

SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION  
California Water Environment Association

**Inkspot**



JUNE 2006

**GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT...**

It's almost June—the year is flying right by. It's hard to believe that it's nearly summer already. At least we're done with the rain for a while (knock on wood). Hopefully everyone can take a break from trying to figure out what the new WDRs mean for them and take a look at the *Inkspot*.

Our May Dinner Meeting at Dago Mary's Restaurant in San Francisco was a lot of fun. It was good to get back over to that side of the Bay for a change. The folks from SFPUC gave a great presentation on their Southeast Plant, winner of the 2005 SFBS Treatment Plant of the Year. Be sure to sign up for our June meeting, to be held on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Walnut Creek. Bob Holden from the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency will be speaking about their Filter Loading Evaluation for Water Reuse (FLEWR) Project.

Also coming up on June 12<sup>th</sup> at Central San, the Bay Section and the CWEA Government Affairs Committee are co-sponsoring a one-day specialty conference: *Navigating Your Way Through the Regulatory Maze*. In July the Collection System Committee will be sponsoring the Bay Section's annual Golf Tournament. Be sure to watch your email and the *Inkspot* for more information.

Speaking of the *Inkspot*, this issue is Teresa Herrera's last as editor. On behalf of the Board and the entire Bay Section, I'd like to extend our thanks for a job well done. I'd also like to note again that we're still looking for a new editor. If you are interested in helping out, send me an email at [kcaldерwood@brwncauld.com](mailto:kcaldерwood@brwncauld.com). We could sure use the help.

So enjoy the nice weather, and I hope to see you on the 1<sup>st</sup> in Walnut Creek!

Kevin Calderwood  
2006 SFBS President

**Important Stuff:**

June 1<sup>st</sup> - SFBS Dinner Meeting

June 12<sup>th</sup> - The Regulations Maze

**No JULY Dinner Meeting**

July 20<sup>th</sup> - Committee Appreciation Lunch

July 14<sup>th</sup> Golf Tournament

## Musings from the Editor...

Was it just two issues ago that I wrote about life providing us with challenges, changes, and opportunities? And, that we have a choice in how we respond to these things? Hopefully, being able to find meaning in them; to learn and to grow? Well, I have been offered just such an opportunity. Through my writings and for anyone who knows me, it must be evident that one of those things I engage in, one of my deepest passions, is being out-of-doors, most particularly, climbing rocks. Yes... there is so much that rock climbing provides me; physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. I call it my "moving meditation" and "dance upon the rock". There is nothing that I have found thus far that serves me so powerfully.

And, now, I am forced to take a long hiatus from rock climbing due to necessary surgery in my wrist. I haven't a choice in having surgery or not. What at first felt devastating, now, seems to be providing me with unforeseen realizations and opportunities. Challenges? Yes, certainly those too.

One of the things I've not been "allowed" to do is get my heart rate up. Now, for someone who is as active as I am, exercising 6-7 days a week and often more than once in a day, this is akin to telling me I can't breathe! So, what does one do? How does one serve oneself when life's restrictions seem too great to bear?

What I find occurring is a culling process. A distillation, of sorts. What is it about exercise that feeds me so much? What processes are occurring within my body, my mind, my emotions, my brain when I exercise? Is it merely the movement of my body and breathe? Or is it the fact that I am partaking of the natural world, breathing in the smells, listening to the sounds, viewing wondrous sights? Could I be placed in a wheelchair in my beloved desert landscape and garner the same deep sense of satisfaction?

The physical ailment I am experiencing is temporary; full recovery is expected, albeit it will take 6-8 months. And, everything is up for grabs right now. I'm coming to realize that there are countless ways I can feed my passions for body movement and nature; there are always choices. I'm coming to realize that there exists an inherent aspect to the Self that extends beyond what I do.

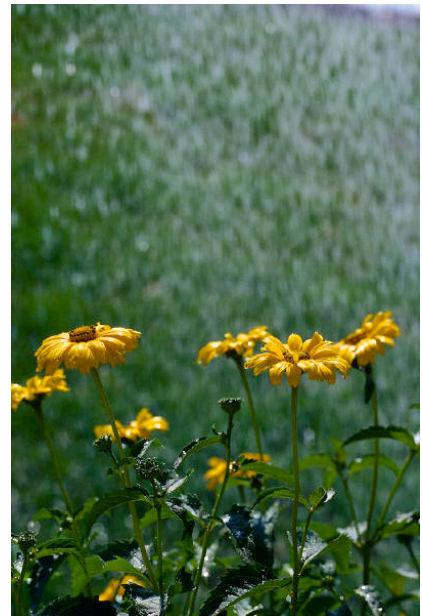
I think, in part, it takes an expansive view of life. It takes opening one's imagination. It takes a sense of greater purpose and meaning to life. It takes all these things to understand that the experience, while very personal, extends far beyond the personal. I think that these things make it possible to engage actively with life rather than letting life just "happen" to us. I think this allows us to be co-creators with our life rather than victims of circumstance.

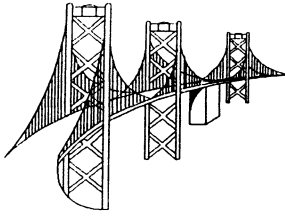
I will close with this: I am feeling an engagement with life that is hitting me in some pretty profound ways. I am feeling blessed with people in my life who love me and care for me. I am experiencing joy with being alive. And, if I were to die today, it will be a good day to die.

This will be my last Musings. I want to thank each and every one of you who have put up with my meanderings into the realm of life's spirit and soul. Thank you for allowing me a venue to voice my musings and thank you for the kind words you've offered me over these past few years.

May each of you find joy and peace in all that you do.

Take good care; be safe.





**SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION**  
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## CWEA San Francisco Bay Section

# June 2006 Dinner Meeting

**Featuring:** Bob Holden, Water Recycling Projects Coordinator, MRWPCA  
*Monterey Regional's Filter Loading Evaluation for Water Reuse (FLEWR) Project*

Over the past two years, the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency has tested a series of pilot filters at various loading rates. Filters operated at a loading rate of 7.5 gpm/sf produced effluent that met or exceeded the effluent quality produced at the current Title 22 limit of 5.0 gpm/sf. The next step is to secure DHS approval to enter the second phase of testing with full-scale filters at six or more treatment plants with the eventual goal of changing the Title 22 filter loading rate criteria to a scientifically defensible value. This presentation will include highlights of the project to date, the involvement of additional agencies, and the experience with DHS over the course of the project.

**Where:** **Embassy Suites Hotel**  
1345 Treat Blvd.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
(925) 934-2500

**Dinner:** \$30.00 CWEA Members  
\$38.00 Non-CWEA Members  
\$15.00 Students

**When:** **Thursday, June 1, 2006**  
5:00 – Board Meeting  
6:00 – Social Hour  
7:00 – Dinner  
8:00 – Presentation

**Choice of:** Sliced Tri-Tip  
Grilled Chicken Breast  
Grilled Veggie & Pesto Pasta

**Contact:** Contact Kevin O'Toole of Whitley Burchett & Associates at 925-945-6850 or [sfbs@whitleyburchett.com](mailto:sfbs@whitleyburchett.com) for dinner reservations. Include your name, agency or company affiliation, and menu selection.

**Reservation deadline is Friday, May 26, 2006**

**REMEMBER – A reservation is a commitment to pay.**

**Directions:** Please see maps on following page.

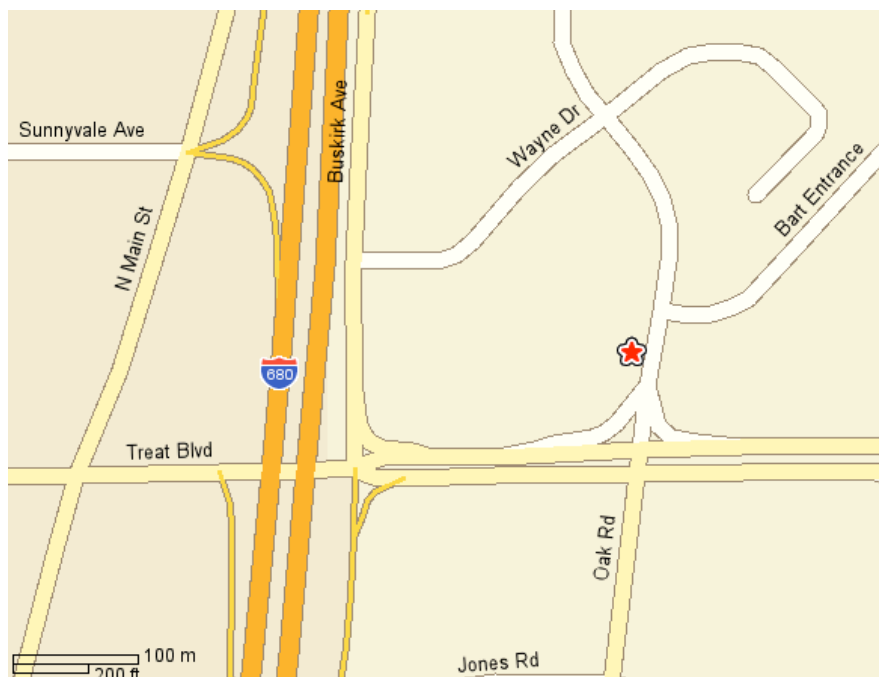
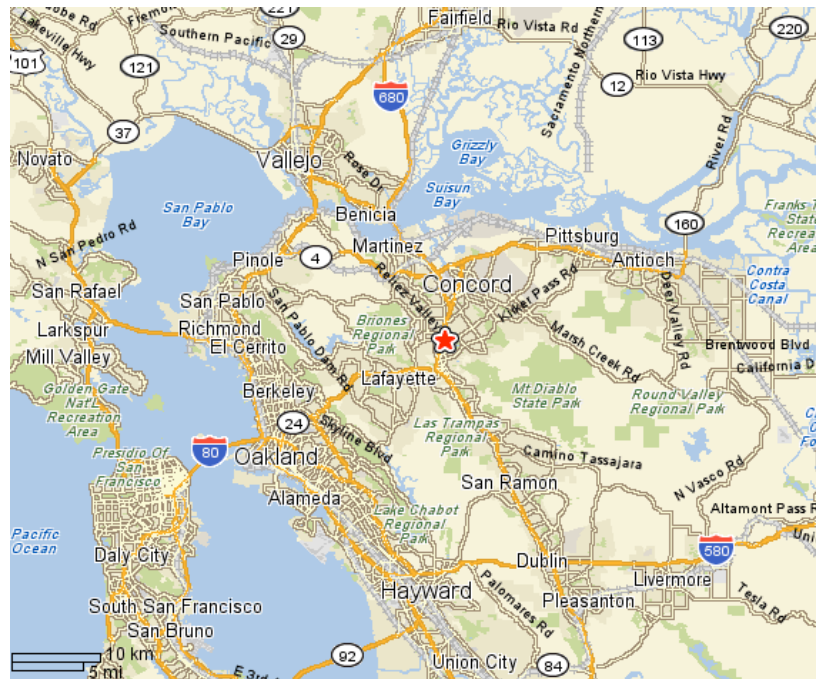
**★ Embassy Suites, 1345 Treat Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597, (925) 934-2500**

**From I-680 Northbound:** Take I-680 to the Treat Blvd. Exit. Turn right on Treat Blvd. followed by an immediate left on Oak Rd. Hotel is on the left.

**From I-680 Southbound:** Take I-680 to the Geary Rd./Treat Blvd. Exit. Turn left on North Main St., then left on Treat Blvd., then left on Oak Rd. Hotel is on the left.

**From BART:** Across the street from the Pleasant Hill BART station (to the southwest).

**Note:** For online maps, use 2901 Oak Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597.



## SWRCB Adopts SSO Waste Discharge Requirements (Excerpted from CWEA May 2006 Leader Link)

The big news in our water quality world is the May 2nd adoption by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) of a General Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) for all publicly owned sanitary sewer collection systems in California with more than 1 mile of sewer pipe. The WDR is intended to provide a consistent statewide approach for reducing Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs).

As outlined in CWEA's May 3<sup>rd</sup> all-member e-mail, key WDR provisions include:

- All public agencies that currently own or operate sanitary sewer systems within California must apply for coverage under the WDR within six months of the WDR adoption, i.e. by November 1, 2006.
- In the event of an SSO, all feasible steps must be taken to control the released volume and prevent untreated wastewater from entering storm drains, creeks, etc.
- If an SSO occurs, it must be reported to the SWRCB using an online reporting system developed by the SWRCB. (Note: All spills greater than 1000 gallons still must be reported to the Office of Emergency Services, as is currently required.)
- All publicly owned collection system agencies with more than 1 mile of sewer pipe in the State must develop a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) that includes mandatory elements specified in the WDR. The SSMP must be made publicly available. The above is only a summary of key provisions in the WDR. Review the full text and requirements to understand how your collection system agency will be affected by the WDR. You can find the WDR, its related Monitoring and Reporting Program, as well as a Fact Sheet prepared by the SWRCB on CWEA's

website at [www.cwea.org/swrcbwdr.htm](http://www.cwea.org/swrcbwdr.htm). The WDR (# 2006-0003) is also posted on the SWRCB website at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/resdec/wqorders/wqo06.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resdec/wqorders/wqo06.html).

CWEA responds to SSO WDR training need...

The compliance deadlines for on-line reporting and certain SSMP milestones will be extended if, by July 1, 2006 the SWRCB Executive Director executes a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with CWEA or "discharger representatives" outlining a strategy and time schedule for CWEA or another entity to provide statewide training on the adopted monitoring program, SSO database electronic reporting, and SSMP development.

CWEA will be working closely with the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA), the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP), the Bay Area Clean Water Association (BACWA), the Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA), and the League of California Cities to develop training materials to assist collection system agencies with understanding the reporting requirements and SSMP requirements contained in the WDR.

CWEA President Paula Zeller has setup a task force on SSO WDR training. More details on training and training materials will be made available in the near future. Be sure to look for

updates in the *E-Bulletin* and the *Wastewater Professional*. If you have questions or comments, please contact CWEA President Paula Zeller at [pzeller@ocsd.com](mailto:pzeller@ocsd.com).

