



WaterReuse Association
Northern California Chapter Meeting – Agenda
Friday, June 5, 2015, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
City of Santa Rosa, 35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Recycled Water Myth Busters:
AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast/Refreshments
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome David Guhin, City of Santa Rosa
9:15 – 9:30	WRCA Board Activities and Legislative & Regulatory Updates Dawn Taffler – Northern CA Chapter Trustee on the WRCA Board Linda Hu – Northern CA Chapter Representative on Leg/Reg Committee
9:30 – 10:00	WWTP Upgrade and Recycling for Zero Discharge at the USCG TRACEN Petaluma Alex Culick, GHD
10:00 – 10:30	Networking Break
10:30 – 11:45	Panel Discussion: Recycled Water Myths and Facts Moderator: Mark Millan, Data Instincts Panelists: Grant Davis, Sonoma County Water Agency Leah Walker, City of Petaluma Levi Fuller, Dublin San Ramon Services District Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa Chris Willig, WaterFluence
11:45 – 12:00	Closing Remarks Curtis Lam, President, Northern California Chapter of WaterReuse
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch and Networking

Program Sponsors:



Speaker Biographies:

David Guhin is a Professional Engineer in the State of California and is currently the Director of Utilities and City Engineer for the City of Santa Rosa. Mr. Guhin led both the Engineering/Asset Management Division and Operations Divisions of the Utilities Department prior to becoming the Director. In addition, he has spent time working in the private sector designing private and public water and wastewater systems before joining the city.

As Director of Utilities for the City of Santa Rosa, Mr. Guhin oversees a staff of 250 employees and is responsible for water supply, distribution and wastewater collection for the City of Santa Rosa and wastewater treatment and reuse for the Cities of Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Rohnert Park, Cotati and the South Park Sanitation District that serves over 230,000 people. The Utilities Department just completed another year of 100% beneficial reuse of its treated wastewater.

Dawn Taffler is a principal engineer with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants in San Francisco, CA and currently serves as their Reuse Practice Leader. She has nearly 15 years of experience developing innovative solutions to complex multi-agency recycled water projects. Dawn enjoys working in the grey area of engineering and communication, serving as a liaison between the technical and environmental teams and stakeholders to efficiently implement projects. She has served as an officer for the Northern CA Chapter for the last 9 years, and is currently representing the Chapter as a trustee to the WaterReuse California Board.

Dawn is a registered professional civil engineer with a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Illinois and MS from UC Berkeley, and is LEED accredited.

Linda Hu is the Supervisor of the Office of Water Recycling at the East Bay Municipal Utility District located in Oakland, CA. She oversees EBMUD's water recycling program, which includes implementation of new recycled water projects and support of existing recycled water projects. Linda has an MS degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley and a BS degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Hawaii.

Alex Culick is a Principal with GHD with over 25 years of experience specializing in water, wastewater and recycled water systems regulatory issues, design and construction of pipelines, pump stations, storage and treatment facilities. Based in Santa Rosa, currently Alex is GHD's Group Leader for Water Treatment, Conveyance and Infrastructure from Northern California to the Northwest. During these times of water scarcity, his Group of engineers and scientists are very busy assisting clients with projects related to water reuse and reclaimed water. Alex is a registered professional engineer and has a BS in Environmental Resources Engineering from Humboldt State University.

Mark Millan is the principal of Data Instincts – a professional consultancy specializing in public information, public outreach, and public involvement for implementing recycled water and desalination projects from pre-design, the EIR process, construction and completion. His recent work has included projects in King County, Washington, and in the California cities of Novato, San Mateo, Redwood City, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa and Windsor.

Mark has over thirty years of experience in marketing and public relations, with the last twenty focusing on water related projects and issues. From 2004 to 2011 Mark served nationally as chair of the WaterReuse Association's Public Education and Outreach Committee and in 2007 and 2011 was awarded the WRA President's Award for outstanding service.

Grant Davis, as the General Manager of the Sonoma County Water Agency, is responsible for management activities related to the Water Agency's core functions of water delivery, wastewater management, flood protection, and environmental sustainability. Prior to joining the Agency, Mr. Davis was Executive Director of The Bay Institute, a science-based nonprofit, dedicated to protecting the San Francisco Bay-Delta Watershed and improving water management in California. Mr. Davis also worked for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey and was an aide to State Senator Milton Marks of San Francisco and to Assemblywoman Lucy Killea of San Diego. Davis also operated a successful small business, specializing in strategic planning, public relations and campaign management. Mr. Davis currently serves on the University of California President's Advisory Commission, for the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. In addition, Mr. Davis is a board member of the California Utility Executives and Managers Association, Water Reuse California, and the Bay Planning Coalition. Mr. Davis received his BA in political science from the University of California at Berkeley.

Leah Walker is the Environmental Services Manager for the City of Petaluma, in Sonoma County, California. She is responsible for the Environmental Services Division within the Public Works and Utilities Department. Her areas of responsibility include operation of the City's wastewater treatment and sewer pumping facilities, recycled water delivery, permit compliance, water quality control laboratory, solid waste, stormwater management, and water conservation.

Previously, Ms. Walker was with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for 20 years in the drinking water program. She most recently served as the chief of the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management in CDPH. As division chief, Ms. Walker was responsible for the regulation of 7,500 public water systems in California. In addition, she was responsible for the Environmental Management Branch, which regulates and administers multiple environmental health programs. Ms. Walker was also responsible for the Drinking Water and Radiation Laboratory Branch and the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Ms. Walker is a registered Civil Engineer in California. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and a Master of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from San Jose State University.

Levi Fuller is the Operations Supervisor and Chief Plant Operator for Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). A Grade V WWTP Operator, D-2 Distribution Operator. Levi serves as a Water and Wastewater instructor with BACWWE (Bay Area Consortium for Water and Wastewater Education), supports Tri-Valley ROP (Regional Occupational Program) and is on the Executive Committee of Baywork. In these roles he supports the training and development of plant operators. Levi has 28 years of operating experience including 4 years aboard the Navy's USS Nimitz CVN-68 where among other duties he supervised the operation of Nimitz's Desalination facilities. DSRSD has a traditional activated sludge wastewater treatment plant. On a typical summer day DSRSD recycles about 50% of the plant's effluent using micro-filtration, sand-filtration, and ultraviolet disinfection. DSRSD serves its customers recycled water through a large purple pipe distribution system, as well as, commercial and residential recycled water fill stations.

Jennifer Burke is the Deputy Director of Water and Environmental Services for the City of Santa Rosa. She has experience in water supply planning; water conservation implementation and management; recycled water system implementation; and project management at an environmental laboratory. She is a member of Association of California Water Agencies, WaterReuse, American Water Works Association, Alliance for Water Use Efficiency, California Urban Water Conservation Council, and Santa Rosa Management Association. She has a BA in Environmental Science from the University of California at Santa Barbara and an MBA from San Jose State University. Jennifer is also a co-Chair for the 2016 WaterReuse California Annual Conference.

Chris Willig is a horticultural and irrigation expert with over 35 years of direct experience with large urban landscapes in California, including the last 12 years in association with Waterfluence. He has completed over 1,000 field surveys totaling over 10 square miles of landscaping including in-depth irrigation system analyses of major educational and public facilities (examples: CSUN, JPL and Pepperdine University). This results in him having an excellent sense of the potential for landscape water savings and effective ways to achieve conservation in Southern California. Chris has developed training programs, manuals, and tests for irrigation water management certification programs for the City of Tucson and the California Landscape Contractors Association. He has taught numerous sessions of the two-day Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor (CLIA) training. He created an online database of approved arid zone plants for the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency's "Lawn Be Gone" program. While in the Middle East he managed large landscape projects including their massive central control systems. Mr. Willig earned a BA in Biology from California State University, Northridge and an MS in Horticulture from the University of California, Davis.

Curtis Lam is the President of the Northern California Chapter of the WaterReuse Association, and a Principal with HydroScience Engineers in Berkeley, CA. He has worked for over 20 years as a civil engineer in northern California and specializes in recycled water system planning and design. Curtis has both an M.S. and B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.