



Brenda Donald, Supervising Wastewater Control Inspector with the SFPUC, instructs attendees during her class on Customized Technical Training at the BAYWORK Training Buffet on Nov. 19, 2014.

The first BAYWORK Training Buffet in November was a successful a la carte menu of classes

By Kory Loucks-Powell

Over 100 water and wastewater professionals from 24 Bay Area agencies participated in the first BAYWORK Training Buffet on November 19. The event was held at East Bay Municipal Utility District's Adeline Training Resource Center in Oakland, and featured 11 classes taught by nine industry professionals from eight agencies in the Bay Area, including instructors from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, East Bay Municipal Utility Commission, Oro Loma Sanitary District, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, the City of Pittsburg, the City of Emeryville, the City of San José, and Contra Costa Water District.

A variety of classes on topics such as Myers-Briggs® personality assessment, workers' compensation, customized technical training, water and wastewater regulations, succession planning, safety and stress management in the workplace, and much more were offered exclusively to all water and wastewater employees for free, on a first-come-first-serve basis.

All the classes qualified for California Water Environment Association contact hours while the "Water Quality for Everyone" class qualified for CWEA and State Water Resource Control Board (formerly DOHS) contact hours. Each class was offered a la carte, allowing participants the flexibility to select from one to four classes - whatever best fit their interests and schedule. In the end 118 participants took 229 classes – or an average of about two classes per person.

After the event many said they appreciated the flexibility of taking classes of their choice, as well as the high quality of information presented from knowledgeable instructors. Others said that it was a great program and they appreciated the opportunity to network with attendees, and they enjoyed the free lunch, beverages, and snacks.

For more information about BAYWORK and their future offerings, visit their website at www.baywork.org, or email BAYWORK Chair Cheryl Davis at cdavis@sfwater.org or Staff Preparedness Chair Robert Scott at rscott@valleywater.org.