



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Urges Water Awareness and Water-Saving Fixtures

At its May 5th meeting, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors recognized the continuing drought emergency in California with a resolution proclaiming May 2015 as Water Awareness Month. With the past four years (2012-2015) being the driest consecutive 4-years ever recorded in Santa Barbara in over one hundred years, the County urges its residents to increase drought awareness and encourages residents to take individual actions to reduce water use. To that end, the County Water Agency, in partnership with many local water providers, will soon be offering free water efficient showerheads in exchange for older models.

Starting on June 1st, residents can remove an existing showerhead and exchange it for a water efficient showerhead at one of the program's participating co-sponsor's locations. In all, 10 water purveyors will participate with a list of those participating agencies listed below. Residents within those water purveyor service areas can simply go to that purveyor's office. The new showerhead is a Niagara Company's *Earth* model which has been certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's *WaterSense Program* as being water efficient at 1.5 gallons per minute. Information on this specific showerhead can be found here: <http://bit.ly/1EGijPX>

Participating Water Purveyors

Carpinteria Valley Water District
Goleta Water District
City of Solvang
City of Lompoc
Los Alamos CSD

City of Santa Barbara
LaCumbre Mutual Water Company
City of Buellton
Mission Hills CSD
City of Santa Maria.

For residents on private water supply systems, the County Water Agency will exchange shower heads at its office at 130 E Victoria Street in Santa Barbara and at 620 W Foster Road in Santa Maria.

Residents who exchange showerheads are responsible for removing the old showerhead and for installing the new showerhead. Only one new showerhead will be given for each old showerhead exchanged. The old showerhead will be recycled through the existing recycling programs in each area.

Using a water efficient showerhead is just one way to conserve water. All County residents and businesses, including those who rely on their own well water, are encouraged to continue to carry out multiple actions to be *Water Wise* indoors and outdoors. Information, ideas, and guidance can be found online at www.WaterWiseSB.org, a website sponsored by the Network of Santa Barbara County Water Providers. The website also has details on specific water conservation programs, incentives and assistance which may be offered by individual water providers.

During May, as Water Awareness Month, and then throughout the year, *Let's Save Together!*

Showerhead Exchange Program Locations:

Buellton: Planning Dept. office, 107 West Highway 246.

Carpinteria: Carpinteria Valley Water District Office, 1301 Santa Ynez Ave.

Goleta: Goleta Water District office, 4699 Hollister Ave.

Hope Ranch: LaCumbre Mutual Water Company, 695 Via Tranquila, Santa Barbara

Lompoc: City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza.

Los Alamos: Los Alamos CSD office, 82 North Saint Joseph Street

Mission Hills: 1550 E. Burton Mesa Blvd., Lompoc

Santa Barbara: City of Santa Barbara Public Works Counter, 630 Garden St.

Santa Maria: City of Santa Maria Utilities Department, 2065 E. Main St.

Solvang: Solvang City Hall, 1644 Oak Street

Any resident can go to:

Santa Barbara County Public Works Building
620 West Foster Road
Santa Maria

Or

Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Naomi Schwartz Building
130 East Victoria St., 2nd floor
Santa Barbara