Waste Treatment Plant problems

When staff at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo noticed that the waste treatment plant, which services all waste areas and the outputs from three café areas, was struggling to process the increasing load at this popular tourist venue, they were immediately concerned. All issues around waste treatment need to be dealt with quickly and effectively, not only to avoid any unpleasantness for visitors, but also to ensure that there is no possibility of an escalation resulting in an environmental or health issue affecting the inhabitants and ecology of the zoo.

Replacing the waste treatment plant was a first consideration but the high cost of replacement warranted a closer look at the problem. Zoo staff noticed that the waste output from its cafeteria had increased to a level where the traps designed to control the FOGs (food fats, oils and greases) waste were also struggling to cope. Having seen the results of using the SpillAway Brand™ products to clean-up the FOGs in the barbeque area Peter Smith, who is in charge of the energy and grounds management at both ZSL Whipsnade and London Zoos, worked with Lewis Swain at SpillAway Projects to establish if bioremediation could be part of the solution.

A natural solution to work alongside the existing products

After inspecting the plant and the drainage system from the cafeteria areas, Lewis recommended using SpillAway's GTO™, a microbial, enzymatic digestant together with FPT600™, a cleaner/degreaser. Both products are formulated with naturally occurring products for clean-up of FOGs and, as with all the SpillAway Brands™ products, they are totally non-hazardous and environmentally friendly. The plan was to clean the FOGs contamination throughout the drainage system and in the Waste Treatment Plant, then to control the day to day FOGs waste to avoid clogging up the system in future.

FPT600™ was applied in two areas to provide an initial cleanse plus a boost to the bioremediation programme of the FOGs. Firstly, it was added to the drainage pipes and fat traps servicing the cafes, which feed through that drainage system into the Waste Treatment Plant. Secondly, FPT600 was added directly into the Waste Treatment Plant where it cleansed the equipment and commenced the bioremediation of the FOGs which were clogging the system and stopping the treatment of the sewage.

Minimal intervention to keep the FOGs waste under control

For the general control of FOGs waste, SpillAway Projects installed dosing units at convenient points through the drainage system for the regular administration of GTO which provides the intensive bioremediation treatment for removal of the FOGs in the system. The cartridges in the dosing units are replaced monthly. Other than that there is no further intervention required to keep the system running effectively.



Some 4 months after implementing SpillAway's bioremediation plan, Peter Smith is pleased to report that the waste treatment plant is now operating efficiently and the fat traps are working normally. He commented, "It is really pleasing to be able to deal with this type of problem in such a simple and hassle-free manner. Using the SpillAway solution instead of replacing the waste plant has undoubtedly saved us a huge amount of money whilst maintaining our high environmental standards."

Lewis Swain was equally delighted, "It seems obvious now we can see the results but we were by no means sure that bio-remediating the FOGs would sort out the fat issue at the waste treatment plant. Now the odours emanating from the cafes have been removed and the Waste Plant is able to run effectively with our products working well alongside the incumbent treatment plant solutions. We are pleased to have been able to deliver a total solution which is cost-effective and easy to apply."

About SpillAway Projects Ltd

Based in the UK, SpillAway Projects Ltd is the distributor in Europe for SpillAway Brands™ range of non-hazardous, industrial cleaning products. We are a solutions-based company, committed to working with stakeholders to provide cost-effective, environmentally-friendly solutions to industrial contamination and cleaning issues.

For more information please contact SpillAway Projects: 01491 651392 or info@spillawayprojects.co.uk.
