News Release

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Western reimburses Elsinore Valley MWD $103,250 for toilet conversion program

RIVERSIDE, CA – June 16, 2009 – Installing a high-efficiency toilet is a quick and simple way to reduce daily water use. Given Southern California's ongoing water supply challenges and shortages, achieving significant water savings in every possible way has become more important than ever.

For their effort, Western Municipal Water District presented the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) with a check for $103,250 at Elsinore's June 11 board meeting as reimbursement for the installation of high-efficiency toilets, primarily in apartment complexes.

"We are happy to partner with Western on vital conservation programs such as this," said Elsinore Board President Phil Williams. "Being able to make low-cost toilet installation possible is of great benefit to our customers and enhances our overall water conservation efforts at the same time."

L to R: Elsinore Board Members Harvey Ryan and Judy Guglielmana, Western Board Member Brenda Dennstedt, Elsinore Board President Phil Williams and Elsinore Board Members Ben Wicke and John Lloyd.

Funding for EVMWD's toilet replacement program comes from the *Enhanced Conservation Program* grant awarded by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the *Regional Conservation Credits Program* administered through Western. To date, the programs have funded the direct installation of 892 high-efficiency toilets in EVMWD's service area, totaling over $225,000. Water savings through this program are estimated to be 759 acre-feet over the anticipated 20 year life of the new toilets. An acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons. The lifetime savings from this program is equivalent to the annual indoor need of 2,756 families of four. "Water use efficiency programs, such as this, result in critical water savings at a time when we must continue to eliminate water waste and lessen our dependence on imported water," said Western Board Member Brenda Dennstedt. "By switching to high-efficiency toilets, we can achieve significant water savings now."

As one of Metropolitan's largest proponents of the *Enhanced Conservation Program*, Western supports providing residential and business customers with the tools necessary to reduce water use. A long-term Western priority is to restore water reliability from the Bay-Delta by supporting the construction of a peripheral canal. This action will result in the greatest amount of quality water being delivered to the greatest number of people, farms and industries. Western continues working with state legislators to convey the importance of protecting local property taxes from state budget impacts. This revenue helps build water supply projects that are critical to maintaining economic stability amid California's water shortage crisis.

Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.

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