

AIR AND NOISE CONTROL PROGRAM - 2007

Overview

During 2007, the Monmouth County Health Department Air and Noise Control Program performed 564 site visits and 185 minor source inspections.

Air and Noise Site Visits

In total, 564 site visits were made during 2007 compared to 367 in 2006.

<u>Site Visits</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Citizen Complaints	37	36
*DEP Referrals	184	90
Minor Source	185	78
Complaint Reinvestigations	<u>158</u>	<u>163</u>
Total	564	367

*A facility in Tinton Falls was responsible for approximately 100 odor complaints. The facility has since changed its storage and processing practices.

Minor Source Inspections

This year, 185 minor source inspections were conducted compared to 78 in 2006.

<u>Minor Source</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Boilers	1	10
Dry Cleaners	130	26
Gas Stations	54	25
Spray Booths	<u>0</u>	<u>17</u>
Total	185	78

Noise Control Program

Eleven noise complaints were investigated in 2007; two of them are still pending. The first one involves a complaint we received from a resident in a new building in close proximity to a hotel with a loud cooling system. Night time readings revealed that the hotel was in violation of the state noise code. The hotel was notified and allegedly made modifications to the cooling system before the system was shut down for the season. New readings will be taken in the spring when the chiller is again operating.

The second open complaint involves residents who live near a high school with a football field who have been complaining about the noise from the games on the weekends. The

Air Program has been on site several times. Some of the noise levels were subsequently reduced and the school has stated that it will make every effort to come into compliance for the 2008 football season.

GIS/GPS Completed Projects

All maps for GIS are updated on an as needed basis. The gas station map and all staff maps were made current this year. Also, as part of the County's 2007 CEHA agreement, all dry cleaning facilities in the county were GPSd. In addition, they were to be separated by perc or non hap solvent usage and whether they were stand alone facilities, or located with commercial or residential buildings. A total of 145 active dry cleaners are on the map that was submitted to CEHA.

Outreach

As agents of the NJDEP the MCHD inspects dry cleaners in order to determine their compliance with state regulations. Most of the penalties collected by the MCHD in 2007 resulted from dry cleaner penalties. The operators stated that they were unaware of the regulations in reference to bookkeeping, transfers of ownership and permitting. To that end, in September the MCHD gave a presentation to the Korean Dry Cleaners Association at its request. This discussion also included the importance of retaining records for future reference. Last year the MCHD was able to rescind or reduce fines that would have been incurred had not the operator kept application forms that were never received by the NJDEP. A detailed explanation of the new regulations as well as a table illustrating the increase in penalties was included in the powerpoint presentation. The NJDEP sets the penalty matrix and only allows the Air Program to reduce its fines by 20%. Last year the NJDEP developed a penalty reduction guideline whereby the MCHD was able to reduce a penalty by 50% if the operator was willing to upgrade to a Generation 4 machine or 75% if the operator was willing to install a non hap machine. The meeting was designed to inform the owners of the requirements necessary to operate their facilities in compliance with NJDEP regulations.

Looking Ahead

In 2008 the Program will take on the rigorous task of inspecting 90 B sources at the request of the DEP. We will also inspect the remaining dry cleaners that were not inspected in 2007. The Program anticipates problems with gas station inspections that are also part of our CEHA agreement. The NJDEP is now scrutinizing the required testing by the stations and the penalties have increased dramatically. Since we foresee the same problems we incurred with the dry cleaners inspections, we will develop an outreach program that will not only include gas station owners but will also extend to the operators of boilers and generators. Idling will not be a major focus but we will continue to respond to idling complaints. The fumes from idling school buses impact residents who suffer from asthma and live in close proximity to the bus yards. Our outreach will include school boards so that we may emphasize the importance of the no idling

regulation. In 2008 we will continue to fulfill routine DEP requirements in addition to serving the residents of Monmouth County, particularly as they are affected by issues under the jurisdiction of the Air and Noise Program.