

JANUARY

Division of Environmental Services

Safety message

...from the Division Chief

As we enter another year with new aspirations and new resolutions, I wanted to take some time to set our goals for the New Year. You will find these goals familiar as they are the same goals I established when I first became your Chief. I felt a need to keep them in place because I believe that they speak to the core of who we are and to our mission as a Department.

These Goals include concentration in the following areas: ..

- Commitment to DWR's Safety Policies
- Promoting Safety Training and Awareness
- Preparation for, Prevention of, and Response to the risks associated with workplace hazards
- Improving Employee Wellness

Resolving to put health and safety first is a way to make all other resolutions achievable. The objective of such a resolution is to be self-motivated and to behave safely, even when no one else is looking.

Be safe and take care of each other as family both on and off duty.

Sincerely,

Dean Messer, Chief
Division of Environmental Services

Safety Moment

"Illegal dumping" is the term used to describe disposing of waste in unauthorized areas. It is an environmental crime. As DWR employees, you may come across illegally abandoned waste or debris left behind by others. For your safety and those working with you:

- Do not touch, alter or disturb the material. This will avoid possible infection or injury, or further environmental damage.
- Identify the dumping site location using GPS and/or landmarks.
- Identify the nature of the dumped material (without touching it). Take note of container type and labels, secure the site and make sure that your coworkers are aware of the debris and the potential hazards associated.
- Report the debris and its location to the local authority.

New Year's Safety Resolutions For 2014:

- I will report any and all suspicious and unsafe conditions.
- I will use my "Stop Work Authority" when appropriate.
- I will take the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when I conduct field work.
- I will fill out a Job Hazardous Analysis (JHA) each day I am working in the field or when the scope of the job changes.
- I will prepare a Pre-Work Safety Plan and conduct a Tailgate Safety Meeting before any field activities begin.
- I will inspect my vehicle before I go into the field.
- I will use the appropriate tool for the job.

Think Safety visit <http://swpsafety.water.ca.gov> for more information