

**WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS**  
**OUTSTANDING OPERATOR OF THE YEAR**

...to recognize an operator and member of WEAT who has provided dedication, years of faithful service, and professionalism at their facility.

**Dale Burrow**

Dale Burrow works at the Central Regional Wastewater Plant of the Trinity River Authority as an interceptor system specialist in the Pretreatment Department. The Pretreatment Department is responsible for preventing the introduction of pollutants into TRA's Central, Ten Mile, Denton Creek, Red Oak and Midlothian Treatment Plants. Pretreatment identifies pollutants that can interfere with the operation of the plant, including its use or disposal of bio-solids and the treatment system. The division works to prevent the plants from receiving harmful pollutants that can affect the treatment plants' workers and to help improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim municipal and industrial wastewater sludge.

Dale was born in Waxahachie, Texas, and graduated from Brook Hollow Christian in DeSoto, Texas in 1986. He attended Tarrant County College and plans to finish his degree in the near future.

Dale began working in the water business with the city of Duncanville Water Department in 1987 and continued his career with TRA's Central Plant, starting in 1988 as a painter. He started in the maintenance and warehouse departments. Dale then moved to Pretreatment in 1990 and

has remained in the department ever since. He is a member of the North Texas Organization of Pretreatment Professionals, WEAT and WEF. Dale obtained his Class "A" Wastewater license in 2001.

Dale joined the Operations Challenge team in 1995 and became team captain of the TRA "CReWSers" in 2004. The "CReWSers" have had 30 - 1st Place overall finishes in competitions since 1995, and the team is proud that Texas is one of only four states to have ever won 1st Place overall in Division 1 at Nationals since the Challenge started in 1988. Dale was one of four that competed on the Water Environment Federation's first International Operations Challenge team in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2012. He was Captain of WEAT's "Texas Dream Team", which won 1st Place in 2013. Dale received the David Barber Competitive Spirit award in 2011.

In Dale's free time he enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife Jill, whom he met at TRA Central Lab, and their four children, Morgan, Glenn, Samuel, and Catherine. Dale enjoys history, kayaking, water skiing and dirt bike riding with his family.

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