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Mayor Faulconer Urges San Diegans to Take Water Conservation Pledge RESIDENTS COULD WIN ECOFRIENDLY PRIZES AS PART OF WATER SAVING CONTEST

SAN DIEGO – To reinforce the City of San Diego's continuing efforts to help residents conserve water, the City is joining the seventh annual Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water.

The challenge kicks off April 1 and runs through April 30, 2018. The event is part of a nonprofit national community service campaign to see which leaders can best inspire their residents to make a series of easy-to-do online pledges at <u>mywaterpledge.com</u>.

San Diego won this nationwide contest in 2015 and is looking to take back the honor this year. Last year, people from more than 4,800 cities across the United States pledged to reduce their annual consumption of fresh water by 2.2 billion gallons.

"We've proven time and again that conservation is a way of life here in San Diego as residents have significantly reduced water consumption over the years," said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. "This challenge is a fun and easy way to remind folks that we must use water wisely and not take our most precious natural resource for granted."

To participate, residents enter online and compete against cities with similar populations. Cities with the highest percentage of residents who take the challenge are then entered into a drawing for hundreds of ecofriendly prizes, which include home improvement gift cards and home irrigation equipment. The grand prize is \$5,000 that winners can use toward paying their home utility bills. Participants also have the opportunity to nominate a charity that would benefit from receiving a 2018 Toyota RAV-4 Hybrid.

The City offers a number of water conservation programs, including rebates and water surveys, as well as tips and information on its website at www.wastenowater.org.

