



## **1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION DIVISIONS**

The Environmental Health Administration of the HDOH is organized into seven division-level offices, one of which is the HEER Office. The HEER Office frequently works closely with other divisions/programs within Environmental Health Administration to help address the range of environmental issues that may occur on a specific site. The divisions of the Environmental Health Administration are described in the sections below:

### **1.4.1 Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response Office**

The HEER Office mission is to protect human health, public welfare, and the environment and provide state leadership, support and partnership in preventing, planning for, responding to, and enforcing environmental laws relating to releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants. The organization and function of the HEER Office is described in Section 1.3.

### **1.4.2 Environmental Management Division (EMD)**

The EMD is responsible for implementing and maintaining statewide programs for controlling air, water and wastewater pollution, assuring safe drinking water, and for the proper management of solid and hazardous waste. The EMD is organized into five branches, as follows:

- Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch (SHWB)—administers the following sections:
  - Solid Waste Management Program provides permitting and enforcement for municipal solid waste management as well as special waste management and alternative waste management.
  - Hazardous Waste Management Program provides inspection and enforcement for facilities that generate, store, transport or treat hazardous wastes.
  - Underground Storage Tank Management Program (UST Management Program) provides inspection and enforcement for design and operation of USTs, as well as oversight of leaking UST cleanup.



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Programs within the SHWB operate under specific authorities/regulations; sites that have overlapping regulatory issues may need to work with multiple program representatives within the branch.

- Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB)—administers federal and state safe drinking water regulations for public water systems in the state to assure water served by these systems meets state and federal standards.
- Clean Water Branch (CWB)—administers and enforces federal and state water pollution control laws and regulations. Services include permitting of point sources, compliance monitoring, inspections, investigations of complaints, and ambient water quality monitoring.
- Clean Air Branch (CAB)—responsible for implementing a statewide air pollution control program through services that include engineering analysis and permitting, monitoring and investigations, and enforcement of federal and state air pollution control laws and regulations.
- Wastewater Branch (WWB)—implements construction of County wastewater facilities and is involved in related regulatory and financing issues.

**1.4.3 Environmental Health Services Division (EHSD)**

The Environmental Health Services Division (EHSD) implements and maintains statewide programs to assure safety of food and drugs, control noise and radiation, and improve air quality. They are also responsible for lead and asbestos abatement programs, sanitation, and vector control. The EHSD is organized into four branches, as follows:

- Noise, Radiation and Indoor Air Quality Branch—responsible for statewide programs of community noise and radiation control through services including inspections, education, consultation, and enforcement. They also work to ensure air conditioning and ventilation rules are enforced, and the public is protected from exposure to lead and asbestos.
- Food and Drug Branch—ensures food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, and related consumer products are safe, effective and properly labeled, while also providing education and consultation for food handlers.



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- Sanitation Branch—enforces sanitation laws and rules relating to food and service establishments, public swimming pools, housing, milk, recreational trailer camps, and tattoo artists. They also oversee licensing for sanitarians, mortuaries, cemeteries, and embalmers.
- Vector Control Branch—prevents or suppresses outbreaks of vector-borne diseases and vector nuisance by maintaining vector populations below disease or nuisance causing levels.

### **1.4.4 Environmental Planning Office**

The Environmental Planning Office (EPO) develops strategic plans, supports land use reviews and helps get new programs underway. They are also involved in coordinating watershed management projects and the polluted runoff control program.

### **1.4.5 Compliance Assistance Office**

The Compliance Assistance Office (CAO) is a one-stop, non-regulatory office that helps small business understand and comply with environmental regulations.

### **1.4.6 Environmental Resources Office**

The Environmental Resources Office (ERO) handles many grant and administrative responsibilities, primarily implementing administration changes, establishing new positions, and assisting programs in obtaining funding from the USEPA.

### **1.4.7 State Laboratories Division**

The State Laboratories Division (SLD) administers a statewide program which conducts analytical testing services in support of environmental health and communicable disease control activities, as well as public health emergency preparedness and response efforts. SLD provides consultative and other related laboratory services to departmental programs, health care providers, institutions, and various federal, state, county, and city agencies including the certification of certain types of laboratories, and the licensing of clinical laboratory personnel and medical review officers. SLD participates in environmental and public health training, research, exercises, and investigations.