



BAPPG Meeting Notes

February 3, 2021, 10 am

1. Introductions

There were 32 attendees representing 24 Northern California wastewater agencies.

2. Updates

a. Steering Committee

- Budget is on-track with 62% spent about halfway through the fiscal year.
- Due to the recent PFAS ban in most fire-fighting foams (SB1044), there may be a need for decontamination of equipment that previously used PFAS-containing foams. The Steering Committee will be looking into potential coordination with the Regional Water Board and/or other stakeholders on this issue.
- The [BAPPG Annual Report for 2020](#) is now available on the BACWA website.

b. BACWA Announcements

- The BACWA Annual Meeting will occur as a virtual event on Friday, February 19th.

c. OWOW

- OWOW is continuing to meet through the end of the fiscal year, and hopes to continue running after the dissolution of BASMAA. OWOW is remodeling its website to make it more mobile-friendly.

d. CWEA

- CWEA P3S Conference will be virtual, March 8 – 11th.

e. Pesticides Committee Update

- TDC Environmental will support pesticide regulatory work through June 2021, after which Kelly Moran will be focusing exclusively on work at SFEI. The steering committee is discussing coordination opportunities with CASQA and CVCWA.

3. RWQCB Pollution Prevention Report Update

Debbie Phan from the San Francisco RWQCB provided helpful reminders for completing, formatting, and submitting annual Pollution Prevention reports, which are due March 1st this year (Feb. 28th is a Sunday). Permittees should briefly note if public outreach events or other activities were (or could be) cancelled due to COVID; a detailed explanation isn't necessary. She also encouraged permittees not to neglect the "Outreach to Employees" section. Her presentation [is posted on the BACWA website](#).

Permittees do not need to attach the BAPPG 2020 Annual Report to their individual P2 Reports. Mentioning participation in BAPPG and including a link to the report are sufficient.

4. Safer Cleaning Campaign Update

Ciara Pringle from San Francisco Dept. of the Environment provided an update on the Department's planned outreach campaign on safer cleaning products, which is expected to go live around April.

She will provide graphics and outreach materials such as a fact sheet for use by other agencies once the outreach campaign is underway.

5. Veterinary Outreach Update

Stephanie Hughes provided information about a recent outreach event with the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). On Jan. 22, she and other BAPPG members presented [Introducing the Link Between Consumer Flea and Tick Control and Water Quality](#) to the AVMA environmental issues committee. They were very receptive to the message and will be determining whether the next step is to endorse the BAPPG message about spot-on flea treatments or to link to the BAPPG website. A recent [Veterinary Information Network](#) article also addressed this topic.

6. Gel Pack Disposal Directions

Stephanie Hughes provided information about [proper disposal of gel packs](#). There are three key points:

- The material inside the gel packs is not expected to be toxic.
- Most gel packs are not safe to put down the drain because they can cause drain clogs within a building.
- A few kinds of gel packs are formulated to be “drain-safe.” This terminology is used by at least one company (Nordic) but is not industry-standard. The contents of these gel packs can safely be put down the drain.

During the discussion of this topic, members noted that:

- Very few (if any) meal kit companies offer take-backs of gel packs. [Good Eggs](#) accepts gel packs as a take-back.
- This may be an outreach topic best addressed post-COVID and/or by the CPSC.
- The City of San Jose’s recycling website has a good description of [What to Do With All That Meal Kit Packaging](#).

7. Next meeting – April 7, 2021, 10am – 12pm, via Zoom.