

SEWER LEAKS

A Publication of the Los Angeles Basin Section of CWEA
October 2023



President's Message

As a new year is upon us, I relish the opportunity to work closely with the newly instated 2023-2024 Board to re-engage LABS members in a meaningful way. We are pushing for more in-person events at treatment plants, systems, projects, to share knowledge of innovative solutions to complex problems. Dinner presentations are coming back to engage different agencies and areas to unite the wastewater industry. Additionally, collections events and trainings are being coordinated to help bring training opportunities to the local section.

Another key objective for this year is to increase the amount award nominations to highlight the excellent work our experts have repeatedly been doing. In order for us to meet this goal, we need you to nominate that staff member, supervisor, project, plant, collection system, safety officer, etc., by November 21, 2023. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Lastly, the Board is hard at work planning the Annual LABS Awards Banquet for January 2024, to build off the momentum of last year's success. I look forward to seeing you at the event to honor and recognize the great work of our peers.

Sincerely,
LABS President
Cody Duncan, CCM



Meet Our New Board Members

Please welcome our 2023-2024 board members!

President **Cody Duncan**, Citadel CPM

Vice President (open)

Treasurer **Chris DeMonbrun**, City of Los Angeles

Secretary **Cecilia M Dominguez**, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

Director **Teigan Gulliver**, HDR Engineering

Director **Chareen Hsai**, City of Los Angeles

Director **Todd McIntyre**, Atkins

Liaison **William D Cassidy**, Orange County Sanitation District

Past President **Jenny Tanphanich**, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

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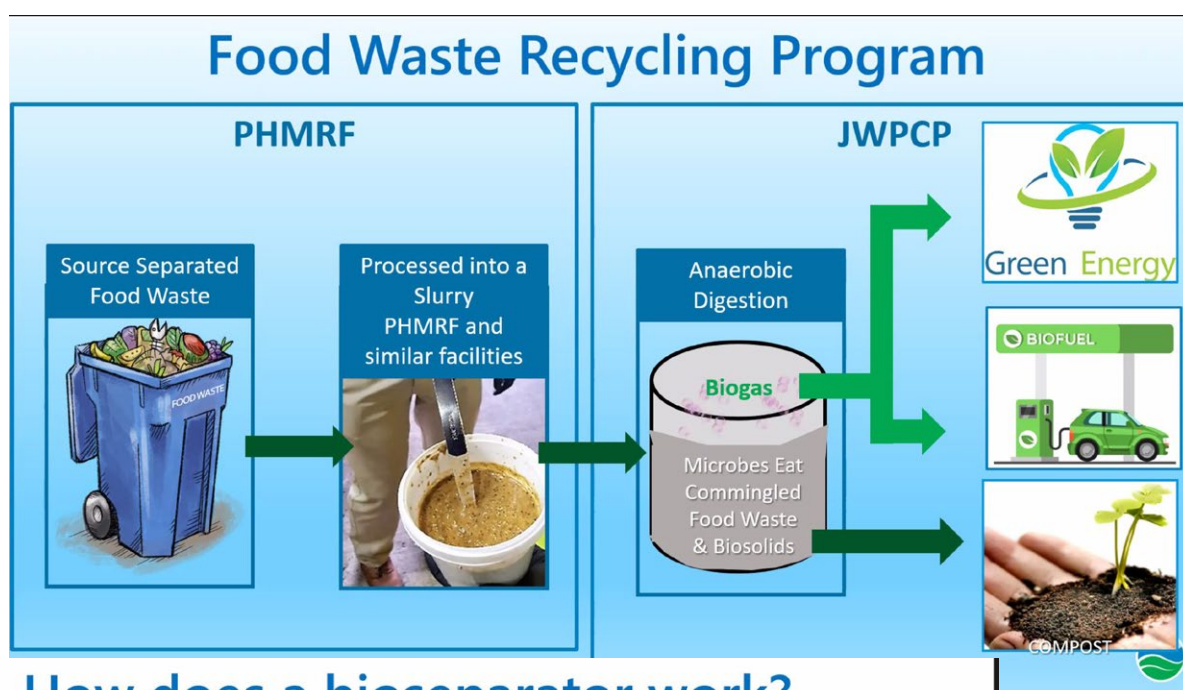
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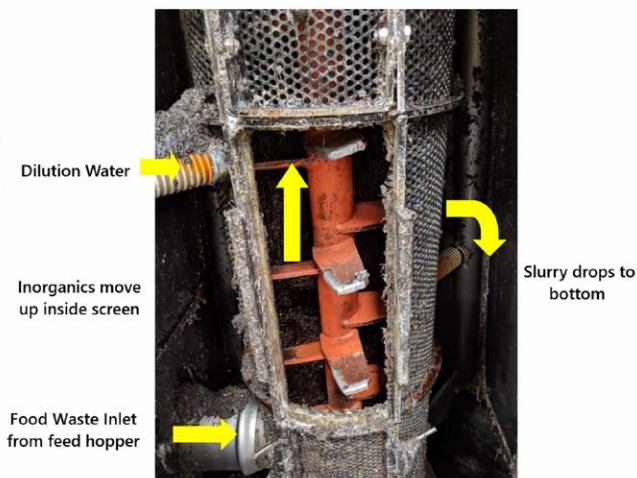
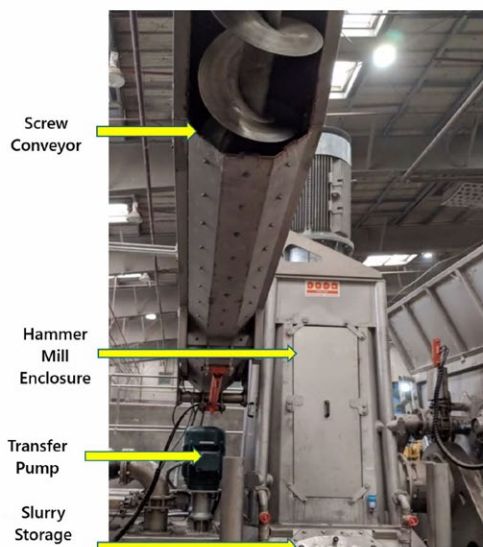
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Transforming LA County's Food Waste into Renewable Energy

Tom Fang, Winnie Shaw, and Johnmar Deguzman shared with LABS members how the Sanitation Districts are transforming food waste into renewable energy for LA County and what this means for the future of our community. Winnie explained in depth the recent California Senate Bill 1383 regarding organic waste recycling during a virtual lunch presentation. Johnmar discussed how the Sanitation Districts has responded to the law through the agency's Food Waste Recycling Program by accepting organic waste, generating biogas through anaerobic co-digestion, and converting it into renewable natural gas as vehicle fuel. Afterwards, the team engaged in a Q&A session regarding the unforeseen consequences, enforcement of the SB, and where the program is next. Thanks for the interactive and educational presentation.



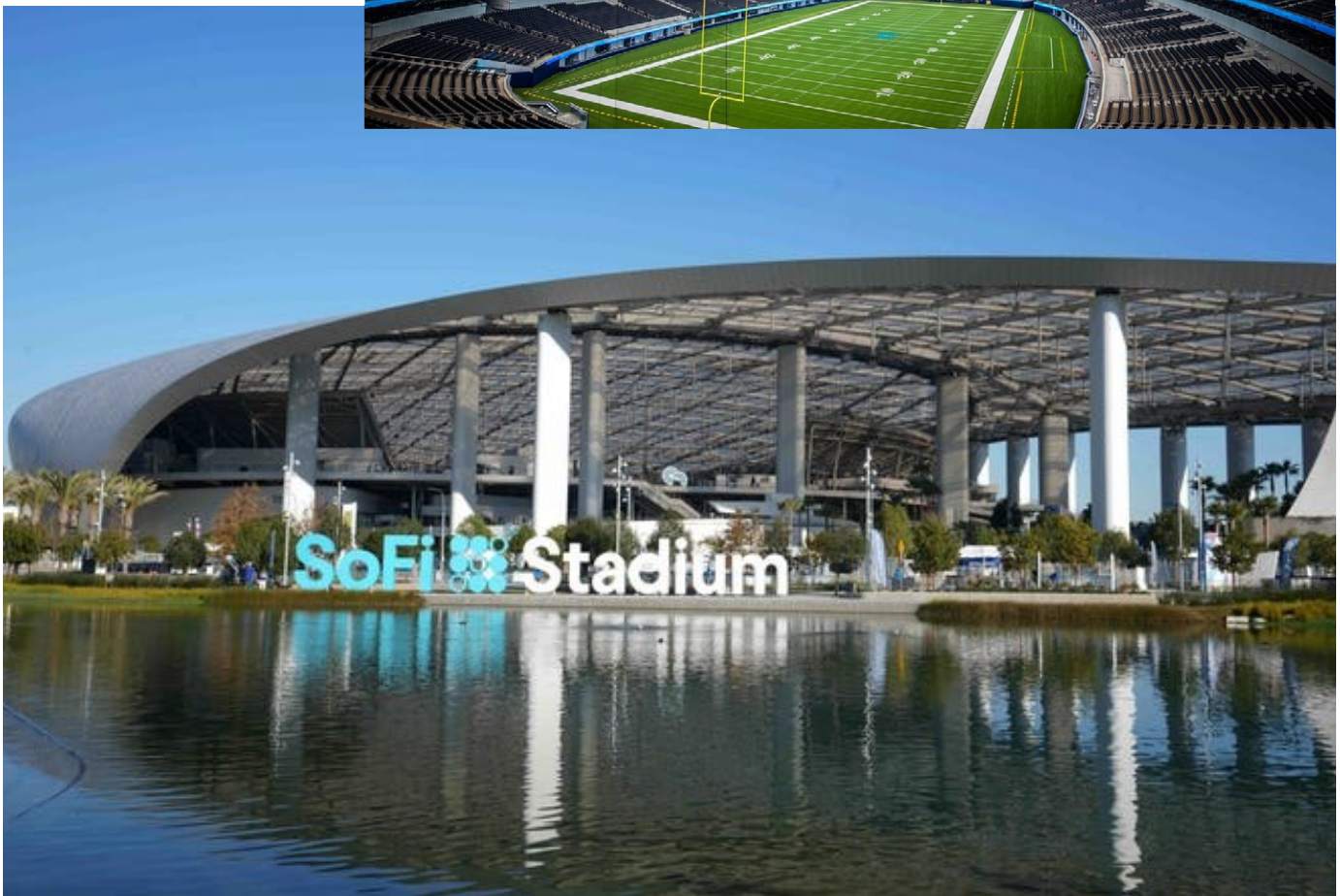
How does a bioseparator work?



SoFi Stadium Treatment Plant Tour and Dinner

Andrew Komor and **Michelle Hoalton** from PACE Advanced Water Engineering welcomed LABS members at SoFi Stadium to see the state-of-the-art, 5-acre, man-made lake that functions as a flood attenuation and stormwater treatment system as well as an irrigation storage reservoir fed by site runoff and recycled water. An advanced treatment system addresses the high ammonia levels in the recycled water and nutrients from the runoff and provides ongoing circulation and treatment to maintain pristine lake water quality. This is a first-of-its-kind system in California and challenged the boundaries of stormwater/wastewater reuse by achieving a Regional Water Quality Control Board permit to discharge commingled stormwater and recycled water. LABS members got an inside look at the Treatment Pump Station and strolled along the Stadium's Lake Park to look at the engineering features.

Thank you to PACE and everyone who came out to the well-attended event!





CWEA

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CWEA Awards 2023-24



Gain the recognition you deserve!

The CWEA awards have been recognizing excellence for **over 94 years**, honoring individuals, agencies, and companies across California that are leading the state in engineering, wastewater operations, collection systems, laboratory, and pretreatment programs.

The highest score in each section for each category will move on to the state level automatically. There is no need to submit another application at the state level, with the exception of *Collection System of the Year* and *Safety Plant of the Year*, where a second round of questions will be made available to complete the application.

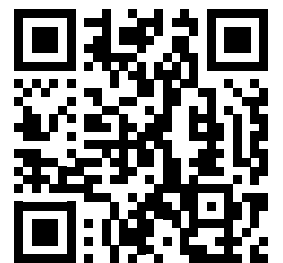
Steps to Apply:

1. Find your Local Section and their award deadline, typically fall/winter.
2. Review the criteria at awards.cwea.org and gather the detailed information.
3. Click APPLY.
4. Select the category
5. Complete the online application.
6. Local Section winners announced in December and January and forwarded to the State for review.
7. State winners announced in March. Good luck!

Submission Deadline: Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Questions: Cody Duncan, LABS President, 626-658-0135, CDuncan@dpw.lacounty.gov.

Get started at awards.cwea.org



Upcoming Events

9/21/23

City of Santa Monica Sustainable Water Supply Program

Event start time: 4:00 PM

Venue: Santa Monica Civic Auditorium – 1855 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Website: City of Santa Monica Sustainable Water Supply Program Tickets, Thu, Sep 21, 2023 at 4:00 PM | Eventbrite

9/30/23 to 10/4/23

WEFTEC - 96TH Annual Technical Exhibition & Conference

Event start time: 8:30 AM

Venue: McCormick Place – Chicago, IL

Website: WEFTEC

10/12/23

CWEA Leadership Development - Frontline supervisors and transitioning from the Bud to Boss challenges - Live Webinar

Event start time: 8:00 AM

Venue: Online

Website: Online Wastewater Education Network (OWEN): CWEA Leadership Development - Frontline supervisors and transitioning from the Bud to Boss challenges - Live Webinar (mycwea.org)

10/26/23

2023 Southern Safety Day

Event start time: 8:00 AM

Venue: Doubletree by Hilton Ontario Airport

Website: Event Info (mycwea.org)

11/30/23

Innovative Technology Seminar - Los Angeles, CA

Event start time: 8:00 AM

Venue: City of Los Angeles Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant

Website: Event Info (mycwea.org)

2/5/24 to 2/7/24

P35 2024 Annual Conference – Save the Date!

Venue: Delta Hotels by Marriott - Anaheim/Garden Grove

2022 LABS Sponsors

For information on becoming a sponsor of LABS, contact
Cody Duncan: cduncan@citadelcpm.com



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CWEA

2023

SOUTHERN SAFETY DAY



26
OCT

SOUTHERN SAFETY DAY

EVENT INFO

DATE

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26, 2023

TIME

8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

REGISTER BY OCT. 6TH TO
SAVE \$15

Doubletree by Hilton
Ontario Airport
222 North Vineyard Avenue
Ontario, CA 91764

Weather in Ontario can be unpredictable. Please dress in layers in case of warm, cold or inclement weather. Lunch will be served outside.

REGISTER ONLINE

events.cwea.org

Photos by Audrey McCann

Southern Safety Day in 2022 was a big success. We're excited to extend an invitation to you to join us in **Ontario** this October for another fantastic safety event brought to you by the **CWEA Safety Committee**, with special assistance from Kaila Krichmar of ehsInc.

This annual safety training day brings together a diverse community of wastewater professionals, all dedicated to making safety the highest priority. Southern Safety Day offers a unique opportunity to not only **enhance your professional knowledge** around safety but also to **engage in hands-on equipment demonstrations** and **connect with fellow attendees** and exhibitors from the industry.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- O&M Leaders
- Mechanics
- Electricians
- Instrumentation Technicians
- Inventory Managers
- Maintenance Schedulers
- Wastewater Operators
- Collection Systems Crews

