

Fires in Solid Waste Piles

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[LEA Central Search](#)

[What's New](#)

[Index](#)

[Communications](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Databases](#)

[Facilities](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Programs](#)

[Legislation and Regulations](#)

[Tools & Services](#)

[LEA Central Home](#)

Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) Central

Fires at Solid Waste Facilities

California is experiencing what appears to be an increase in the frequency of fires in piles of waste at solid waste facilities and operations. The Board wishes to provide a venue for open dialog, information sharing, and the generation of ideas for and by stakeholders on this topic.

For additional information contact [Dennis Corcoran](#) at (916) 341-6395.

Status

The Board will hold a [public workshop](#) (MS Word, 140 KB) in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal on March 29, 2005, in Sacramento. See Stakeholder Input below for additional information.

Stakeholder Input

March 29, 2005 Workshop

- Notice: [Adobe PDF](#), 39 KB or [MS Word](#), 140 KB
- Agenda: [Adobe PDF](#), 34 KB or [MS Word](#), 13 KB
- [Workshop Broadcast](#) (live, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/leacentral/fires/>

More Information

Discussion Paper, December 2004 ([MS Word](#), 195 KB or [Adobe PDF](#), 271 KB): Prepared to promote discussion on the topic of fires at solid waste facilities. Based upon inspection report information, news reports, and personal communications from LEAs, Board staff and others.

[Solid Waste Fires](#), August 2004: All-LEA memorandum

[Waste Tire Fires](#): With more than 30 million tires generated yearly in California and an estimated 15 million stockpiled--legally and illegally--around the state, the potential for a major tire fire is a constant threat.

Last updated: March 23, 2005

[LEA Central Search](#)[What's New](#)[Index](#)[Communications](#)[Contacts](#)[Databases](#)[Facilities](#)[Events Calendar](#)[Programs](#)[Legislation and Regulations](#)[Tools & Services](#)[LEA Central Home](#)

Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) Central

LEA Directory

Local enforcement agencies (LEA) are designated by the governing body of a county or city and, upon certification by the Integrated Waste Management Board, are empowered to implement delegated Board programs and locally designated activities. LEAs have the primary responsibility for ensuring the correct operation and closure of solid waste facilities in the state. They also have responsibilities for guaranteeing the proper storage and transportation of solid wastes.

Select listings for
specific county(s):

01-Alameda
02-Alpine
03-Amador
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05-Calaveras
06-Colusa

OR

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- [Databases](#)
- [Facilities](#)
- [Events Calendar](#)
- [Programs](#)
- [Legislation and Regulations](#)
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County of Contra Costa (07-AA, [Certification types: A B C D](#))

Health Services Dept
Environmental Health Division
2120 Diamond Blvd Ste 200
Concord, CA 94520

Stuart, Ken
Director
Phone: 925-646-5225 231 Fax: 925-646-5130
Email: kstuart@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

Nakamura, George
Program Manager
Phone: 925-646-5225 226 Fax: 925-646-5130
Email: gnakamur@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

Braunesreither, Lori J.
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Email: lbraunes@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

Spencer, Vince
Phone: 925-646-5225 234 Fax: 925-646-5130
Email: vspencer@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

Fung, Eric
Phone: 925-646-5225 236 Fax: 925-646-5130
Email: efung@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

DeMaggio, Michele R.
Phone: 925-646-5225 209 Fax: 925-646-5130
Email: mdimaggio@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us

City of Pittsburg (07-AC, [Certification types: A C D](#))

Solid Waste Management Division
PO Box 1518
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Fuller, John
Director
Phone: 925-252-4114 Fax: 925-252-4004

Wright, Laura L.
Division Manager
Phone: 925-252-4114 Fax: 925-252-4004
Email: lwright@ci.pittsburg.ca.us

Stockenberg, Donald
Phone: 562-438-6788 Fax: 562-433-1744
Email: stockenberg@earthlink.net

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Last updated: February 11, 2004

LEA Information Services <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/LEACentral/>
Donnaye Palmer: donnayep@ciwmb.ca.gov (916) 341-6321
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Construction and Demolition Debris











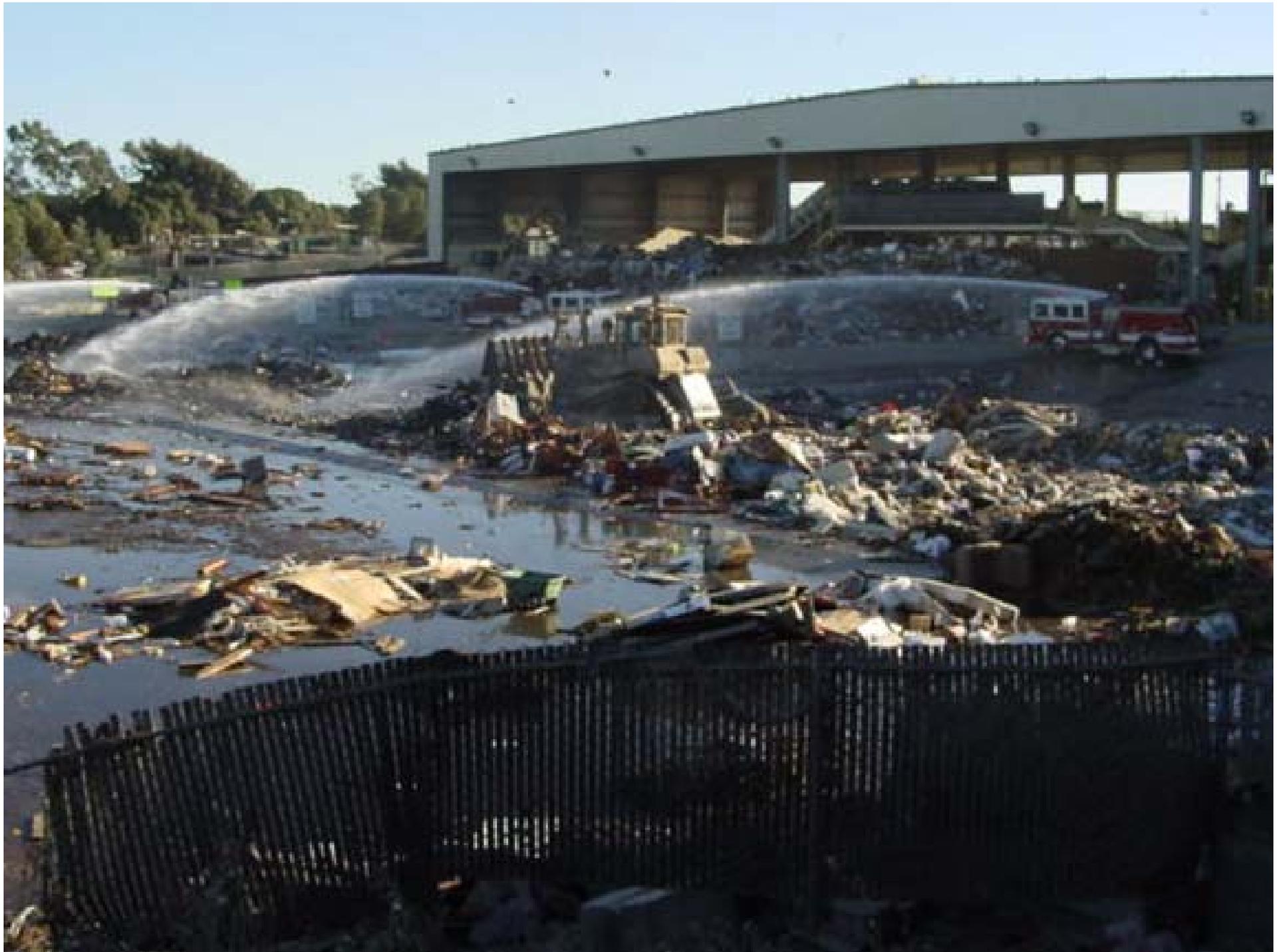


Transfer Station









Compost Materials







Pile Size and Location Issues

Distance measured by: Tape Pace Estimate **Not to Scale**

16. Sketch the area where the fire originated

Access to Green Waste

110 x 50' x 20'

METHANE Collection Unit

FIELD of METHANE VENTING

VENTED

18. Action

None	<input type="checkbox"/> Invest. Cont'd.
Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Litigation













Key Discussion Topics for Solid Waste Fires

List of Issues or Problems Identified

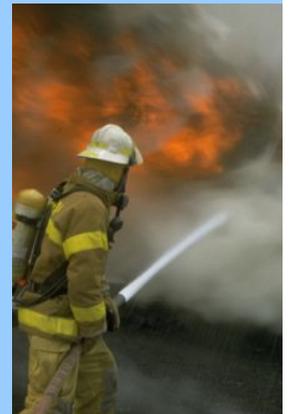
1. Number and extent of fires difficult to determine
2. Accurate fire case studies difficult to obtain or create
3. Verifiable cause difficult to determine
4. Fire Departments and Solid Waste LEAs don't routinely interact
5. Official BMPs don't exist:
Prevention and Suppression not standardized
6. What else?



Key Discussion Topics for Solid Waste Fires

Gaps or Ideas That Could Lead to Solutions

- 1. Are new CDI Fire Preventions Plans useful?**
- 2. Can Voluntary BMPs prevent or reduce fires?**
- 3. Develop BMPs to suppress a solid waste fire?**
- 4. Revise Fire Codes for solid waste businesses?**
- 5. Use CUP, CEQA or CIWMB processes to mitigate fires?**
- 6. More Education/Outreach needed?**
- 7. New Laws? New Regulations?**
- 8. What else can be done?**



VOTING OPTIONS

Revise Title 14, CCR

Add insurance requirements to cover fire costs

Greater penalties for intentional fires at SWF

**Develop new CIWMB regulations,
(e.g. apply Fire Prevention Plan regulations to all sites)**

Develop legislation

**Develop BMPs
(i.e. width, length, total volume)**

Revise fire codes



VOTING OPTIONS (continued)

Develop Model Ordinances

Develop Guidance Document

**Develop Education Materials and Training
(CDs, Videos, Brochures)**

**Systematic Coordination
(Quarterly Meetings, Sharing Fire Reports, etc.)**

Develop Web-based tool kits

Other



Top Four Potential Solutions

- 1) Develop more educational materials,
- 2) Develop a SFM model ordinance,
- 3) Develop BMPs to mitigate fires,
- 4) Promote Systematic Coordination



Next Steps

- 1) Continue to receive comments from LEAs, etc.**
- 2) Continue to update Website**
- 3) Develop Action Plan for BMPs, Model Ordinance, Training and Systematic Coordination**
- 3) Plan Coordination Meetings in Fall 2005**

Bring together LEAs, Operators, Fire Service and others to discuss regional solutions including BMPs and information sharing



Questions?
Comments?



Fire Prevention, Control and Mitigation Plan

Fire Prevention, Control and Mitigation Plan

(A) Description of the measures the operator will take to prevent fires and to control and extinguish fires at the site;

(B) Identification and description of the equipment the operator will have available (on site and readily available on-site) to control and extinguish fires;

Fire Prevention, Control and Mitigation Plan (cont.)

(C) Description of the measures the operator will take to mitigate the impacts of any fire at the site to the public health and safety and the environment;

(D) Description of the arrangement the operator has made with the local fire control authority having jurisdiction to provide fire prevention, control and suppression;

Fire Prevention, Control and Mitigation Plan (cont.)

(E) Discussion of the ability of the local fire authority to suppress fires at the site in light of the authority's personnel, expertise and equipment, the availability of water, access to the site and to flammable materials on the site, the nature of flammable materials on the site, the quantity and dimensions of materials on the site, and the potential for subsurface fires in accumulations of flammable materials on the site;

(F) Evidence that the operator has submitted the Plan to the local fires control authority for review and that the authority has found it to be in compliance with the authority's applicable requirements.

CCR Citations

- 14 CCR 17386(a)(19) - Operation Plan for:
 - Small Volume CDI Processing Operation
 - Inert Debris (Type A) Processing Operation
 - Small Volume C&D Wood Debris Chip. & Grind.
- 14 CCR 18223(a)(19) - Facility Plan for:
 - Medium Volume CDI Processing Facility
 - Medium Volume C&D Wood Debris Chip. & Grind.
- 14 CCR 18223.5(a)(20) - Facility Report for:
 - Large Volume CDI Processing
 - Large Volume C&D Wood Debris Chip. & Grind.