



Fall 2016 Newsletter

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Global Water Stewardship resolves sanitation issues in the developing world by educating people and engineering sustainable centralized solutions that keep waterways clean and communities healthy.

Message from the Chair

Fall is always a busy time for GWS as we come back from our annual trip in August to the project sites with a laundry list of tasks to complete over the upcoming months.

The Summer 2016 Newsletter briefly touched on the trip activities, and there have been several outstanding efforts by members since then. One such effort has been members offering their time and expertise to the design and rehabilitation of an existing wastewater treatment plant in San Isidro. During the August trip, GWS visited this site to find it at full capacity and discharging water that was not adequately treated and inundated with algae. While maintaining full-time careers, GWS volunteers are working to bring this treatment systems back to prime operating status, communicating with vendors and local treatment plant operators to upgrade the existing lagoon system. San Isidro is the sole Costa Rican city with a large-scale treatment system, therefore helping to ensure its success will inspire the industry to continue to grow in Costa Rica and will have a huge impact on the developing sanitation world. Thank you, volunteers!

Marketing Mania

Over the past several months, our marketing and social media team has done a fantastic job of getting the work of GWS out to the public! We have been published in WEF's *World Water* magazine, on Bodhi Surf's web page, created quick fact sheets, and have promoted fundraising events through our social media pages. Our Facebook page alone has 332 likes with 150 photo uploads, while one year ago we had only 30 likes. We have also increased our activity on Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. We are becoming very easy to follow, and can see the increase in support through our followers.

We are looking forward to continuing our work with WEF in writing several more articles for their *World Water* magazine. In conversations with the editor, we are hoping to provide several articles to the *World Water* magazine throughout the year. WEF's support means a lot to GWS and we are very excited to work and grow with their help.

If you would like to feature GWS work in your blog, magazine, email blasts, or other outlet, please contact chair@globalwaterstewardship.org.

International Programs

Over the past few months, one of our exceptional volunteers had been managing the QA/QC Committee as well as being our go-between for language and cultural translations with those in Costa Rica. With the increase in need in the QA/QC position because of new projects, and the continuing need to correspond with the Costa Rican's to keep things moving, we decided to split apart the duties.

We are excited to introduce Manuel de los Santos as the International Programs Committee Chair and David Arnott as the QA/QC Committee Chair.



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The International Programs Committee will be in charge of staying on top of communications between our project sites. They will work closely with the QA/QC Committee to ensure project permits/reports/representative decisions are being made in a timely manner to keep projects moving forward. This will be essential to making sure we are continuously working towards implementation of a new sanitation system.

Closing Words

Each year GWS volunteers are learning more and more about how to maintain this growing organization and ensure we are providing the best support for the communities we want to serve. The GWS Board of Directors now meets quarterly to have active discussions in person, and we are always brainstorming ways to improve our operations and achieve short and long-term goals. There are many challenges, but volunteer and financial support has helped GWS to come a long way in four years.

If you are inspired to protect our environment, provide sanitation to those in need, improve economies and public health, or simply to grow your skills and lend a helping hand, do not hesitate to contact us at chair@globalwaterstewardship.org and visit our website, www.globalwaterstewardship.org.

As always, thank you to all of our donors, supporters, and volunteers!