

**Environmental Health Services
Division Director Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: March 26, 2026**

DATE: March 12, 2026

TO: District Board of Health

FROM: Robert Fyda, Director
775-328-2644; rfyda@nmpH.org

SUBJECT: **Environmental Health Services Program Activities for: Consumer Protection** (Food Safety Plan Review & Operations, Commercial Plan Review, Foodborne Illness, Special Events, Permitted Facilities); **Environmental Protection** (Land Development, Safe Drinking Water, Vector-borne Disease Surveillance, Waste Management / Underground Storage Tanks).

Environmental Health Program Activities:

Consumer Protection Programs

Food Safety Plan Review & Operations

Special Processes & Program Standards Team

- The team participated in a Psychological Safety training presented by Washoe County.
- Staff participated in beef and meat identification training with the owner of the local butcher shop.
- Staff received training in adult education principles and planned and scheduled existing and new educational initiatives in food safety for industry professionals.
- Staff reviewed four HACCP plans and five operational plans throughout January and February.
- Staff hosted three Active Managerial Control (AMC) program courses in January and February with combined attendance of 42 facilities.
- Staff member, Sarah Velto, completed standardization exercises in February.
- Staff hosted two public information sessions on February 18th and 23rd to provide information regarding the pilot announced inspection program.
- The announced inspection pilot program began on February 15th.
- Staff members conducted an environmental assessment at a local food establishment in response to receiving both a complaint and a confirmed illness referral for the facility. While several food safety violations were noted at the facility, the noncompliant food handling practices were not associated with risk factors of the etiology of disease.

Food Safety Plan Review

- A final construction inspection was conducted for the commercial kitchen at Liberty Dogs, the veteran service animal facility located in Downtown Damonte. All construction was completed and staff are waiting on the facility to submit their HACCP plan.
- The team has met with a potential operator that wants to develop the closed Scolari's building in Sun Valley. The operator wants to turn it into a meat, grocery, taco shop, and a commissary

kitchen for mobiles, portables, and carts. Items discussed were requirements to build kitchen, grease interceptor, and potential dump station to be used by all operators who will need to dump grey water.

Temp Foods / Special Events / Mobile Foods

- Western Lights Festival, a large event encompassing several blocks of downtown Reno with high volume attendance (tens of thousands), had over 20 food/beverage vendors. EHS staff were onsite conducting inspections during and after the snowstorm during the week of the event and ran into some unique, weather-related challenges, including a 3-compartment sink that was brought in for vendors to use that was completely frozen.
- Staff had a productive follow-up meeting with the City of Reno to discuss streamlining the event permitting process to make the application process easier for the public and more efficient for both City of Reno and Health District staff.

Foodborne Disease Program

Epidemiology	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	2025
Foodborne Disease Complaints	15	6											21	99
Foodborne Disease Interviews	10	3								3			13	65
Foodborne Disease Investigations	0	1											1	5
CD Referrals Reviewed	8	9											17	104
Product Recalls Reviewed	12	14											26	198

Food Operations Enforcement and Investigations:

Permit Suspensions

Ongoing enforcement activities related to continued non-permitted food operations throughout Reno, Sparks and unincorporated Washoe County. Staff continue to partner with other agencies regarding these complaints.

A. *Jimboys Tacos, H19-1313FOOD, 3280 S Virginia St, Reno, NV*

NNPH visited the facility on 1/9/2026 to conduct a routine inspection found five (5) critical violations for: improper storage of raw animal products, inadequate sanitization of food contact surfaces, and improper cooling. Additionally, staff found the walk-in unit was not functioning adequately. The facility permit was suspended due to lack of inadequate refrigeration. Staff verified that the operator corrected the issue same day and reinstated the permit.

B. *King Buffet, H19-0595FOOD, 3650 Kietzke Ln, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 1/14/2026 for repeat consecutive critical violations as well as number of critical violations (6) for date marking, cold holding, and time as a public health control. The operator was required to write AMC policies and attend an office hearing prior to permit reinstatement to explain how critical risk factors will be kept in compliance. On 1/15/2026, the office hearing was held and the AMC policies were approved, and the permit was reinstated. The operator will receive a subsequent reinspection to verify the policies are in place.

C. *168 Asian Supermarket, H19-0948FOOD, 3090 S Virginia St, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended for seven (7) critical violations for: serving food from an unapproved source (meat and fish products) and improper cooling and date marking. Staff found the facility repacking meat and fish product on site (3rd visit where this was observed), operator was required to apply for a manufacturing permit subject to USDA verification if they wish to continue the process. Operator was reinspected on 1/22/26 and received a conditional pass.

D. *Hong Kong Diner, H20-0418FOOD, 180 W Peckham Ln, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 1/27/2026 for multiple critical violations for three consecutive inspections cycles as well as number of critical violations (6) for handwashing, raw food storage, cooling and date marking. The operator was required to write AMC policies and attend an office hearing prior to permit reinstatement to explain how critical risk factors will be kept in compliance. On 1/28/2026, the office hearing was held and the AMC policies were approved, and the permit was reinstated. The facility received a conditional pass on subsequent reinspection on 2/6/26.

E. *Viet Pho of Reno Corp, H20-0827FOOD, 315 E Moana Ln, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 1/29/2026 for a 3rd consecutive inspection with a cold holding and violation and five (5) critical violations. The operator was required to repair cold holding units as applicable. On 1/30/2026, the office hearing was held and the permit was reinstated and an AMC policy for cold holding with required temperature logs. The facility will receive a reinspection to verify cold holding and temperature logs.

F. *Jia's Wok, H20-0977FOOD, 477 E Plumb Ln, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 2/4/2026 for nine (9) critical violations and two (2) repeat critical violations observed for the 3rd consecutive inspection for: improper handwashing, bare hand contact with ready-to-eat food, improper cooling and date marking. The operator was required to write AMC policies and attend an office hearing prior to permit reinstatement to explain how critical risk factors will be kept in compliance. On 2/6/2026, the office hearing was held and the AMC policies were approved, and the permit was reinstated.

G. *King Sushi, H20-0615FOOD, 180 E 1st St, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 2/5/2026 for eight (8) critical violations and potentially operating without permits due to change of ownership occurring. The operator attended an office hearing with current ownership prior to permit reinstatement to explain how critical risk factors will be kept in compliance. On 2/10/2026, the office hearing was held and the facility agreed to a reduced menu of sushi, mariscos, and teriyaki chicken bowls. The permit was reinstated with restrictions on 2/12/26.

H. *Xola the Food Truck, H24-0519FOOD, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 2/13/2026 for operating without a current permit and lack of running water while in operation. Staff are waiting for the operator to correct the issues prior to reinspection.

I. *Los Chilaquiles Mexican Breakfast, H21-0458FOOD, 3380 S McCarran Blvd, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 2/24/2026 with five (5) critical violations and for repeat critical violations annually of cold holding and cooling since 2023. The permit was suspended until they attend an office hearing and address the equipment issues. On 2/26/2026, the office hearing was held and the documentation and policies provided to address the cooling issues were approved, the permit was reinstated same day with operator follow required to ensure cooling equipment is adequate and properly executed.

J. *La Posada Real, H20-0983FOOD, 5270 Longley Ln #100, Reno, NV*

At time of inspection on 2/23/2026, a floor drain in the kitchen was overflowing with sewage water. Due to the presence of wastewater, the permit is temporarily suspended. The facility may not operate or preparation food until repairs are completed to address all issues.

K. *Shanghai Restaurant, H21-0441FOOD, 1269 Baring Blvd, Sparks, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 2/25/2026 for failing to pass the inspection along with a history of violations and permit suspensions dating back to 2021. The facility was required to attend another office hearing regarding the repeat critical violations found. On 2/26/2026, the facility met with staff and discussed the extensive history of non-compliance. The operator was given a 90 day probation period to address issues where failure to complete the 90 day probation may result in permit revocation.

L. *Extra Mile #4216, H22-0602FOOD, 3205 Eastlake Blvd, Washoe Valley, NV*

At time of inspection on 2/25/2026, inspector found that facility lacked the ability to sanitize dishes, the permit was temporarily suspended. The facility was allowed to continue operation of their grocery permit by no preparation of food allowed until repairs are completed. Facility was reinspected on 3/2/2026 and received a passing score.

M. *Sand & Sage Grill, H20-1121FOOD, 3255 Eastlake Blvd, Washoe Valley, NV*

At time of inspection on 2/25/2026, inspector found that facility lacked the ability to sanitize dishes due to a faulty dishwasher, so the permit was temporarily suspended. Facility was able to repair the faulty equipment and was reinspected same day.

N. *El Shrimp Bichi, H24-0394FOOD, 2201 Prater Way, Sparks, NV*

The permit was suspended as the mobile truck was not utilizing their servicing area. The facility may not operate or preparation food until a servicing area is found and documentation provided.

Permitted Facilities

Commercial Plans / Development Reviews

- Commercial Plans are trending up over this same time period last year.
- EHS received 132 Commercial Plans to review for the month of November which is 22% more than this same time period last calendar year.
- 94% of all plans received in February 2026 were reviewed within the regional goal of 14 days.

Program Highlights

- The program spent the last month focusing on school inspections to ensure inspections are on target for upcoming school breaks.
- Childcare regulations are pending completion of formatting. Childcare regulations are being modified and some sections adjusted to meet State of Nevada requirements in NAC and NRS.

Commercial Plans & Development Reviews		JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
Development Reviews		38	29											67	374	349	461
Commercial Plan Review Submittals		123	132											255	1,704	1,729	1,814
Total Reviews Conducted		189	205											345	2,479	2,469	2,270
Revision Resubmittal Rate		60%	52%											56%	48%	52%	
# Plan Reviews exceeding 14 calendar days		12	13											25	140	438	
% Plan Review meeting Regional Goal		90%	90%											90%	92%	75%	
Review Type Breakdown	Engineering	85	94											179	1,323	1,270	1,568
	Food	37	36											73	369	452	400
	Pool/Spa	5	9											14	55	96	84
	Vector	25	46											71	627	583	278
	Hotel/Motel	4	0											4	44	25	19
	Environmental	1	0											1	44	41	78
	UST / WM	1	2											3	17	34	7

Commercial Plan Review Detail	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024
New Reviews Submitted (1st Review)	48	64											112	874	826
Reno	29	48											77	598	519
Sparks	7	7											14	144	171
Washoe	12	9											21	132	136
Average days in review (1st Reviews)	8	5											6	6	10
Revisions Submitted (2nd Review +)	75	68											143	810	903
Reno	53	48											101	560	619
Sparks	13	10											23	138	192
Washoe County	9	10											19	112	92
Average days in review (Revisions)	7	5											6	6	12

Vector-Borne Disease Program

Vector	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
Total Service Requests	1	0											1	107	51	99
Mosquito Pools Tested	0	0											0	602	403	948
Mosquito Surveys and Treatments	0	0											0	651	151	242

Environmental Protection

Residential Septic & Well Plan Reviews

- A total of 72 plans were taken in in January, 42 of which were new submittals. This is almost exactly in line with January 2025. February saw a 33% increase in plan submittals as compared to February 2025, but inspection numbers saw a slight decrease, likely due to the winter storms.
- Team leadership continued to work with Technology Services throughout January and February to refine and improve the well and septic record types in Accela. This has included testing a new checklist for test trench inspections in the septic record and refining the permit card for septic records to be consistent with the well permit card. One team member has been very interested in learning how these updates can be processed via the Accela Mobile app and how they can help streamline the inspection process and final record. That team member also demonstrated the capabilities of the Mobile app for the rest of the team.
- On January 12th, the team held another session of our relator outreach class “What Real Estate Professionals Need to know about Properties Served by Septic or Well in Washoe County”. Seventeen people attended the course, and all seemed appreciative of the information presented in the session.

Team leadership is exploring the requirements for this course to be approved for Continuing Education by the Nevada Real Estate Division.

- Revisions to the Regulations Governing Sewage, Wastewater and Sanitation went to the Board of Health in January and were approved. The regulations will then go to the State Board of Health for approval in March.
- Throughout January and February, the team updated forms and documents as they pertain to the revisions in the Sewage, Wastewater and Sanitation regulations. Staff from Office of the District Health Officer are also assisting with updates to the Spanish translations of these documents.

Land Development	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
Plans Received (Residential/Septic)	61	64											125	784	885	828
Residential Septic/Well Inspections	72	46											118	884	1,001	1,004
Well Permits	12	5											17	86	115	90

Safe Drinking Water

- No sanitary surveys were completed in the month of January, and one sanitary survey was completed in February. Twenty-four sanitary surveys and five water hauler inspections remain to be completed in 2026.
- During January, the team worked with Grandview Terrace Water District to finalize their Lead Service Line Inventory (LSLI). The LSLI was initially due in October 2024 and Grandview Terrace Public Water System was the only system regulated by NNPH that did not complete it at that time. During February team leadership met with Grandview Terrace and NDEP staff to help the water system explore all possible funding options to address a manganese exceedance at their backup well. This PWS has undergone a complete management change in the last year, and EHS staff have worked to connect the new management team with partner agencies for a variety of issues. The new management is working hard to address outstanding violations.
- Team leadership has continued to process water projects via NDEP’s Planner program. Many of the water projects are currently in the construction phase and some of them have already been constructed and completed. This project has long been a goal of the water team to handle tasks consistently with the State utilizing their system and it keeps the drinking water database updated and accurate. This project also provides NDEP with all water project documents so they can be properly retained in the state archives system. Once leadership is comfortable with the process, staff assigned to the program will be trained as well.
- In February, NDEP staff requested to meet with team leadership to discuss the outstanding violations and deficiencies associated with Rosemount Water Company. This PWS filed for bankruptcy in 2025, and the Nevada Public Utilities Commission is in the process of appointing a receiver. During the meeting a list of outstanding violations and deficiencies was developed and reviewed by NNPH staff for accuracy.
- Throughout February, the team worked through a list provided by BSDW of numerous water systems with missing water quality results. The missing results were due to be sampled during 2025 and for a variety of reasons were not received by NDEP for data entry. Many of the missing results were able to be provided by the water systems, some are still being processed by the Nevada State Health Lab. Work on this project will continue into March until all sample results are received or the appropriate monitoring violations have been issued.
- The 2026 Spring Monitoring Reminders were emailed to all Washoe County Public Water Systems by Office Support staff in February. These reminders list all water quality requirements for 2026 for

each water system regulated by NNPH. They are collated and emailed in the spring and fall each year to help ensure each water system is fully aware of their monitoring requirements for the year.

- Team leadership met with NDEP staff to discuss which water systems that NDEP may be able to assist NNPH staff with when it comes to official enforcement activities.
- Team leadership met with NDEP staff regarding how Consumer Confidence Reports will be handled by NDEP and how it impacts NNPH. The meeting resulted in plans for collaborating on the compliance activities for 2026 to help improve consistency across NDEP and NNPH.

Safe Drinking Water	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024
Sanitary Survey	0	1											1	20	23
Level 1 Assessments	0	0											0	2	6
Level 2 Assessments	0	0											0	4	2
Water Projects Received	0	0											0	2	23

Waste Management / Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)

- UST staff inspected 14 fuel sites, one on-site reinspection and 7 compliance document review re-inspections in January. Two decommissioning inspections were conducted and one site permanently closed. In February, UST staff inspected 19 fuel sites, one on-site reinspection and 3 compliance document review re-inspections.
- Staff received 30 complaints for the month of January and conducted 55 on-site inspections. In February, the team received 11 complaints and conducted 40 on-site inspections.
- Solid Waste Management staff inspected 27 permitted waste management facilities / liquid waste trucks and conducted two (2) re-inspections. Three new liquid waste trucks were opened and two opening inspections on waste management permits occurred during the month. In February, 23 permitted waste management facilities/liquid waste trucks and conducted three (3) re-inspections. One new permitted waste management facility and one new liquid waste truck were opened.
- The team resolved several high-profile situations with apartment complexes having issues with trash. Several occurred when the complexes changed ownership and had problems with their WM accounts, there were heavier accumulations due to the holidays, and general management problems. Staff worked through all of the issues and coordinated with WM when necessary. As of the beginning of March, all were resolved.
- A new senior EHS was onboarded on February 16th with training to occur over the next two months.
- Staff attended a virtual fentanyl clean up training.
- Staff met with Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention staff on the topic of a pilot program for vape waste. KTMB did a study in 2025 in collaboration with the group and now they are exploring ways to facilitate proper disposal within the school district.
- Staff met with WM for their quarterly meeting where topics of discussion included: apartment complexes with waste issues, sharps chain of custody, and discussion of possibly charging dumpster cost back to customers that did not utilize NNPH provided dumpsters for clean ups.

EHS Inspections	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
Child Care	9	14											23	133	119	133
Food/Exempt Food	282	281											563	4,434	3,803	3,576
Schools/Institutions	45	59											104	301	276	300
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up	13	18											31	128	285	110
Temporary IBD Events	2	0											2	122	147	36
Liquid Waste Trucks	13	7											20	170	161	113
Mobile Home/RV Parks	15	1											16	103	97	108
Public Accommodations	3	1											4	88	126	68
Aquatic Facilities/Pool/Spas	13	22											35	836	847	739
RV Dump Station	2	0											2	23	2	14
Underground Storage Tanks	22	21											43	234	210	202
Waste Management	23	21											44	194	139	166
Temporary Foods/Special Events	15	44											59	1,452	1,342	1,358
Complaints	58	60											118	895	654	760
TOTAL	515	549											1,064	9,113	8,208	7,683
EHS Public Record Requests	234	251											485	2,186	3,361	4,962

Complaint Breakdown	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
EHS - Invasive Body Decoration	0	0											0	5	4	1
EHS - Food	22	33											55	408	276	248
EHS - General	1	1											2	6	4	4
EHS - Hotels/Motels	2	2											4	28	23	20
EHS - Liquid Waste	9	4											13	74	64	62
EHS - Mobile Home/RV Park	1	0											1	7	6	9
EHS - Pools/Spas	0	2											2	25	16	3
EHS - Schools	0	1											1	8	33	3
EHS - Solid Waste	22	15											37	220	157	177
EHS - Vector	0	0											0	100	59	98
EHS - Waste Mgt	1	2											3	11	12	3
EHS - Wells	0	0											0	3	4	0

New Openings	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026	MAY 2026	JUN 2026	JUL 2026	AUG 2026	SEP 2026	OCT 2026	NOV 2026	DEC 2026	YTD 2026	2025	2024	2023
Child Care	0	3											3	15	10	8
Food/Exempt Food	17	17											34	380	428	524
Schools/Institutions	0	0											0	4	3	3
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up (IBD)	0	1											1	39	32	38
Liquid Waste Trucks	3	1											4	24	41	21
Mobile Home/RV Parks	2	0											2	6	6	42
Public Accommodations	0	0											0	3	4	19
Aquatic Facilities/Pool/Spas	0	0											0	71	26	48
RV Dump Station	1	0											1	4	0	0
Waste Management	2	1											3	13	9	13
TOTAL	25	23											48	559	559	716