IAQ



Carpet Sampling— IAQ

SAFETY AND INFECTION CONTROL

Mission: Safety and infection control

Environmental Health (EH) continued to ensure that the Tribes' Healthcare Facilities meet state standards as it relates of infection control.

Our infection control practices continue to adhere to standard precautions and are tailored to the level of care being provided and the patient population served.

We are utilizing a preventive health perspective to ensure the rights of patients and health care workers to a healthy environment. EH continued to coordinate all activities related to surveillance, prevention, and control of infections. Our Safety and Infection Control (SIC) Committee continued to meet bi monthly and is persistently working to reduce clinical related incidents and accidents. Our Safety and Infection Control Specialist coordinated in house CPR, AED and Fire extinguisher training, lead apron testing and provided monthly Fluoride water reports to the Dental Program. As a quality control measure, EH implemented a biannual ATP Testing Program for monitoring the cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and health care facilities. This is in our continual effort to maintain a safe working environment for clinical staff, patients and visitors

Incidents Report	2013	2014
BC	4	0
BR	3	2
HW	8	5
IM	0	3

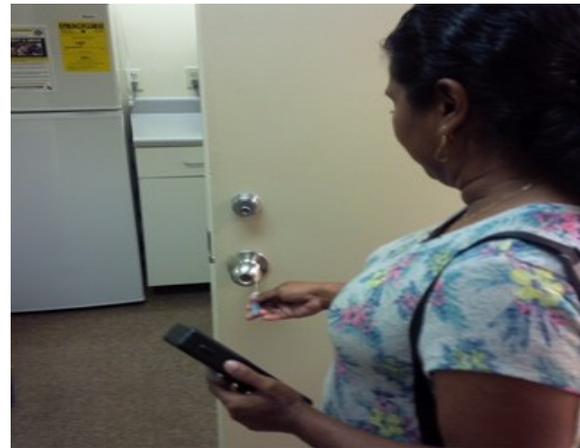
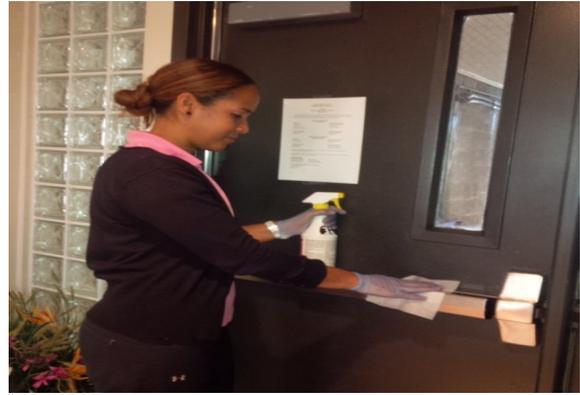
ENVIRONMENTAL HOUSEKEEPING

Mission: Housekeeping

Environmental Health provides Environmental Housekeeping Services for all Tribal healthcare facilities. Our housekeeping staff follows consistent cleaning and disinfection protocols which is a comprehensive housekeeping system that approaches cleaning through teamwork, ergonomic equipment and efficient cleaning supplies. This cleaning process provides a safer, healthier and more efficient working environment that maintain all clinic environments safe, sanitary and aesthetically pleasant for all.

The housekeeping staff provides consistent cleaning and disinfections practices on frequently touched surfaces and shared equipment to prevent the spread of dangerous pathogens and to maintain a safe patient environment. As a quality control measure, the Safety and Infection Control Specialist and the Facilities Manager visit each facility weekly for a visual inspection and make corrections and recommendations as needed.

Infection control & Housekeeping (below)



HEALTH FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Mission: To provide clean and safe environment friendly and efficient service for all who use our Tribal Health facilities. The core mission is to provide a secure, functional and aesthetically pleasing environment to all employees, patients, medical staff and visitors. We accomplish this by using our Facility staff in partnership with Buildings and Grounds. We also closely work with our vendors and suppliers to provide the most affordable blend of efficiency and responsiveness.

A total of 572 Facility work order requests were received in 2014. The program oversaw the following large projects:

- Design was finalized for a new Big Cypress Health Center. The contract was awarded and construction started. It is still in progress.
- A site was selected and a contractor was chosen for a new Hollywood Health Center in the old Farmer's Insurance Building at 5701 Stirling Road, Hollywood. It is still in progress.
- The decision to replace all the old Gem medical refrigerators and freezers was made. The search for the right brand and model to meet Health Department needs was started.
- Big Cypress Medical was moved into the area vacated by Big Cypress Dental moving into the new dental trailer. The construction project included replacing all the air conditioning ducts, removing non-friable asbestos in the attic, and repairs, test, and balance to heating and air conditioning systems. The shared cost between Health and Buildings and Grounds was about \$95,000.00.
- Tribal representatives decided not to spend more money moving Immokalee Medical or Dental into another modular building in the old Immokalee pre-school compound. The move was placed on indefinite hold but efforts to move non-clinical personnel into the old IM Pre School kitchen building.



Health Facility maintenance

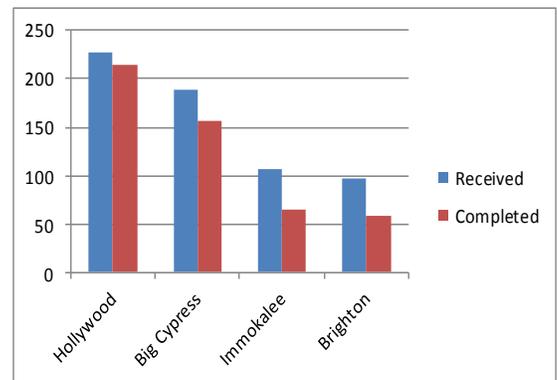
Received	Completed	Completed
<i>Hollywood</i>	227	215
<i>Big Cypress</i>	188	156
<i>Immokalee</i>	107	65
<i>Brighton</i>	97	58
Total Items	619	494
Percentage	Percentage	80%



Facilities Repairs



Floor plan review—Facilities



LIFE SAFETY PROMOTION

Mission: Our Mission is to promote health and wellbeing, and to reduce inequities in health by providing high quality and innovative education and training in a culturally aware manner. These efforts are all undertaken in a Tribal context respecting the norms, values and history of the community.

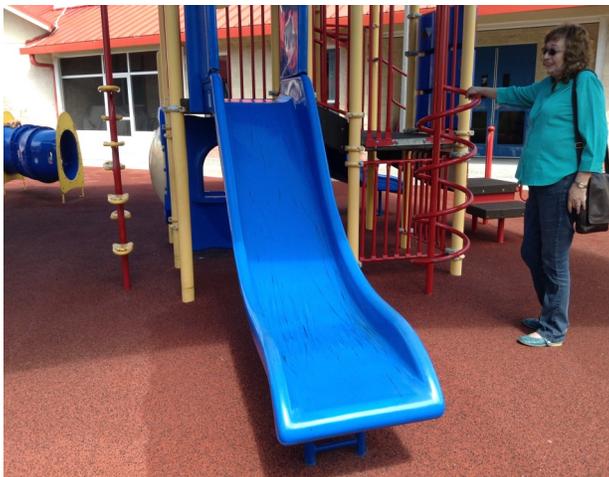
Much of the promotional and educational work is done by the bi-monthly dissemination of EH related articles in the local Tribal newspaper. Staff is also routinely participants in Tribal sponsored events. This is an opportunity to disseminate educational and program related material.

Our presence in the community is felt in a variety of ways. The EH program participated in a series of outreach programs and classes are routinely offered on a variety of topics covering disciplines such as Food protection, pool safety, Indoor Air quality, mold, hand washing, snake handling chemical safety, and other subjects,

We also routinely partake in a “tools for schools” forum at the pre schools working with teachers, administrators, and students in ways to recognize and prevent IAQ hazards with in the school system.

We participated in the Annual community events such as Brighton Tribal Fairs, Shoot Out event, Pow Wows and Immokalee balloon festivals.

The EH Program has teamed up with STOF Risk management to inspect Tribal playgrounds for safety. Final surveys are reported to Buildings and Grounds on a Quarterly basis.



Playground safety inspection



Annual Fire Drill– Immokalee clinic



Fire Extinguisher Training

STOF HEALTH CENTERS/CLINIC- TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKERS COMPENSATION ACCIDENTS REPORTED BY LOCATION AND YEAR				
	2013	2014	2015	TOTALS
BIG CYPRESS HEALTH CENTER	1	0	1	2
BRIGHTON HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL BRIGHTON HEALTH CENTER	2	3	3	8
HOLLYWOOD HEALTH CENTER	5	6	4	15
IMMOKALEE HEALTH CLINIC	1	0	2	3
TAMPA HEALTH CLINIC	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FOR THE YEAR/LOCATION/ALL	10	9	11	30



Safety and Infection control committee—Immokalee

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Mission: The overall goal of the Mosquito Control Division is to enhance the public's health and welfare on the reservations by safely reducing the mosquito population and to control the potential for the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases.

This goal is accomplished through an integrated pest management system incorporating physical, chemical and in, some cases, biological control methods. The program is based upon a sound, thorough, and accurate surveillance program.

The Tribe's mosquito control remains one of the most highly prized and effective programs within the EH program.

2014 was a big year for home site and public facility inspections. As you know we found hundreds of tires and containers which were dumped or treated in response to Dengue encroaching the area. Throughout the season we continued to check/treat those problem areas, and at times performed barriers to reduce the vector.

Last year we changed spraying patterns by sending 2 vehicles to a reservation at once, a truck to handle paved roads in the main communities and an ATV to handle the remote dirt roads and paths. The change made it easier to target peak flight times for mosquitoes and cover more individuals in the remote areas.

Over all we treated:

- 1) 82 Vec tests for WNV, SLE
- 2) 736 light trap settings
- 3) 439 acres of ground larvicide
- 4) 5250 acres of aerial larvicide
- 5) 584 linear miles of barrier
- 6) 3287 miles of truck/ATV adulticide
- 7) 243,000 acres of aerial adulticide

We also responded to 71 special requests thru the year. These requests range from public events, funerals and individual home sites and were treated by barrier or truck spraying.

Pictures below– (Top to bottom)

Adulticiding/Larvaeciding/ Trap counts/ Aerial spraying



CONCLUSION

Year 2014 proved to be a productive year for the EH program. We have accomplished much in 2014. The EH program has met and exceeded all of its challenges. In spite of budgetary cutbacks.

We will continue to meet the needs and serve the residents of the Seminole Tribe in a variety of ways. The EH program will continue to provide proactive, efficient and customer friendly services to the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Consistent with the overall mission statement of the Environmental Health program, we seek to be at the forefront of public health concerns; Always working for a Safer and Healthier Seminole Tribe of Florida Community