



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEER VALLEY STUDENTS AND DELTA DIABLO SANITATION DISTRICT WIN FILM FESTIVAL AWARD

April 23, 2008 – Antioch, Calif. When Delta Diablo Sanitation District decided to produce a video promoting wastewater awareness to east county 5th graders, it enlisted local talent. The District contacted Barton Cox, Jr. at Antioch's Deer Valley High School Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Video Production classes. That resulted in two students, Chris Wiggins and Trevor Marsh, being interviewed. After presenting a budget and schedule, the two were selected to direct, write and videotape an eight minute educational film.

The video, "Wastewater World," follows the travels of young "Johnny" played by Deer Valley student Dylan Allard. Johnny is tempted to pour grease down the drain, but instead is whisked down a sewer pipe and into the Delta Diablo Sanitation District wastewater treatment facility. There he learns about things that harm or clog sewer pipes, about the benefits of using recycled water for irrigation and industry, and about proper disposal of household hazardous wastes from "Craig the Cleaner" played by former Deer Valley acting teacher Taron Hensley.

On April 16 "Wastewater World" won first place in the Public Education/Amateur Category at the California Water Environment Association's Film Festival in Sacramento. The video ran in a continuous loop with other film festival winners at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. A plaque was presented to the district's community outreach coordinator, Linda Brewer, and

videographer Chris Wiggins (now a student at San Francisco State University) at an awards luncheon attended by over 350 people.

According to Brewer, the video project offered an opportunity to raise environmental awareness in 5th grade students while at the same time offering high school students practical, hands-on consulting experience. The California Water Environment Association was founded in 1928. It is an 8,000-member educational and professional association that supports the environmental and water quality industries. Delta Diablo Sanitation District has been protecting public health in Bay Point, Antioch and Pittsburg since 1955. It has won many awards for its recycled water, wastewater treatment and household hazardous waste collection programs. More information, as well as the video “Wastewater World,” is available at the district’s website: www.ddsd.org.

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