

INSIDER

September 2025

Eighty Years of Service, Stewardship, and Shared Purpose

Eighty years ago, Ironhouse Sanitary District was established to meet a vital need: to protect public health and preserve the ecosystems that sustain our community.

What began in 1945 as a small, local service rooted in the farmland and delta waters of East Contra Costa has grown into a trusted part of daily life for the people of Oakley and Bethel Island.

The name "Ironhouse" itself comes from a local schoolhouse, a reminder that this district was born in the heart of a rural community where neighbors looked out for one another.

That same spirit continues to guide us. Today, we serve over 47,000 residents and businesses, care for millions of gallons of wastewater each day, and operate with a long view, one that honors our past and plans responsibly for the future.

This anniversary is a celebration of decades of hard work by dedicated public servants. It's a thank you to you, our community, for your trust and partnership. It's a moment to recognize the value of something that often goes unseen: the daily effort to ensure our wastewater systems are safe, resilient, and built to last.

We invite you and your family to join us in celebrating this milestone on **Saturday, October 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ironhouse Headquarters**. Come enjoy interactive exhibits, activities for all ages, and a closer look at how we protect what matters most, community safety and our local environment.

Jean-Marc H. Petit, PE
General Manager, Ironhouse

Updates from Ironhouse

The District is conducting a cost-of-services (COS) study to review our operations and capital needs. The District has completed several Master Plan studies, including Wastewater Treatment, Collection System, Information Technology, Recycled Water, and Land Management. These studies identified an increase in expenditure, especially in capital projects over \$75 million, over the next decade. A COS Study will help the District to:

- Determine fair and equitable rates for residential, commercial, and industrial users.
- Plan for long-term infrastructure upgrades and maintenance.
- Comply with California's legal requirements, including Proposition 218, which mandates that rates and fees must reflect the COS.



ISD staff inspected the installation of sewer pipes to accommodate a new business, supporting economic development and the Community's continued growth.

1945 • IRONHOUSE SANITARY DISTRICT

1945

Oakley property owners petition the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to begin the process of forming a sanitary district.



July 2

1945



Contra Costa County approves a ballot measure calling for the formation of the Oakley Sanitary District (OSD) by a unanimous 112-0 vote.

August 21

1945

OSD's first Board of Directors created.
President Joseph Augusta, Secretary Frank Dal Porto, Sanitary Assessor Frank J. Silva, Director Hasten "Shorty" England, Director Tony Vengley, Director Jesse Mello, and Director Anthony Dal Porto

August

1960



Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District (BIMID) is formed.

June 6

1964



Concerned property owners in Hotchkiss Tract area launch efforts to replace their septic tanks with a sewer system.

1965



Diablo Water District (DWD) is formed.

March 2

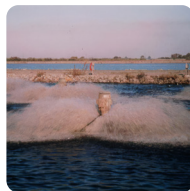
ISD buys 3,600 acres on Jersey Island for its disposal needs.



New administration offices are built on Walnut Meadows Drive in Oakley.



ISD builds aeration ponds as a means of cleaning wastewater brought to the District from Oakley and Bethel Island.



Provided additional aeration as part of interim expansion of the existing treatment facility to accommodate residential growth.

The City of Oakley is officially incorporated and added to the ISD service area.



October 15



ISD opens its new state-of-the-art Water Recycling Facility. The plant receives the California Association of Sanitation Agencies award for technological achievement.

ISD installs a 1.1 MW solar panel system to offset electrical power costs at the Water Recycling Facility.



1993

1994

1996-97

1999

2011

2013

1967

County Sanitation District No. 15 Citizen's Advisory Committee is created in response to the Hotchkiss residents.

November 21

1977

A joint powers agreement (JPA) is signed between Oakley Sanitary District and Bethel Island, establishing the Oakley-Bethel Island Wastewater Management Authority (OBIWMA). OBIWMA's board consists of two members each from Oakley Sanitary District (OSD) and Sanitation District 15, plus one member at large.

March 29

1978



Sewer system becomes operational in Sanitary District 15 boundaries.

1983



Sanitary District 15 hosts groundbreaking to build a stabilization pond, which is a natural method for wastewater treatment.

1992

OSD annexes Bethel Island, the JPA is dissolved, and the district merges with OBIWMA and Sanitary District 15.



January 31

1992

The new entity is renamed the Ironhouse Sanitary District (ISD), borrowing its name from a rural schoolhouse that once served the area of Oakley and Hotchkiss Tract. Two board members from the Bethel Island area are added.

February 1

June 20

Residential Recycled Water Fill Station debuts.



July 1

Commercial Recycled Water Fill Station debuts.

April

ISD receives the California Water Environment Association's "Plant of the Year - Small Agency" award for the State of California.

ISD buys a new vacuum truck to maintain the sewer system.



The Old Town Pipeline Improvement Project is completed.



Cattle operation ceases on Jersey Island.

October 18



ISD debuts new logo.



ISD celebrates its 80th Anniversary.

2015

2017

2019-20

2022

2024

2025



Ironhouse Sanitary District
450 Walnut Meadows Drive
Oakley, CA 94561

Emergency 24/7 contact number
925-625-2279



Scan to sign up
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news



Escanee el código a la
derecha para ver este
boletín en español o
visite qrco.de/bgKbEM



Ironhouse Sanitary District is Celebrating 80 Years of Service!

Join us as we honor our history and look ahead
to a sustainable future.

Saturday, October 18th | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Ironhouse Headquarters
450 Walnut Meadows Drive, Oakley, CA 94561

Bring the whole family for a day of fun!
Enjoy engaging activities, and learn how Ironhouse
works behind the scenes to protect public health
and the environment.



Scan the code to register or visit Ironhouse80th.org
Escanea el código para ver esta invitación en español y
registrarse, o visite Ironhouse80th.org



Recycled Water Fill Station

Hours of operation:

Monday - Thursday 6 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday, 6 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Recycled Water Fill Station will close for the
season on November 7, 2025 and reopen
in early Spring 2026.

Our Recycled Water is FREE for Oakley and Bethel
Island residents. Help conserve drinking water and
make an appointment to sign-up for the Ironhouse
Recycled Water Fill Station today!

Email us at outreach@isd.us.com
or call 925-625-2279
Learn more at IronhouseSanitaryDistrict.com