



Media Release

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/>

Phil Bobel Receives 2014 “WuHoo” Pollution Prevention Award

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 12, 2014**

**Contact: Bruce Wolfe, Executive Officer
(510) 622-2314**

Oakland – The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board today presented Phil Bobel, Assistant Director of Public Works for the City of Palo Alto, with the Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award, affectionately known as the “WuHoo Award.”

The WuHoo Award recognizes Bobel’s lifetime achievements in pollution prevention. After working at U.S. EPA on early water, air, and hazardous waste programs, he has led the City of Palo Alto’s award-winning pollution prevention program, demonstrating leadership in public education and documented reductions in water pollutants.

“I’m humbled and honored,” said Bobel. “What a wonderful surprise!”

During his esteemed career, Bobel has contributed to the Clean Bay Business Program, which recognizes local auto repair shops for complying with waste minimization practices; the Our Water Our World Program, which promotes less-toxic pest control in hardware stores and garden centers; and the Brake Pad Partnership, which initiated the phase-out of copper from vehicle brake pads in California. This year marks Bobel’s 43rd year protecting the environment and 26th year with the City of Palo Alto. Palo Alto’s high stormwater and wastewater quality reflects his efforts as a pollution prevention pioneer.

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board annually presents the WuHoo Award in memory of former Board employee Dr. Teng-chung Wu, an early advocate for pollution prevention. Dr. Wu believed the best way to keep San Francisco Bay clean was to keep pollutants from getting into wastewater, instead of constructing expensive treatment works to remove them. The award was presented during the Board’s Nov. 12 meeting.

For additional information, please visit

www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/board_info/agenda.shtml



Media Release

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's mission is to preserve, protect, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.