



Oro Loma Sanitary District
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2010 Poster
Contest
Winners!

Regional Occupational Program

Trevor Schofield has been volunteering his time at Oro Loma for the past 25 weeks without pay. And he really appreciates the opportunity.

Trevor is the latest Regional Occupational Program (ROP) intern to come through the District.

ROP students become Operators-in-Training by working directly with certified wastewater treatment plant personnel to observe operation and maintenance procedures. They learn to tend machinery and equipment, read and interpret charts, meters, and gauges, collect samples, and perform lab tests. Graduates become familiar with the treatment plant equipment and begin to understand the biological, chemical, and physical processes that remove harmful contaminants from wastewater before it is recycled or returned to the environment.

Students attend class one evening per week from September through June, and must work as unpaid interns for an additional 16 hours per week. Upon completion of the program, they will have received 150 hours of classroom instruction and 390 hours of hands-on experience; graduates are now equipped to take the Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator exam administered by the California State Water Resources Control Board. Trevor has already passed his Grade I exam.

The majority of students entering ROP are working adults interested in making a career change; the program is open to applicants who are at least 16 years old and high school juniors. In addition, students must have knowledge of basic algebra. Having taken some chemistry courses is also desirable.

At 21, Trevor knew that he wanted a career that was meaningful, something where he could work outdoors and make a difference. His father, who works for another sanitary district, suggested the ROP program. Although the program requires students to intern without pay at a wastewater treatment plant, it is up to the student to find that internship. Trevor applied at Oro Loma and was accepted as an intern after an intense interview. Now that he has passed his Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator exam and has shown what he can do, Trevor was offered a part-time summer job at the plant. This time he'll get paid.

To learn more about the program and to receive an invitation to the next orientation, please visit the Tri-Valley ROP website at www.tvrop.org



Excellence in Financial Reporting

Oro Loma has once again received the prestigious Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The certificate was awarded for the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for FY 08/09, prepared by Anna Wilewski-Turon, Finance Manager, and Arlene Wong, Accountant.

The financial report was judged to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the District's financial story and motivate potential users to read the report.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

