



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

Media Advisory

Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director

For Planning Purposes

February 18, 2010

Contact: Charlotte Fadipe (916) 956-2838

Kam Coveyou (916) 324-8304

California Department of Toxic Substances Control to Participate in Black Expo 2010

SACRAMENTO – Cal/EPA’s Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is proud to take part in the annual Capital City Black Expo, presented by *The OBSERVER Media Group*, whose theme this year is “Tapping Our Green Power.” DTSC will host a booth in the Green Pavilion at the free event at the Sacramento Convention Center on Saturday, February 20 and Sunday, February 21.

Reaching out to minority communities is a cornerstone of DTSC’s Environmental Justice Initiative, a program designed to address toxic issues found in economically disadvantaged communities which bear a disproportionate share of risk from environmental factors. DTSC staff will be on hand to screen jewelry for high lead content, using a measuring device known as an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Analyzer. Lead is a toxic metal, and exposure can cause a range of health problems, including brain development impairment in children, organ failure, and even death.

Cal/EPA’s Air Resources Board will feature information on its new web site, www.DriveClean.ca.gov, a buying guide developed to help consumers purchase clean and efficient vehicles. Representatives will also be on hand to show conference-goers how to use the new Environmental Performance Label, a window sticker affixed to all new vehicles that allows consumers to compare smog and global warming scores of the vehicles they are considering to purchase.

WHAT: Information about protecting the environment and the dangers of lead to children’s health. Free testing for lead in jewelry. Visuals include screening jewelry with XRF equipment to measure lead levels.

WHEN: Saturday, February 20, 10:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. and
Sunday, February 21, 11:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.

WHERE: Sacramento Convention Center
1400 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

WHO: Cal/EPA staff and volunteers

###

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The Mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.