Experimental Levee to Help Protect the Bay



Important Phone Numbers to Keep Handy

Oro Loma Sanitary District Office and 24/7 Emergency Response..... (510) 276-4700 Waste Management (510) 613-8710 Alameda County Recycling Hotline .. (877) STOPWASTE Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste...... (800) 606-6606

Spotlight on Excellence

RETIRED



Dale Hammerel

On May 26, 2015 Dale Hammerel will retire after more than 24 years with the District.

Dale joined Oro Loma Sanitary District in 1990 as a Mechanic I. Six months later, he was promoted to Mechanic II, the position he has held ever since.

Dale's arrival at the District was timed well with a significant upgrade to the plant's cogeneration system. The heart of the system is two digester gas-fired Waukesha Engines. Dale learned about the operation and maintenance of the engines and related generator and heat recovery systems while under construction. Afterward, he and another long-tenured mechanic took ownership of the system. Since then, the two digester gas engines have had the highest uptime among the existing fleet of 26 engines in the Bay Area.

The reliable operation of the cogeneration engines has contributed greatly to the District's ability to generate all its electrical and process heating needs.

While the Cogeneration System demanded significant time, Dale contributed to the plant's refinement and maintenance excellence in many other ways. He was part of a team of mechanics responsible for maintenance of the District's treatment unit, lift stations, and vehicles. Dale lived the "Oro Loma way" every day. He improved everything he touched. He documented best practices, key vendors, or sought to improve materials to increase the reliability of the equipment he serviced, all while never spending more than absolutely necessary. He leaves the District better than he found it.

Now that he is retired, Dale has the opportunity to pursue a longtime dream of living in the Montana wilderness, where he has constructed a shop to continue his passion for working on cars and off-road vehicles. Dale has served the District and the community well. We wish him the best in his new pursuit.

RETIRED



Glenn Bachelder

Glenn Bachelder retired on February 9, 2015 after 37 years with the District.

Oro Loma's wastewater treatment plant produces approximately 11 tons of processed, nutrient-rich wastewater solids each day. Before these biosolids can be used as alternative cover at the Altamont landfill, they must be spread out, dried, and stockpiled. This

is where "The Pond Boss," as Glenn was affectionately known to his coworkers, came in. Glenn was the one responsible for tilling, wind rowing, and stockpiling the biosolids. Doing this required an in-depth knowledge of the techniques for working in the drying ponds, as well as skill in operating heavy equipment. Glenn gladly shared his knowledge, and as a certified heavy equipment instructor, he mentored a new generation of plant operators who will now be able to step in and take his place, safely using the backhoe, front loader, and D5 diesel tractor, as he taught them.

Glenn was hired by the District in 1978 as an Operator I. Two years later he was promoted to Operator II, a position that he held for the next 35 years.

With his retirement, Glenn finally has a chance to relax and reflect on the many lives he influenced during his many years with the District.