

Fighting climate change AND keeping our water safe.

In California, wastewater treatment plants are an emerging hub for recycling food scraps.

PETER - 00:19:08:00 - 00:19:41:09 we take in about ten tons of food waste a day.

With the help of \$2.5 million dollars in state funding, the Central Marin Sanitation Agency is upgrading its facility to keep even more food waste from becoming climate pollution in landfills.

JOYCE - 0:04:49:05 - 00:05:12:08 Our existing underground storage tank has the capacity to hold 20,000 gallons. The new tank which is funded by CalRecycle is 15,000 gallons. So it's pretty much doubling the amount that we can accept.

Through a process called co-digestion, communities can cost-effectively retool their existing water treatment plants to recycle food waste into products like fertilizer and fuel

PETER - 00:00:30:01 - 00:01:04:16 the co digestion part is where we bring in additional trucks of material, mainly food waste from the solid waste sector, and we inject that into the same tanks together with the wastewater materials.

Within 40 days...

PETER 00:17:14:12 - 00:17:49:22 naturally occurring bacteria, will eat the organic waste and convert it into biogas

PETER 00:27:36:03 - 00:28:08:19 This is our brand new cogeneration engine is a state of the art one megawatt power plant, if you will, that takes the biogas from our digesters and produces clean, renewable power and heat.

Soon, they'll produce more energy than they need and send the extra to their community.

PETER 00:28:45:07 - 00:29:17:11 So we're producing nice, renewable, locally generated power and selling it to the same people that live in our service area.

JOYCE - 00:32:47:11 - 00:33:08:06 so this would help create a greener, more circular economy in that sense.

Turning local waste into a local resource to fuel their economy

Fight climate change

And lead California's march to a zero-waste future.