

# Environmental Health Program



**SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA**

## Annual Report 2015



**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission statement.....	3
I H S Motto .....	4
Staffing .....	5
Organizational Chart.....	6
Food Surveillance .....	7
Bathing Places .....	9
Animal & Wildlife control .....	10
Mosquito Control .....	12
Indoor Air Quality.....	14
Safety & Infection Control .....	15
Life safety promotion.....	15
Health Facility Management.....	16

# **STOF MISSION STATEMENT**

**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**

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE  
MOTTO

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

*I H S-2011*



# SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## 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)

Jonathan Vazquez, Animal Control Officer/Coordinator (TW)

### HOLLYWOOD

Celia Arcia-DaSilva, Env. Health Program Coordinator

Nicholas Persaud, Environmental Health Specialist (HWD, BC, CC)

Rose Gammon, Environmental Housekeeper

Gus Batista, Animal Control Officer (HW, TR)

Kirk Trenchfield, Indoor Air Quality Specialist (TW)

Nestor Saenz, Facility Maintenance Tech (HWD, IM)

### BIG CYPRESS & IMMOKALEE

William Shawn Heron, Animal Control Officer

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### BRIGHTON

James Edwards, Facility Maintenance Tech (BR, BC)

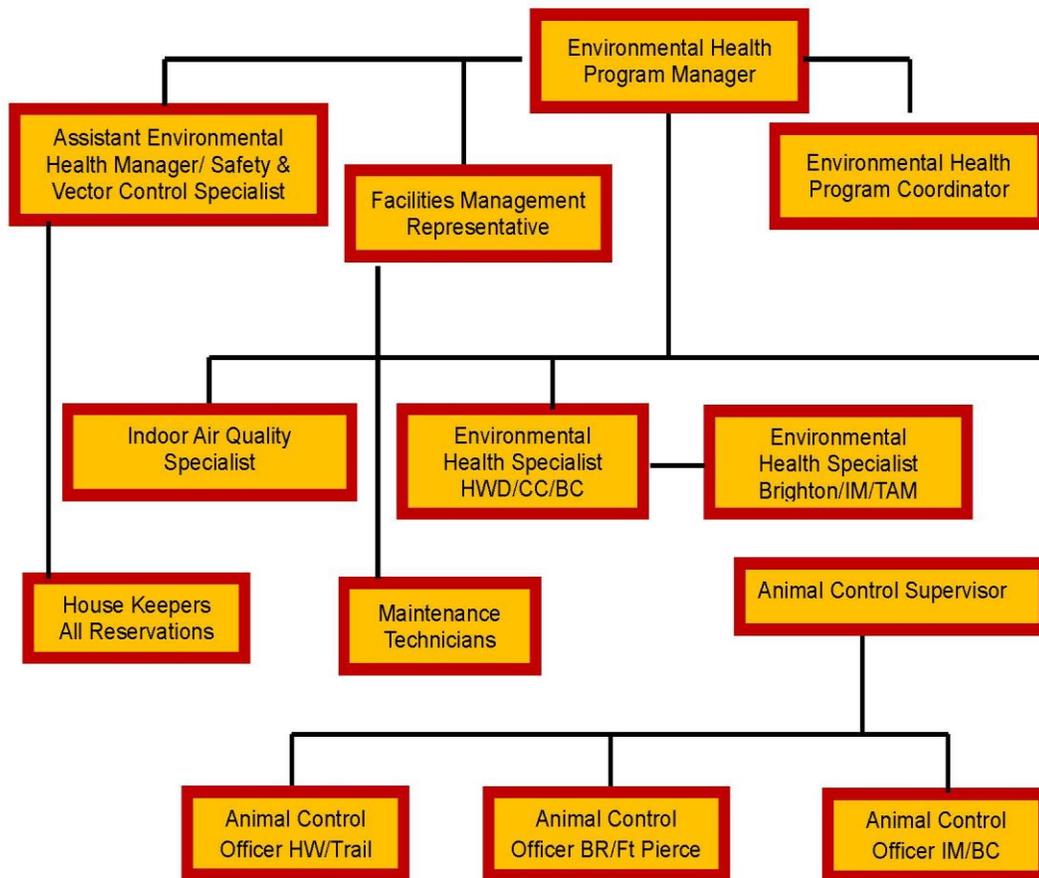
Lois McFarren, Env. Housekeeper (BR.)

Dean Youngblood, Animal Control Officer (BR, FP)

Cheryl McDonnell-Canan, Environmental Health Inspector (TP, IM, NP, FP, BR)

# EHP ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Coverage is provided to each reservation on a scheduled daily basis



## FOOD SURVEILLANCE

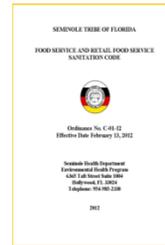
**Mission:** To ensure that food that are served, prepared and stored on the Reservations are safe, wholesome, sanitary, and in compliance with the Seminole Tribe, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Codes and meet State minimum standards. When non-compliance is identified, regulatory enforcement is taken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



PLAN REVIEW



FOOD INSPECTIONS



FOOD SAFETY ORDINANCE

The Food safety program Tribal Inspectors complete semi-annual inspections of all the food venues, complete re-inspections if needed, and also investigate complaints. The Inspectors that conduct these surveys are Certified Environmental Health Professionals in the State of Florida and Certified Food Managers. They are all extremely busy but are able to complete all needed surveys and trainings. Tribal and non-Tribal establishments are surveyed to assure they meet the requirements of the Tribal Food Code and both must obtain a license before operation. All non-Tribal Food Service vendors must pay an annual fee to maintain their license and the license can be revoked if the establishment is in non-compliance with the Food code.

In addition, we provide Food Safety Training classes at each reservation and are also using the Indian Health Service online Food Safety Training Course to assure that all food service workers are properly trained. Lastly, the program completes quarterly lab sampling of food from various establishments. This is a wonderful quantitative measure of the success of the establishments in keeping foods safe from contamination. Results have been excellent.

<b>ROUTINE INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>387</b>
<b>TEMPORARY VENDOR INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>FOLLOW UP INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>RE-INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>WALKTHROUGH INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>INITIAL INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>PLAN REVIEW</b>	<b>4</b>

## LICENSED FOOD FACILITIES BY RESERVATION AND TYPE

### Hard Rock Hotel

Restaurant	9
Bar	8
Café	1
Staff Restaurant	1
Catering	5
Convenience Store	1
Ware House	1
Canteen	1

### Hollywood Reservation

Canteen	3
Restaurant	1
Mobile Establishment	2
Convenience Store	8
Catering	3

### Coconut Creek Casino

Restaurant	2
Bar	6
Staff Restaurant	1
Convenience Store	3
Café	1

### Immokalee Reservation

Restaurant	3
Café	1
Bar	4
Staff Restaurant	1
Mobil Establishment	1
Warehouse	1
Concession Stand	2
Canteen	4

### Tampa Casino

Catering	3
Staff Restaurant	1
Bar	16
Restaurant	12
Convenience Store	1
Warehouse	1

### Hard Rock Paradise

Café	2
Restaurant	7
Concession Stand	2
Bar	2
Mobil Establishment	2

### Classic Casino

Restaurant	4
Bar	3

### Big Cypress Reservation

Concession Stand	3
Canteen	6
Café	2
Catering	1
Staff Kitchen	2
Restaurant	1

### Brighton Reservation

Canteen	5
Concession Stand	3
Temporary Vendor	1
Bar	1
Restaurant	2
Convenience Store	2
Catering	1

### Ft Pierce

Canteen	1
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## BATHING PLACES



**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 pathogens, such as cryptosporidium and giardia are checked when needed.



POOL TESTING

Staff are Certified as Pool Operators (CPO) along with other certifications and licenses. Each pool requires an on-site operator that keeps the system going on a daily basis; adjusting flow rates, chemicals, and temperatures as needed. As with food service the inspectors assure the pool environment is safe and the pool operators keep the pool and spa waters properly disinfected. The Inspectors look for needed rescue equipment, adequate chemical storage, signage, general cleanliness and chemical assessment of the pool and spa to assure they are adequate. In addition, they collect samples from each pool for laboratory water quality testing. This testing is a great quantitative evaluation of the program.

The Inspectors are able to complete semi-annual surveys on the pools and collect several water samples for the lab.



ROUTINE INSPECTIONS	65
FOLLOW UP INSPECTIONS	0
RE-INSPECTIONS	12
INITIAL INSPECTIONS	3

## 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.



Wildlife Capture



Snake handling Training



Tribal Ordinance



Dog Impoundment

Environmental Health has had this program for several years and is constantly expanding its capabilities. The first big accomplishment was the development of an Animal Care and Regulation Ordinance in 2010. Having a Tribally endorsed document makes it much easier for us to do our job. We have been able to create a small shelter with four large kennels and an incinerator for pets and wild animals at the Brighton reservation. We will hopefully be setting up a similar operation at Big Cypress to be able to take in local pets and strays. We have at our disposal a small boat to address issues in the swamps. We have been providing rabies clinics every year at each reservation and provide microchip for the animals to get them home quickly. We can quickly get a picture and information out to Tribal members if we find an unchipped animal to get that animal home as soon as possible. We will then require proper vaccinations and chipping before releasing the animal.

We have created brochures on rabies, heat stress in animals, how to protect pets during cold weather, rodent control, and more. We typically are contacted by the health clinics in the event of an animal bite and respond quickly. The animal control program responded to a total of 1,736 complaints in 2015. There were a total of 362 wildlife calls and 45 livestock handled. We surrendered 461 animals. We reported 10 animal bites Tribal wide. A total of 151 animals were returned to their rightful owners. There were 188 deceased animals picked up. In total the program impounded 612 animals and 167 animals were registered by the STOF Health Department.

## FREE MICRO-CHIP



## FREE RABIES VACCINATION

## PET REGISTRATION

ACTIVITIES	NUMBER OF SERVICES
1. Complaints	1736
2. Animal Bite cases	10
3. Wild Life /livestock cases	362
4. Deceased / carcass pick ups	188
5. Canvas/Surveys/patrols	3
6. Impounded animals	612
7. Animals Registered	167
8. Animals returned to owner	151
9. Animals surrendered to county	461
10. Rabies Clinics	4

## 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.



Mosquito Treatment



Mosquito trap counts

The Seminole Tribe of Florida Mosquito Control Program is one of our prized programs. The service is provided by both the Aviation service and a local contractor. They both have great knowledge of mosquitos and associated illnesses. Between the contractor's knowledge and creative inventions made by Tribal pilots, we have been able to greatly reduce the population of mosquitoes on Tribal lands with the least possible biological effect on the land.

The contractor has mosquito collection sites on and off of the reservations to trap mosquitos and determine an estimated population. Routinely the traps on the reservation have a much lower number of mosquitos than those off of the reservation which shows that our treatment methodology is working. A biweekly Vector Report is provided to the EH Program Manager noting the numbers and types of mosquitos collected. We have brochures available with tips for avoiding and repelling mosquitos and have also completed articles for the Tribal newspaper regarding protection from mosquitos. In the last two years, the mosquito control program has added in a new component to the program which is a state of the art larvacide treatment that can directly treat any standing water and greatly reduce the overall mosquito population. The larvacide is a bacterium that attacks the larva but is safe for waterways. There were no positive Mosquitos found on any of our Reservations.

# 2015 MOSQUITO CONTROL STATS-

## Reservation Treatment Totals

Reservation	Ground ULV	Aerial ULV	Ground Larvicide	Aerial Larvicide	Barrier Applications
Big Cypress	1091.5 miles	133,100 acres	165 acres	3090 acres	163 linear miles
Brighton	809.9 miles	75,500 acres	172 acres	1320 acres	128.5 linear miles
Immokalee	219.3 miles		54 acres	178 acres	74.5 linear miles
Hollywood	53.4 miles		312 catch basins		13 linear miles
Ft. Pierce	74.8 miles		11 acres		62.0 linear miles
Lakeland	84 miles				24 linear miles

## Reservation Surveillance Totals

Reservation	Light Traps set	Larval Inspections	Vec Tests
Big Cypress	216	135 sites	37 tests
Brighton	207	96 sites	37 tests
Immokalee	74	56 sites	
Hollywood	68	9 sites	
Ft. Pierce	72	19 sites	
Lakeland			

## ADULTICIDE OPERATIONS

208,600 acres Treated by Helicopter

2332.9 Miles of Truck/ATV Spraying

465 Linear Miles of Barrier

Over 342,000 Acres treated by Ground and Air in 2015

27 Special Event Applications were performed in Fiscal 2015

## LARVACIDE OPERATIONS

Majority of rainfall occurred July-September 2015

Checked sites Pre and Post for Aerial Applications

402 Acres of Ground Larvicide

4588 Acres of Helicopter Larvicide

Treated all Catch Basins in Hollywood in May and October (312 Total)

## 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, NO<sub>2</sub>, and Formaldehyde. As a courtesy, we continue to offer IAQ Inspections off reservation to Tribal members.



MOLD TESTING /INSPECTIONS

Indoor air quality concerns continue to grow each year. The EH department has one full time surveyor that provides home and school inspections addressing IAQ concerns. The surveyor is a Certified Indoor Environmentalist and a Certified Mold Remediator. The surveyor conducts pre-occupancy inspections in new home constructions. He offers mold inspection and testing, allergen assessment, Radon testing, and can complete a general IAQ assessment including temperature, humidity, Carbon Monoxide, and air velocity. A report is completed after each survey to provide findings and recommendations. The program has also been providing IAQ inspections off reservation to Tribal members. The inspections can be requested by Tribal members, a medical practitioner, or the Housing Department.

Inspections	210
Clearances	37
Samples	205
Meetings	73
Reports	235
Trainings	1

## SAFETY AND INFECTION CONTROL

**Mission: Environmental Health (EH) ensures that the Tribes' Healthcare Facilities meet state standards as it relates of infection control.**

Housekeeping is provided at all the clinics.

The Infection Control (IC) program is run through EH for the Tribal health clinics. The IC Specialist is responsible for providing appropriate infection control policies and procedures, assuring standard precautions are followed and assessing work practices of employees in regards to IC. This person is also responsible for investigating communicable disease outbreaks and occupational illness or injury.

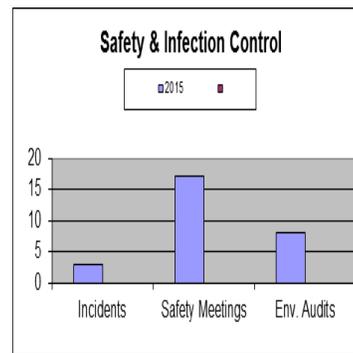
Housekeeping thoroughness is assessed quarterly by ATP testing. The ATP testing results also show that we are properly cleaning and disinfecting hard surfaces. Adenosine Triphosphate, or ATP, is the energy molecule found in all living and once living things, making it the perfect indicator when trying to determine if a surface is clean or not. With an ATP monitoring system, ATP is brought into contact with a stable reagent in the test device. Light is then emitted in direct proportion to the amount of ATP present in the sample, providing information on the level of contamination in seconds. This is a wonderful quantitative tool to use when assessing the decontamination of hard surfaces.



Bimonthly SIC meetings



Environmental housekeeping services



## 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.**

The Program provides community outreach through newspaper articles, brochures, and attendance at Tribal functions to provide these health and safety materials. In addition they schedule training in the use of fire extinguishers and health facility fire drills. They are available

at fairs and Pow Wows to provide environmental health assistance and information. Injury Prevention as a whole is run through a different department, but the EH role is working with schools on safety and IP initiatives and providing safety surveys of Tribal playgrounds. *Each year in the United States, emergency departments treat more than 200,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related injuries. Between 1990 and 2000, 147 children ages 14 and younger died from playground-related injuries. (Tinsworth 2001). (cdc.gov)*

The EH Program has a Certified Playground Inspector who evaluates all Tribal Playgrounds each year for any Safety Issues.



Annual Fire extinguisher training for staff



Playground Inspections

## 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.**

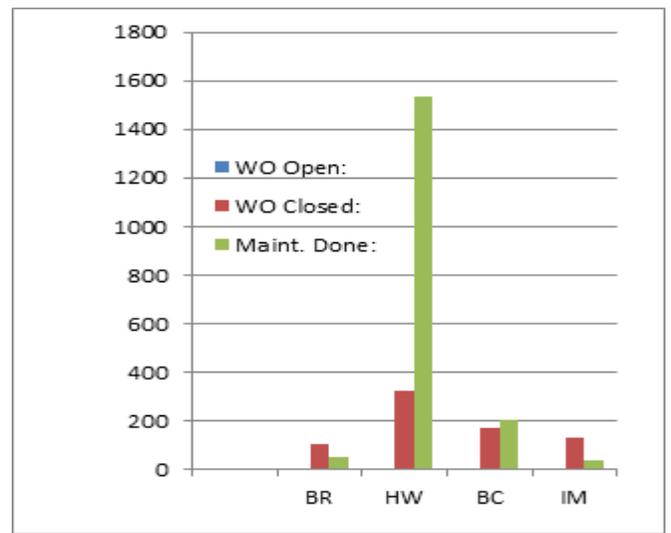
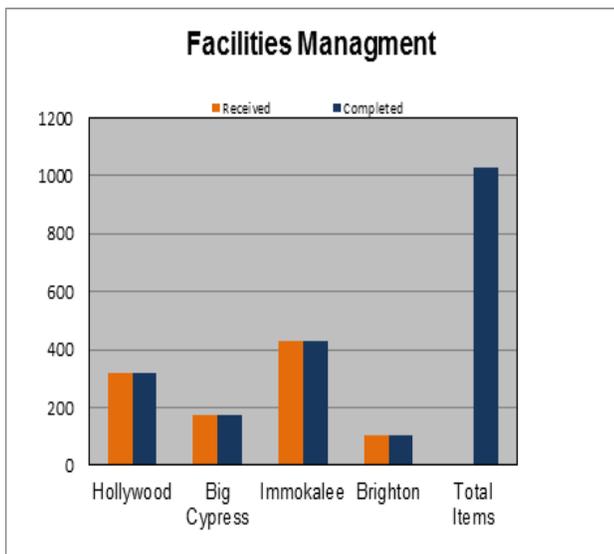
The Director of Facilities Management has an extensive background. He and his maintenance Technicians have several certifications between them ranging from Journeyman Electrician, Certified Electrical Contractor, Journeyman Planner and Estimator, Certified Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, Electrical Safety Certification and Certified Tile and Marble Contractor, just to name a few. They are responsible for maintenance and repairs at all the clinics. They assess repairs and evaluate conditions at each facility. They visit construction sites to assure execution and timeline requirements are met. They work with the IC Specialist evaluating housekeeping techniques and facility cleanliness. They partner with Building and Grounds to assure a secure, functional, aesthetically pleasing environment is maintained.

**HEALTH FACILITIES WORK REQUESTS, PREVENTATIVE & CONTRACTOR REQUESTS/OVERSIGHT**

Res.:	WO Open:	WO Closed:	Maint. Done:	Total:	% Completed
BR	0	107	53	<b>160</b>	<b>6.26%</b>
HW	0	321	1533	<b>1854</b>	<b>72.51%</b>
BC	0	169	207	<b>376</b>	<b>14.70%</b>
IM	0	129	36	<b>165</b>	<b>6.45%</b>
	0	0	1	<b>1</b>	<b>0.04%</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>2557</b>	

**Preventative Maintenance**

Requests	Received	Completed
Hollywood	321	321
Big Cypress	171	171
Immokalee	429	429
Brighton	106	106
<b>Total Items</b>		<b>1027</b>
<b>Percentage</b>		<b>100.00%</b>





**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**