

Training

Wastewater Collection Division personnel are trained on a regular basis in various aspects of the operations, maintenance, and monitoring of collection systems.

The employees that work in the Collection System Division of the Wastewater Dept. were assessed in 2011 by Tilson and Associates and a training plan was developed and initiated to increase the skills of the employees. The written plan includes classroom and field training, sewer cleaning equipment and tools evaluation, personnel training plan, and recommendations.

The training plan was implemented over a three year period with intensive week-long training occurring at six month intervals. Tilson and Associates also provided An Operator's Guide to Rodding and Flushing Machines and the maintenance crews have been trained in this manual. Tilson and Associates was brought back in 2017 for refresher course on all aspects mentioned above along with spill estimation and SSO response.

Safety Program includes meetings every 7 days, new employee orientation, and tail-gate meetings.

Training in each subject of the Safety Program (confined spaces, trenching, etc.) are given throughout the year and recorded. One Division manager is responsible for the implementation and updating of the Safety Program.

Collection personnel are sent to California Water Environment Association (CWEA) classes on a regular basis with each individual receiving no less that 12 contact hours of training every two years.

Personnel have been and are sent to various seminars given by Llewellyn, American Trainco, and Association of Bay Area Governments, CWEA amongst others in different operational and maintenance aspects of collection systems. Informal training of personnel occurs on a regular basis through mentoring by experienced individuals in the Division.

The Division has been registered for an online training program offered by TargetSafety.com and staff began using it December 2010 and continues to do so.