

SFBS President's Message for the February

Spring has certainly sprung at Bay Area treatment plants! Did I miss the rain this year, or did it happen while I wasn't looking? Just a few wet days and we're already back to blue skies.

As Earth Day 2013 quickly approaches, agency outreach efforts have shifted into high gear. A novel (but simple) concept that was shared at a recent WEF conference is the idea that, as we're reaching out to the public, we shouldn't constantly be telling them what not to do or acting like they couldn't possibly understand the technical issues facing treatment plants. Our ratepayers are our customers, and I don't know a lot of customers that respond well to incessantly being told what they can't or shouldn't do. If we change the conversation to focus on what can and has already been done to protect and enhance human health and the environment since passage of the Clean Water Act—with

special emphasis on how our ratepayers have helped to get us there—we'll begin to feel a real shift in the level of public acceptance and support for the work we do every day.

"There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew." -- Marshall McLuhan

Thank you again for all that you do to leave the earth a better place than when you arrived. Happy Earth Day, and happy spring to you and yours!

Meg

Important Stuff:

April 3, Ironhouse Sanitation District Plant Tour, Oakley

April 4, SFBS Dinner Meeting , Cattleman's, Livermore

April 16-19, CWEA Annual Conference, Palm Springs Convention Center

PLEASE POST

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION

California Water Environment Association



PLANT OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE (O&M) COMMITTEE

Presents a Tour of the

Ironhouse Sanitation District Plant Tour

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tour is \$20 (CWEA members) \$25 (non-members)

**Attendance is limited to 50,
so please reserve your spot soon!**

**Call Anir Bhagwat at (925) 977.3137
or e-mail abhagwat@carollo.com
by Monday, April 1st, 2013**

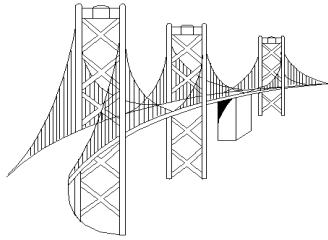
Note: If you are unable to attend, please cancel by April 1st, or send a substitute. Failure to attend results in a financial burden which may necessitate increasing the cost of future tours

ISD OVERVIEW: Ironhouse Sanitary District (ISD) provides sewer collection, treatment and disposal for the City of Oakley, Bethel Island and other unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County. ISD serves a population of approximately 38,000 people. To accommodate growth in the service area and meet regulatory requirements ISD constructed a new “State of the Art” \$54.5 million membrane bioreactor Water Recycling Facility. The WRF became fully operational on October 20, 2011. The WRF is the most advanced wastewater treatment facility in Contra Costa County. Effluent from the WRF can be routed to a large 76 million gallon storage pond, land applied on agricultural lands on Jersey Island or conveyed to an outfall pipe in the San Joaquin River. ISD is unique as hay produced from our agricultural operation is used to feed 2,200 head of, ISD owned, cattle. Both the agricultural and cattle operations help keep annual sewer fees low.



DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 4 East. Take exit to Oakley. Follow Hwy 4/Main Street to just west of the intersection of Rose Avenue on Main Street in Oakley, take the Districts Way entrance north underneath the railroad tracks. The road leads directly to our offices. Public parking is located near the main entrance.

DO NOT USE GOOGLE/YAHOO/MAPQUEST etc. as they provide the wrong directions. If lost call 925-625-2279.



SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION
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CWEA San Francisco Bay Section Dinner Meeting – April 4, 2013

Featuring : Kathryn Gies, PE, ENV SP, LEED AP is a Principal Engineer at West Yost Associates. Kathryn's areas of expertise include: wastewater treatment facilities master planning, treatment process design, sustainable infrastructure planning, NPDES and land discharge (WDRs) permitting, and recycled water/ land disposal system master planning. Kathryn is the Project Manager for the Methylmercury Control Study being conducted by the Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA) Methylmercury Special Project Group.

Topic : **Methylmercury Controls for POTW's**

Lessons learned from the SF Bay Mercury TMDL process lead to the discovery of methylmercury control processes in biological nitrogen removal (BNR) wastewater treatment plants

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Methylmercury TMDL that was adopted in October 2011 requires that a study be completed to evaluate potential methylmercury control strategies for POTW's. This presentation will detail the Control Study currently being completed by the CVCWA Methylmercury Special Project Group in response to this requirement. This presentation will include a discussion of currently available data that indicates a strong relationship between wastewater treatment plant nitrogen removal processes and methylmercury effluent levels.

Where : Cattleman's in Livermore ([map](#))
2882 Kitty Hawk Road
Livermore, CA 94550
(510) 460-0746

Dinner : \$30.00 CWEA Members
\$45.00 Non-CWEA Members
\$15.00 Students
Free Guest WW Professionals*

When : **Thursday, April 4, 2013**
4:30 – Board Meeting
5:30 – Social Hour
6:30 – Dinner
7:30 – Presentation

Menu : Grilled Sirloin Steak
(Please Teriyaki Chicken
indicate Grilled Atlantic Salmon
your Pesto Spinach & Cheese Ravioli
choice)

Contact : Lani Good, HydroScience Engineers at cweasfbs@gmail.com for dinner reservations. Please include your name, your agency or company, and your menu choice. If you require dietary or other special accommodations, please provide a written description of your needs.
Reservation deadline is noon on Monday, April 1st. A reservation is a commitment to pay.

* Bring a colleague from the wastewater industry who hasn't attended a SFBS event in the past two years, and as long as they RSVP on time, they're FREE! (Limit 5 per month.)

Participate more at our monthly dinner meetings by giving a *Thanks for the Effort Award*, *Lessons Learned*, or a *Vendor Moment*.

Please contact cweasfbs@gmail.com, if you would like to present a Vendor Moment.

SFBS Collection Systems Committee

The Commitment Continues:

The Collection Systems Committee continues to provide the latest training in wastewater collection systems maintenance, design, operation, local and state level regulatory requirements, and TCP preparation.

As a member of the Committee you are in a unique position to suggest and help facilitate training that you and your agency can most benefit from, plus the ability to gain valuable information and insight on daily O&M practices from the vast knowledge base of the committee members themselves. Historical data has proven that a better trained work force functions at a safer and higher level of efficiency.

The benefits of this peer to peer interaction and training can be passed along to the attendee's agency and co-workers to help keep them abreast of new trends and technologies available in our industry. As a committee member you are able to attend the training events at no cost to your agency. During training events, while assisting in the operation of the event itself, you have the opportunity to network with a larger group of your industry peers, as well as vendors and speakers.

This is an opportunity to participate in something greater than your own personal development, in a field that significantly impacts and benefits the environment.

The committee currently consists of 26 members from 12 different agencies and 6 local vendors. The agencies and vendors currently active are:



Agencies

Oro Loma Sanitary District
City of Livermore
West County Sanitary District
City of San Leandro
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
City of Burlingame
Stege Sanitary District
Rodeo Sanitary District
Castro Valley Sanitary District
City of Hayward
City of Antioch
Union Sanitary District

Vendors:

3T Equipment Company, Inc.
Dukes Root Control, Inc.
Rain For Rent
Restoration Management
ServiceMaster Restoration Services
Weco Industries



Officers and Mentors (from left to right: Gordon Times, Lenny Rather, Paul Louis, Brent Johnson, Walter Lunn, Rick Orta and Christopher (Contry) Brown)

If you are interested in learning more about the Collection Systems Committee and would like to become a member, please contact the Committee Chair, Brent Johnson at brentjohnsoncwea@gmail.com.



"Unfortunately, I have to **hire** you." And with those stressed words from my new boss, I started the best career of my life. He was in a bit of a Jam...down two Operators in a crew of only four, not enough time to wait till my Tri-Valley Regional Occupation Program Workers Comp Insurance could kick in. The previous week I had annoyed him to the point that he had icily handed me his business card saying he would prefer future contact be via email.

Now he was calling me at home asking if I could start tomorrow! This happy ending for an I.T. guy, displaced only 11 months earlier in what would later be called "the Great Recession", could only have happened with the help of the California Water Environment Association. After months of fruitless searching for an IT job, then finally, any type of job...nothing was working for me, until I joined the CWEA.

My good fortune started while I was riding my bicycle with my daughter down by the bay; it was there I noticed the staff working in our town's Wastewater Treatment plant. I thought to myself, 'I could do that job...plus the commute would be great!' The kind folks at that facility told me about the CWEA and Tri-Valley ROP, I joined that very week. I began attending training sessions, dinner meetings and any networking opportunity that I could find. The skills I was able to acquire laid a foundation that allowed me to successfully pass the CWEA Industrial Water Treatment Operator and Plant Maintenance Technologist certifications. This made all the difference in my getting the job.

It's now almost 4 years later; I'm the Collections Crew Leader at Rodeo Sanitary District, Collections Grade-II, Instrumentation Tech Grade-II, SWRCB Operator Grade-IV and an active member of the SFBS Collection Systems Committee and I have never been happier. I have learned so much from my fellow committee members and the whole CWEA community. I would not have been able to succeed in this new career if it were not for the California Water Environment Association...THANK YOU!

Sincerely, all the best,

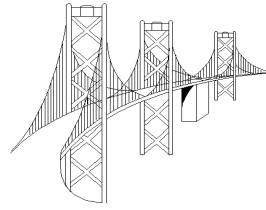
Dennis Lambert
Rodeo Sanitary District

What it means to be chosen as CWEA Large Collection System of the Year for the CWEA San Francisco Bay Section?

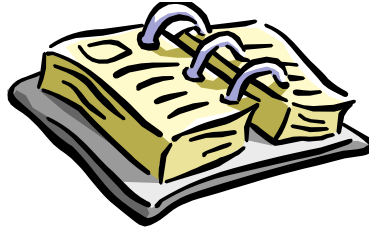
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District is honored to have received the Large Collection System of the Year award from the CWEA San Francisco Bay Section. To be recognized by our peers in the industry is very rewarding. It means a lot to us as we continue to set a high standard in maintaining our collection system and protecting the public and our environment. Our overflows per 100 miles are 3.3 compared to the state average of 5.3. We also continue to receive outstanding ratings in our customer service surveys.

It was an amazing experience to receive this award at the Annual Awards Banquet, which had 33 CCCSD employees in attendance. It was also a great opportunity to meet and visit with our other colleagues in the industry. We express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Collection Systems Committee and the CWEA San Francisco Bay Section as a whole for selecting us for this prestigious award.





SAN FRANCISCO BAY SECTION
California Water Environment Association



SFBS CALENDAR

April 2013	
3	Ironhouse Sanitation District Plant Tour, Oakley
4	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Cattleman's, Livermore
16-19	CWEA Annual Conference, Palm Springs Convention Center, Palm Springs
May 2013	
TBA	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Location TBA
14	Supervisor Safety Training, Dublin Library
21	Wastewater Treatment Regulations 101 Seminar, CCCSD
June 2013	
TBA	SFBS Dinner Meeting, Location TBA
9-12	Collection Systems 2013: Gold Nuggets of Knowledge, Sacramento

SF BAY SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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