National Public Works Week

May 17-23, 2015

Celebrating the work we do every day
Every single day, much of what we do goes by without much notice. Without fail, we work hard to protect the lives of the 2.5 million people we are charged with serving.
Protecting Public Health and the Environment

A big part of our job is protecting the public’s health by closely monitoring treatment processes at our two plants in Fountain Valley and Huntington Beach.
Maintaining the System

Our employees maintain a complex system of pipes, pump stations, and processing facilities so that people can go about living, working and playing without giving us more than a passing thought.
Investing in the Community

Technology and people work hand-in-hand to oversee a large and diverse network of facilities including 600 miles of pipeline, 15 pumping station and two treatment plants.
OCSD uses its resources wisely. We are generating power from gases produced during the wastewater treatment process. By generating our own power, we are saving about $7 million.
Each year, our lab analyzes more than 100,000 samples, testing for bacteria and over 100 other compounds that can be harmful to people and the environment. This ensures that only highly treated wastewater is sent for recycling or released through our ocean outfall.
Monitoring the Ocean

For more than 30 years, we’ve partnered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board in an extensive ocean monitoring program. Sampling is done daily along 11 miles of coastline.
Public education is a critical part of our outreach efforts. Last year, we attended more than 20 events in the community and conducted 180 tours of our treatment plants reaching more than 2,750 people.
Rehabilitation of our $6.2 billion in infrastructure is critical. We have over 600 miles of pipe that range from 8 to 120 inches in diameter and are up to 50 years old. It is crucial that we maintain Orange County’s past and present investments well into the future.
As of today, 34 percent of our employees are eligible to retire. In support of this effort, we have developed programs such as job shadowing, mentoring, job rotations and leadership training.

To help fill vacated positions, we have partnered with external organizations to expand our workforce planning and development efforts such as the Orange County Workforce Investment Board and local colleges.
Saving our Water

OCSD delivers treated wastewater to the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), which produces up to 70 million gallons of purified water every day.

GWRS supplements existing water supplies by providing a new, reliable, high-quality source of water to recharge the Orange County Groundwater Basin and to protect it from seawater intrusion along the coast.
For over 60 years, we’ve provided an essential service to the community 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. That’s no small task considering we treat 200 million gallons of wastewater everyday for more than 2.5 million people in central and north Orange County.
Thank you for helping us celebrate Public Works Week 2015!!!

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