

# SPECIAL EVENTS & LEGIONELLA PROGRAMS

Chris Saxton, MPH-EH, REHS

Division Director, Environmental Health

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD OPERATIONS

#### Overview

- Over 20,500 food and beverage permits throughout Clark County
- Six Food Operations offices with approximately
  50 field staff (approximately 400 permits each)
- Large number of special events including trade shows, sampling shows, Electric Daisy Carnival, NASCAR, Life is Beautiful, and Super Bowl 2024
- Large number of after-hours inspections including nightclubs, bars, dinner openers, special events, and concerts



#### Electric Daisy Carnival (EDC) – Overview

- Music and art festival every May at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway
- Festival from 7:30pm-5:00am over a threeday span
- Over 170,000 attendees each day
- Includes food/beverage booths, swimming pools, and camping
- Staff conduct inspections to address food safety, aquatic health, solid waste issues, potable water, and general sanitation



#### **EDC - Temporary Food Establishments**

- Over 200 food and beverage booths at the campground and inside the festival
- Vendors come from all over the world
- 20+ SNHD inspectors at the event
- Common Issues:
  - Lack of handwashing stations
  - Lack of hot water
  - Lighting issues
  - Improper food temperatures
  - Solid Waste issues

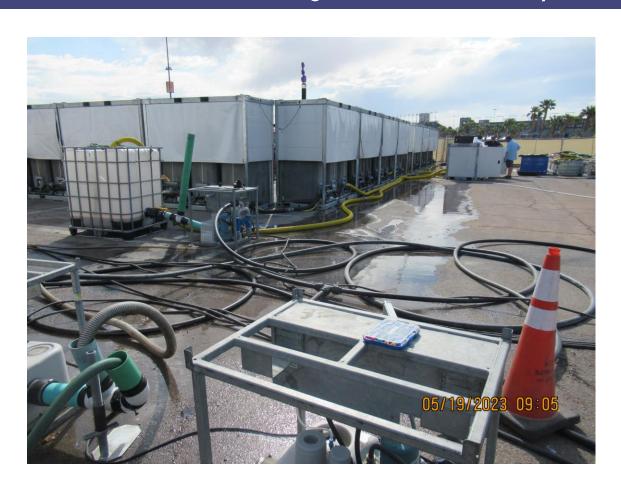


## EDC — Camps





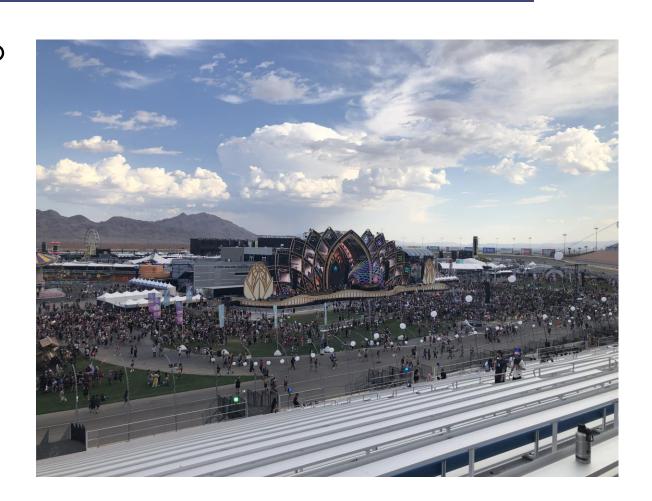
#### EDC - Mass Gathering Sanitation Survey and Temporary Pool





#### EDC - Challenges

- Traffic to the event causes major delays for SNHD staff, food vendors, pumper trucks, and water haulers
- Permanently plumbed toilets are limited (mostly porta-potties)
- Limited access to potable water (mostly hauled)
- Limited/no cellphone reception
- Event takes place at night
- Festival is very loud with many flashing lights



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD OPERATIONS - SPECIALIZED

#### Offices

- Specialized Foods Office (Non-traditional Food Venues and Unpermitted Vending)
  - Inspects manufacturing facilities
  - In collaboration with the National Environmental Health Association,
    conducted a training in Guam on "water store" inspections
- Regulatory Support Office (Training, Special Processes, Industry Outreach)
  - Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Voluntary Retail Program Standards
    - Both a participant and mentor for other jurisdictions
    - Conducting onsite training in American Samoa as a mentor
  - Approves retail labeling (by statute) and Hazard and Critical Control Point plans (by local regulation)

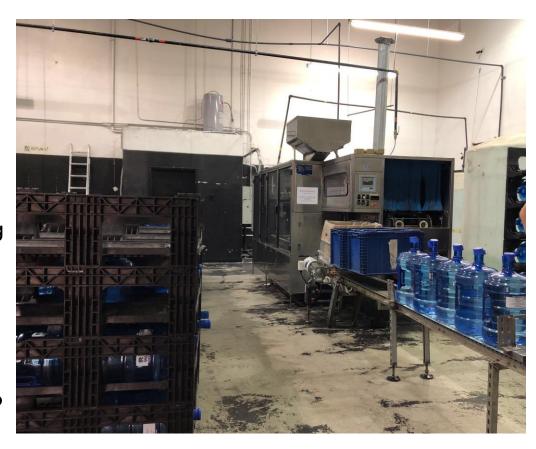


## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD OPERATIONS - SPECIALIZED

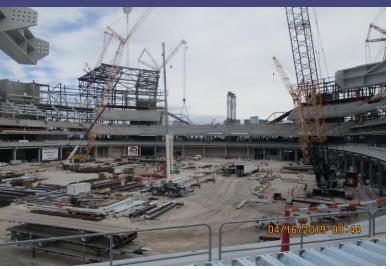
#### Outbreak Investigation

#### Fatal Regional Outbreak – Real Water<sup>TM</sup>

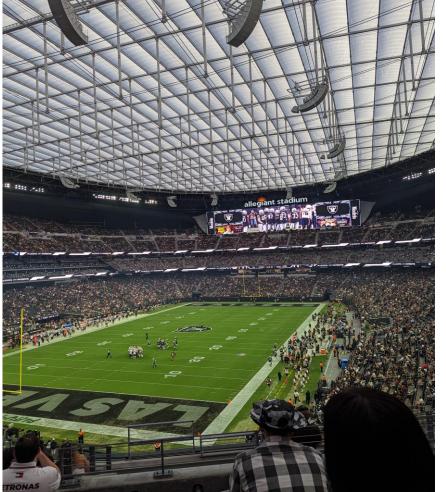
- Investigation Beginning: multiple children with nonviral hepatitis preparing for a liver transplant - only common source is Real Water
- Investigation Logistics: partnered with CDC, FDA, and neighboring states to identify product recipe, production/distribution, potential hazards, conduct sampling and testing, and enact enforcement
- Investigation Outcome: Production cease and desisted, permit suspended, and product placed on hold by SNHD, permanent injunction filed with court by FDA requiring strict stipulations for reopening which Real Water has declined to pursue.



Big Plans – Bigger Venues Allegiant Stadium







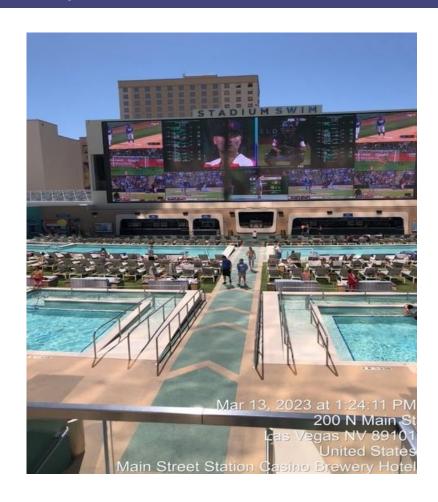


Big Plans – Bigger Venues The Sphere





#### Aquatic Frolic - Resorts





Body Art Mecca - Special Events







## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LEGIONELLA PROGRAM

#### Single Case and Outbreak Investigations

- Legionella
  - Bacteria that can cause two types of illnesses:
    - Legionnaires' Disease: severe pneumonia
    - Pontiac Fever: flu-like illness
  - About 1 in 10 people who get sick from Legionnaires' disease will die
  - Preventable through Water Management Programs, Water Sampling, and Outreach Projects
- Two Types of Investigations
  - Travel Associated Hotels
  - Residential Locally Acquired Cases, Airbnb



**Unconventional Sampling Sites** 

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LEGIONELLA PROGRAM

#### Single Case Residential Investigations

- Single Case notification with no travel history outside of residence
  - Contact resident and schedule sampling appointment with residence
  - Samples taken at showers, sinks, and hot tubs of residence
- If samples are positive for Legionella
  - Homeowner notified and routine flushing is recommended to reduce bacterial count in residential water system







Contaminated Misting System

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LEGIONELLA PROGRAM

#### Single Case-Outbreak Overview

- May 2017 Initial Single Case
  - Positive water samples taken at case room, distal room, hot water return, and other exposure sites
  - Facility remediated affected water zone and tested other water zones for Legionella
- June 2017 Last Confirmed Case Reported
  - New test samples were positive for Legionella
  - Public notification
  - Complete remediation of all water zones in all towers
  - Facility installed permanent secondary disinfection systems at all their properties in Las Vegas as a preventative measure
  - Media interviews
  - Lawsuits and SNHD employee depositions
- Total Cases
  - 7 were classified as confirmed Legionnaire's diseases
  - 31 were classified as suspect Legionnaire's disease
  - **69** were classified as **suspect** Pontiac Fever.



## QUESTIONS?

