



**SAN DIEGANS
WASTE
NO WATER**
ALL DAY. EVERY DAY.

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC UTILITIES



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2011

MEDIA CONTACT:
Eric Symons
Supervising Public Information Officer
(619) 533-6607
ESymons@sandiego.gov

Money-Saving Resources, Information and Events Spotlighted During “Water Awareness Month”

SAN DIEGO – City Hall will be transformed into “Kiddie Hall” on Tuesday, May 3 as school children from throughout San Diego join the Mayor and San Diego City Council to be honored for their creative expressions about water conservation through the City’s annual poster contest and to kick off “Water Awareness Month.” The City of San Diego is recognizing Water Awareness Month throughout May and is inviting San Diegans to learn more about water, tap into City resources and participate in a series of fun and educational events.

While San Diego’s short-term water supply outlook is good, it is important to remember that San Diego still imports approximately 85 percent of its water supply from Northern California and the Colorado River. The conditions that affect these imported water supplies are cyclical and subject to change. Additionally, dry years are more common than wet years in Southern California. In response to these realities, San Diegans are adopting a long-term ethic to “waste no water.”

“San Diegans have done a tremendous job by saving water when we were faced with mandatory cutbacks,” said Mayor Jerry Sanders, who has demonstrated both at home and at work that water conservation is a priority. “While the drought may be officially over, waste is never an option. Using water wisely throughout the year needs to remain a permanent way of life,” added Mayor Sanders.

Informational Resources

- Starting off the month is “**Drinking Water Week**” from May 1 to 7. Learn more about water sources, purchasing water, treating water, and distributing water. New information, “**From Source to Tap**” has been added to the City’s website at www.sandiego.gov/water/quality.
- Find fun facts about water, water-saving tips for inside and outside your home, report water waste and read about year-round water-waste restrictions. Also featured is a **Landscape Watering Calculator** that can help you determine the exact amount of water your landscaping needs. Go to www.wastenowater.org.
- The City of San Diego's Public Utilities Department recognizes the importance of its responsibility with the money customers pay for water and sewer service. Learn more about how the department uses fees to fund programs, services and a vast, complex water and sewer system on the **Your Dollars at Work** web page at www.sandiego.gov/publicutilities/dollarsatwork.shtml
- “Like” the City’s Water Conservation Program on **Facebook** and follow tweets about water on **Twitter**. Join in the conversation and share water saving tips, ideas, resources and comments. Go to www.facebook.com and look for “**San Diegans Waste No Water**” or go to www.twitter.com and look for “**SDWasteNoWater**.” For all things water, wastewater and recycled water, friend the City’s Public Utilities Department at www.facebook.com and look for “**City of San Diego Public Utilities**.”

Resources to Save Water and Money

- City water customers can take advantage of **free residential and commercial water surveys** through the Public Utilities Department to pinpoint water-saving options at your home or business, including identifying possible leaks. On average, an American home wastes more than 10,000 gallons of water every year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks. That's a lot of water, and money, wasted. Call (619) 570-1999, email water@sandiego.gov or visit the City's website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation.
- Spring is in full swing and the City's Public Utilities Department has a new **residential and commercial outdoor rebate program**. By conducting a landscape makeover and maintaining a healthy garden, City water customers may be eligible for cash-back rebates on smart controllers, micro-irrigation and sustainable landscapes/turf replacement. Funded primarily by state grants competitively sought and obtained by the Department, the rebates are available to eligible single-family, multi-family and commercial customers on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit the City's website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation and look for "rebates."

Fun and Educational Events

Thanks to the support from local community groups, City libraries and businesses, San Diegans can also enjoy free local events and get involved with the community and focus on all things water. All events are posted on the City's website under the header "**Money-Saving Resources, Information and Events Spotlighted During Water Awareness Month**" at www.wastenowater.org.

May 3
10:00 a.m. **City Council Presentation of the Kids Poster Contest Winners**
City Council Chambers, City Administration Building
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101
Please note: Event also televised on CityTV Channels 24 or 99

May 4
6:30 p.m. **Preschool Story Time**
City of San Diego Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library
5148 Market St., San Diego CA 92114

May 5
10:30 a.m. **Preschool Story Time**
City of San Diego Paradise Hills Branch Library
5922 Rancho Hills Dr., San Diego CA 92139

May 7
10:00 a.m. **H₂O: The Art of Conservation Exhibition Opening**
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019

May 7
11:30 a.m. **Preschool Story Time**
City of San Diego Balboa Branch Library
4255 Mt. Abernathy Ave., San Diego CA 92117

Saturdays in May
7, 14, 21, & 28
11:00 a.m. **Healthy Lawns Clinics**
Home Depot Various Locations
12185 Carmel Mountain Road
5920 Fairmount Avenue
4255 Genesee Avenue (*check store for additional special event*)
355 Marketplace Avenue
3555 Sports Arena Boulevard
10604 Westview Parkway
525 Saturn Boulevard

Saturdays in May
7, 14, 21, & 28
10:30 a.m. **Water Conservation Garden Tour**
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019

-more-

May 8
9:30 a.m.

Ask the Horticulturist Tour
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019

May 10
6:00 p.m.

Kids Night with Hopscotch Tiny Tots
City of San Diego Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library
9005 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123

May 12
10:30 a.m.

Preschool Story Time + Craft
City of San Diego La Jolla/Riford Branch Library
7555 Draper Ave., San Diego, CA 92037

May 12
10:30 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library
3701 Voltaire St., San Diego, CA 92107

May 13
10:30 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Mission Hills Branch Library
925 W. Washington St., San Diego, CA 92103

May 14
9:30 a.m.

How to Hire a Landscape Contractor Class
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019

May 14
11:00 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Mira Mesa Branch Library
8405 New Salem St., San Diego, CA 92126

May 14 & May 21
11:00 a.m.

Water Conservation Story Time
Barnes & Noble
7610 Hazard Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92108

May 14
2:00 p.m.

Water Conservation Story Time
Borders
1072 Camino Del Rio North, San Diego, CA 92108

May 17
3:00 p.m.

"Decorate Your Water Bottle"
City of San Diego La Jolla/Riford Branch Library
7555 Draper Ave., San Diego, CA 92037
(Craft event for older kids and teens, check with library for instructions and supplies needed prior to event by calling 858-552-1657)

May 18
3:00 p.m.

Crafts
City of San Diego Central Library
820 E Street, San Diego, CA 92101

May 18
4:00 p.m.

Arts and Crafts
City of San Diego Skyline Hills Branch Library
480 S. Meadowbrook Dr., San Diego, CA 92114

May 18
5:30 p.m.

Water Conservation Film Contest Red Carpet Premiere
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101
Please note: Finalists' films will also be available for viewing at www.wastenowater.org

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| May 18
6:30 p.m. | Crafts
City of San Diego Otay Mesa/Nestor Branch Library
3003 Coronado Ave., San Diego CA 92154 |
| May 19
10:00 a.m. | Cowboy Bob
City of San Diego Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library
9005 Aero Dr., San Diego CA 92123 |
| May 19
10:30 a.m. | Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Allied Gardens/Benjamin Branch Library
5188 Zion Avenue, San Diego, CA 92120 |
| May 19
10:30 a.m. | Water Conservation Story Time
Barnes & Noble
10775 Westview Parkway, San Diego, CA 92126 |
| May 20
4:00 p.m. | Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Skyline Hills Branch Library
480 S. Meadowbrook Dr., San Diego, CA 92114 |
| May 21
10:00 a.m. | Home Compost Workshop
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019 |
| May 21
10:00 a.m. | California-Friendly Landscape Contest Awards
Water Conservation Garden*
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019 |
| May 26
10:30 a.m. | Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Central Library
820 E Street, San Diego, CA 92101 |
| May 27
10:30 a.m. | Preschool Story Time
City of San Diego Clairemont Branch Library
2920 Burgener Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110 |

*Please check the Water Conservation Garden's website for a full list of their events at www.thegarden.org. There are other classes and workshops scheduled in May that require a registration fee.

The City of San Diego's Water Conservation Program reduces water demand through promoting or providing incentives for the installation of hardware that provides permanent water savings, and by providing services and information to help San Diegans make better decisions about water use. For more information about Water Conservation, call (619) 515-3500 or visit www.wastenowater.org.

###

