

# A Hiland Sustainability Story: Chandler Wastewater Recycling Program

Hiland Dairy's plant in Chandler, Oklahoma, produces cottage cheese, orange juice and iced tea, all of which require great amounts of water. The Chandler plant is unique, though; it has a wastewater recycling facility on site, as well as 620 acres of land surrounding the plant facility. Hiland has used these two resources to maintain a longstanding closed-loop sustainability program.

Holding tanks on the property filter wastewater from the plant and recycle the treated water into the plant's two aeration ponds. Four holding ponds with a capacity of 28 million gallons retain filtered water to be reused, and four irrigation pivots on the land use the recycled water to irrigate 280 acres, where Hiland grows feed crops for area farmers.

Hiland's Chandler plant has experienced impressive results from its sustainability efforts:

- Treats **250,000** gallons of wastewater per day
- Reuses nearly **7.5 MILLION** gallons of fresh water per month by using recycled water for irrigation
- Reduces the plant's wastewater by **95** percent
- Reduces the burden on municipal treatment facilities by **70** percent
- Contributes to the production of **2,033** tons of local feed crops per year for local farmers
- Allows Hiland to use filtered whey for fertilizer
- Shows positive return on investment every year

