



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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The Environmental Health division continues to progress toward the strategic initiative to digitize Land Use, Solid Waste, and Consumer Protection files. Once completed the public and regulated communities will benefit from faster access to records, enhanced transparency and service delivery even as the department operates with reduced staffing.

Over the past 2 fiscal years Environmental Health has received support to fill vacant positions, but very few qualified candidates applied to fill the various vacancies. As a result, staff resources are being shifted internally to assist with program mandates prioritized by public health risk factors. Field inspectors are conducting multiple program inspections when on-site to utilize time more efficiently. Management staff are assisting with field work assignments as well as project plan reviews. All staff are supporting the public administrative needs whether that is via email, at front counters, or on the phone.

Land Use Program

The Land Use Program has completed 75% of the year with two full-time staff, both currently working 32-hour schedules while completing coursework for their professional licenses. Despite reduced staffing hours, the program continues to maintain steady activity levels. Year-to-date, the program has issued 59 water well permits, 95 site evaluation reports, completed 122 inspections, and processed 550 Planning and Building Services (PBS) projects and permits. In September alone, 18 inspections were conducted, and 51 new projects were received. Septic Site Evaluation Reports currently average 59 days from review to approval, and PBS referrals average 24 days. Over 60% of the septic site evaluation reports received have been approved, and 71% of PBS building applications have been approved, indicating consistent program productivity and progress.

Land Use Report YTD

Percent of Year Complete **75%**

Current Staffing (FTE): **2**

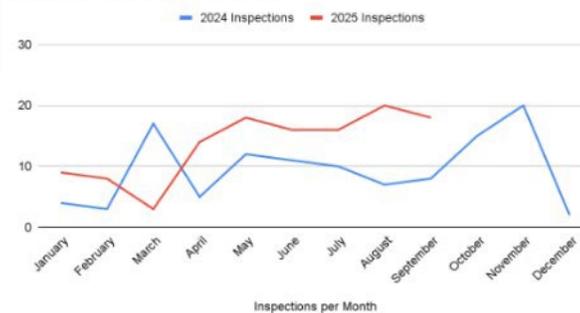
Water Well Permits (WW) **59**

Site Evaluation Reports (SER) **95**

Inspections (Septic & WW) **122**

PBS Projects and Permits **550**

Land Use Program Inspections



Consumer Protection Program

Despite County support over the last year filling vacancies Consumer Protection’s staffing resources remain short of the workload demands. Despite reduced staffing levels, the Consumer Protection Program is continuing to improve in year-over-year programmatic comparisons. With 75% of the year complete, two inspectors have successfully inspected 52% of the 1,156 regulated facilities at least once. Year-to-date a total of 596 inspections have been conducted, 164 applications processed, and 63 community events applications received. Year-to-date they have also received 70 complaints. With future resource availability, additional inspectors will allow program inspection goals to be met. The program received 18 applications, all from food facilities. As a team our inspectors inspected the Mendocino County Fair and Apple Show, with our newest inspector taking the lead in processing food vendor applications for the event. Consumer Protection received 22 complaints, accounting for 79% of all complaints received by Environmental Health for the month of September, with the majority involving unpermitted food vendors.

Consumer Protection Report



Current Team Stats:

- Percent of Year Complete - 75%
- Total Number of Facilities - 1156
- Facilities Seen at Least Once - 52%

Applications YTD

164

Inspections YTD

596

Community Events YTD

63

Complaints YTD

70

Total Inspections for Consumer Protection



September Snapshot

Total Number of Inspections Conducted:

78

Food Facilities: 74

Body Art Facilities: 4

Public Swimming Pools:

State Small Water Systems:

Total Number of Applications received:

18

Food Facilities: 18

Total Number of Complaints received:

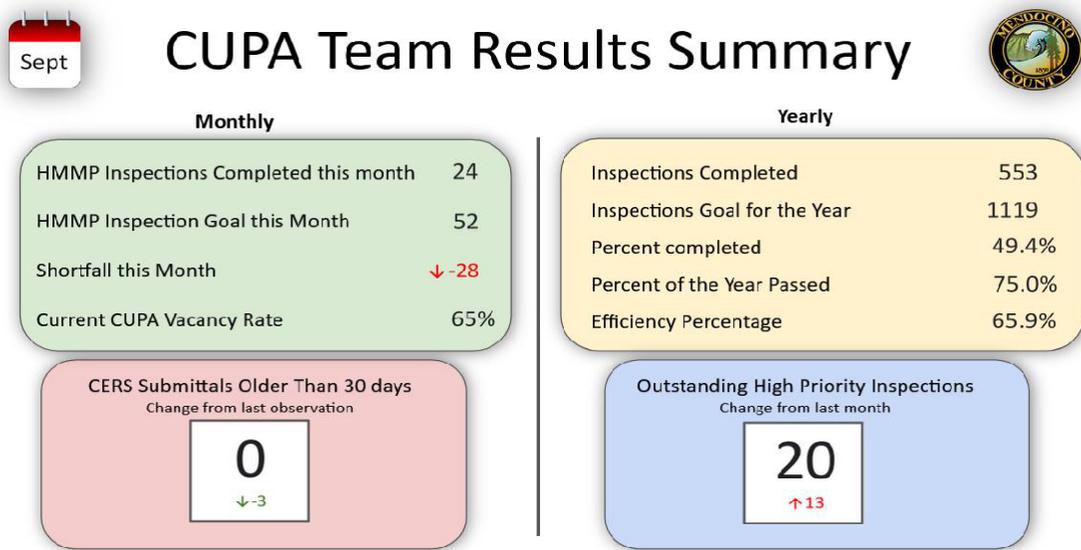
22

Food Facilities: 7

Public Swimming Pools: 1

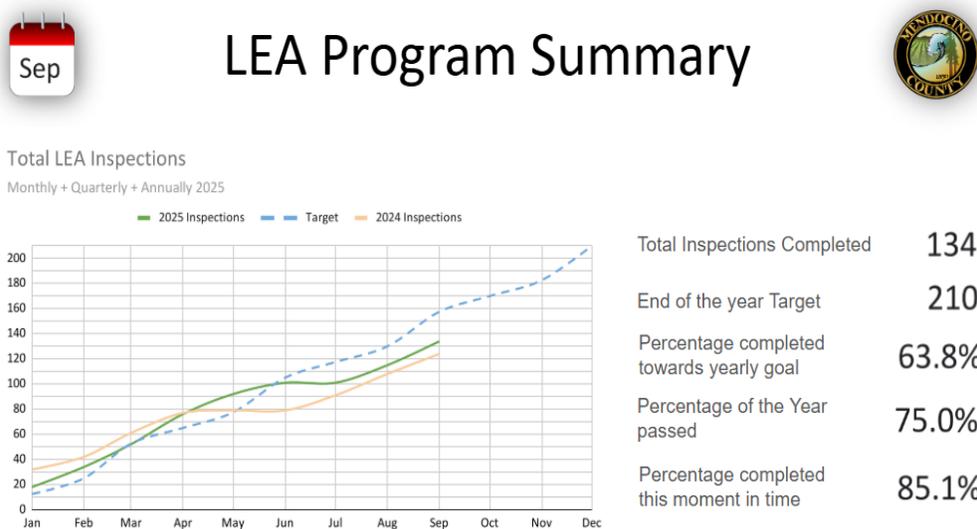
CUPA Program:

Full staffing for the CUPA Program workload has historically included 4 inspectors. Despite County support in the last year for filling a vacancy, qualified candidates were not identified. Recently, the CUPA Program has experienced another vacancy, reducing the number of inspectors to two (2). Despite these challenges, the CUPA program has completed 553 year-to-date inspections, representing 49% of the 1,119 total inspections. The Program Manager is pursuing certification to provide additional programmatic support to the two remaining inspectors. As resources allow in the future, additional staff will allow program inspection goals to be met. For now, the program is prioritizing high-risk facilities to maintain essential oversight and mitigate immediate risks.



LEA Program:

The LEA Program completed 134 inspections year-to-date, compared to the target of 158. There is appropriate oversight effectiveness in this program, supporting timely regulatory enforcement and ensuring that solid waste facilities are monitored to protect public health and environmental safety.



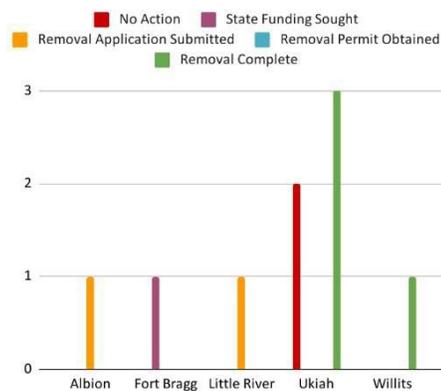
Single-Wall Underground Storage Tank (SWUST) Removal:

In September 2025, the UST Program saw a notable increase in progress, with five additional tank removals completed. This brings the total to 11 of the 25 tanks to be removed by the State December 31, 2025, deadline. Despite this improvement, five tanks remain in the permit or application phase, three are still awaiting state funding, and five facilities have taken no action. Ukiah continues to account for the majority of inactive sites. With just three months remaining, targeted follow-up is critical to ensure all facilities meet compliance requirements on time.

Single Walled Underground Storage Tank Report

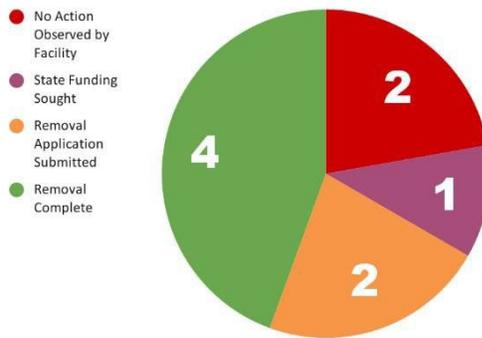
Per CCR Title 23 Chapter 16 §2672 all single-walled petroleum underground storage tanks must be removed on or before Dec 31, 2025

Single Wall UST Facility Status by City



Single Wall Underground Tank Facility Progress

Facilities must remove tanks by Dec 31st 2025



Single Wall Underground Storage Tank Removal Progress 2025

Number of Tanks by Status

