



# Costa Mesa Sanitary District

....an Independent Special District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **COSTA MESA SANITARY DISTRICT AWARDED BEST WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE REGION**

(Costa Mesa, CA) – On Saturday, February 23, 2013, the Santa Ana River Basin Section (SARBS) of the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) named the Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD) as the recipient of the 2012 Collection System of the Year award. SARBS, which boundaries include Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, is one of 17 geographical local sections of CWEA that trains and certifies wastewater professionals and promotes sound policies to benefit society through protection and enhancement of statewide water environment. The designation of ‘Collection System of the Year’ is one of the most prestigious SARBS/CWEA awards which recognizes an agency’s significant accomplishments, safety record, training program, regulatory compliance, maintenance program along with documented administrative and emergency procedures.

SARBS recognized CMSD for its innovative use of various trenchless technologies for sewer pipe replacements, which saved the District nearly \$2 million in construction costs, as well as the use of electromagnetic sensors in determining the wall thickness of sewer pipes. This technology led to the immediate rehabilitation of 1,500 feet of sewer force mains to prevent potential sewer spills.

In addition, CMSD has had zero work related injuries in the last five years and demonstrated to SARBS officials that written standard operating procedures are in place for responding to sanitary sewer overflows. CMSD will now compete statewide against the 16 other local sections of CWEA for Collection System of the Year. The award will be announced on Friday, April 19, 2013 during CWEA’s annual conference in Palm Springs, California. Should CMSD win on the state level, the agency will then compete for the award nationally at the Water Environment Federation.

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