

Abstract Submission to: ASBPA 2013 National Coastal Conference

Title: Sanitary Survey Program for Texas Beaches

Theresa D. Demboski¹, Barbie Mosier-Kopacki¹, La Donna Rush Henson¹, Richard G. Hay¹, Sean Hilbe², Craig Davis²

¹Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Center for Water Supply Studies, NRC Suite 3100, Unit 5864, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412; Telephone: (361) 825-3347; tdemboski@islander.tamucc.edu

²Texas General Land Office (TGLO), Coastal Resources Program, P.O. Box 12873-2873, Austin, TX 78711; Telephone: (512) 463-5335; Sean.Hilbe@glo.state.tx.us

Abstract: Sanitary surveys are assessments of an area that identify potential sources of pollution (usually pathogens). Sanitary surveys have been used since the 1920s to safeguard water quality. These surveys play a key role in beach classifications for the BEACH Act Grant Program under which beaches are classified in an appropriate tier based on the potential risk to human health presented by pathogens. The data collected by a sanitary survey are integrated to determine possible correlations with water quality measurements performed throughout the year.

Annual sanitary surveys are lacking for Texas beaches monitored through the Texas Beach Watch (TBW) program. Field observation sheets completed at the time of TBW water sampling contain a limited amount of information. Currently two beach segments monitored by the program are listed on the Texas 303 (d) list as impaired for bacteria. Sanitary surveys will provide an additional assessment of pollution risks at area beaches which can be used to generate information for local government entities for mitigation and best management practices.

The USEPA developed the Beach Sanitary Survey Tool to help beach managers in the Great Lakes synthesize all contributing beach and watershed information so that they can improve water quality for swimming. This beach sanitary survey tool was tailored to the beach environment in the Great Lakes. Subsequently, the USEPA released a more general Marine Beach Sanitary Survey tool. The Center for Water Supply Studies (CWSS) has modified these tools to perform sanitary surveys on Texas marine beaches in the TBW program.

Beaches are dynamic systems and should be gauged periodically for short-term and long-term health risks. The CWSS has developed two types of beach sanitary surveys—the Marine Beach Routine On-site Survey and Marine Beach Annual On-Site Survey — to assist with short-term and long-term assessments. The Routine On-site Survey is performed during water quality sample collection. The Annual On-site Survey is performed annually to collect beach sanitary data that changes infrequently. In addition, the Marine Beach Annual Analysis Form and Marine Beaches Sanitary Survey Database have been developed to assist in data organization and analysis. These tools will support the TBW program and will be available for all the Texas marine beaches. After analysis of the sanitary survey data, recommendations for appropriate tier categories for each beach can be evaluated, and long-term as well as short-term trends can be noted.

Speaker Biography: Theresa Demboski is majoring in Environmental Science at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. She is currently employed as a Research Assistant at the Center for Water Supply Studies. In addition to working on the Sanitary Survey Project, she has worked on various geothermal projects correlating maps of temperatures at given depths. She has been an active member of Beta Beta Beta for two consecutive years, and is serving as Secretary for the 2012-2013 academic year.

From: "ASBPA" <asbpa@comcast.net>
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Date: 6/28/2013 12:30 PM
Subject: Your abstract has been accepted for the 2013 ASBPA National Coastal Conference

Congratulations! The American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) accepted your abstract for a presentation at the 2013 National Coastal Conference, "Responding to Waves of Change," at the Isla Grand Beach Resort Oct. 22-25 on South Padre Island, Texas

Please notify ASBPA via email by July 31, 2013, of your intention to give your presentation. Your conference registration before the Sept. 21 early-bird deadline will be final confirmation that you plan to participate. We are asking for this two-step process because, due to an overwhelming submission of abstracts, there are a number speakers that were put on a standby list. If we do not receive your confirmation by July 31 you may lose your place in the program to one of the speakers on the standby list. We appreciate your cooperation and believe we will have a great program at the conference.

1. A draft copy of the program will be sent to you next week. We assume you will be the presenter, and that we have your abstract and bio. Available audio-visual equipment will include a laptop with PowerPoint 2010, a projector, a screen and a microphone. We will need your presentation to be given to us on a CD or flash drive on or before Oct. 23 when you check in at the beginning of the conference. Additional details about the presentation specifications will be sent to you in September.

2. Please note that after the conference we develop a password protected "virtual conference" on our Web site so attendees can view presentations they did not have the opportunity to see or would like to review. If you would like to change the version of the presentation you give for the virtual conference, let us know and also notify us if you do not want your presentation included in the virtual conference due to content concerns.

3. The early registration deadline is Sept. 21. As we mentioned in the call for presentations, all expenses involved in preparing and presenting papers are the responsibility of the speakers, including travel and lodging. All speakers and moderators are required to pay conference registration fees. Registration is available online at: <http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1241295>. Please register online even if you are paying by check or credit card. Hotel information is also available on the site. The deadline for room reservations (to ensure you get the low conference rate) is also Sept. 21. Rooms may cost more or not be available if you try to register after that date.

4. This national conference is a great opportunity for you to showcase your company. We have a wide selection of sponsorships, ranging in cost from \$850 to \$10,000 - and they all include registrations. You can register for both a sponsorship and your registration by going to the registration site above and choosing "ASBPA Sponsor" when you log in.

Because this is a high quality program, we anticipate a strong response to the conference and look forward to your presentation. Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours

Kate & Ken Gooderham

Executive Directors

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