



Clark Seif Clark Environmental Newsletter

www.csceng.com 800.807.1118

October 2013



Every day, Clark Seif Clark professionals are deployed across the nation helping both large and small customers resolve health & safety, industrial hygiene, environmental and indoor air quality issues.

At a moment's notice, Clark Seif Clark can send their experts anywhere they are needed. No matter if it's in response to a hurricane, wildfire, flood, tornado, or other natural disaster, Clark Seif Clark is ready to help and can respond in no time at all.

Building Science Experts Warn of Indoor Hazards following Historic Colorado Floods

In September, what some experts have called a thousand year flood ravaged large parts of Colorado. In addition to the floods destroying roads and bridges, several thousand homes and numerous commercial buildings are likely beyond repair. Thousands more suffered flooding and can be rebuilt, but area residents are being cautioned over the potential for exposure to a variety of environmental hazards.

These floods have created environmental hazards that people need to be aware of as they begin rebuilding their homes, schools and businesses. Water damaged structures often had more than just water enter them. Flood waters can contain a host of microbial and chemical contaminants. Even rain water, known as Category 1 water damage, that enters a building can allow mold growth in as short as 24 to 48 hours. Flood waters could be either Gray Water or Black Water, known as Category 2 and 3, depending on what they have been in contact with. These waters may host a variety of viruses, parasites, bacteria, fungi, pesticides, fuels and other contaminants.

Flood victims are also reminded of concerns posed by asbestos-containing materials and lead-based paints. Some of these older properties were built using these materials and cleanup activities and demolition can aerosolize them creating a health hazard to anyone nearby. Only proper cleanup and restoration, followed up by a thorough post restoration verification assessment can insure

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an impacted property is habitable.

Clark Seif Clark, who was instrumental in helping many Hurricane Sandy victims safely rebuild, has environmental teams available and ready to help the residents and businesses of Colorado. To learn more about health and safety issues during the rebuilding efforts or about Clark Seif Clark, please visit www.csceng.com, email csc@csceng.com or call (800) 807-1118.

California's Safer Consumer Products Initiative Goes into Effect

On October 1st, California's Safer Consumer Products (SCP) initiative from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) went into effect. The new regulations will be phased in over the next several years to coordinate with the timing of various regulatory requirements.

According to the DTSC, "The goals of this program are to reduce toxic chemicals in consumer products, create new business opportunities in the emerging safer consumer products economy, and reduce the burden on consumers and businesses struggling to identify what's in the products they buy for their families and customers." The agency goes on to state, "To accomplish these goals, the SCP Program will rely on reports submitted by responsible entities, such as the manufacturer, to inform and increase the use of safer chemicals in products, homes, schools, and workplaces, which produce significant environmental and economic benefits."

Late last month, regulators published a list of chemicals found in numerous consumer products that are known to be toxic. This was the first step in implementing the SCP initiative and manufacturers that use those chemicals are being asked to replace them with safer ingredients.

One company that has been at the forefront of helping to identify and prevent exposure to harmful substances is Clark Seif Clark (CSC). "California has long lead the nation in identifying and regulating toxic chemicals that residents could be exposed to during the course of their day," reported Franco Seif, President of Clark Seif Clark (CSC), a leading indoor environmental quality and occupational safety consulting firm. "At CSC, our teams of environmental and health and safety professionals provide testing and consulting services to help prevent exposure to toxic chemicals and harmful materials that could cause health concerns."

To learn more about testing for chemicals listed by the Safer Consumer Products initiative or other indoor, environmental and occupational concerns, please visit www.csceng.com, email csc@csceng.com or call (800) 807-1118.

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Is It Safe?

About Clark Seif Clark: CSC was established in 1989 to help clients in both the public and private sectors address environmental issues. CSC is a leading provider of these services with multiple offices along the western seaboard and southwest. The company believes in science-based protocols and has a strong background in engineering making them the preferred environmental consultants to healthcare facilities, architects, schools, builders, contractors, developers and real estate professionals.