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Water-Wise Alliance Makes Saving Water Fun

Upcoming Pass Events Highlight Water-Saving Learning Opportunities

BEAUMONT, CA (May 29, 2024) – San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) and Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD) advance local water education and connect with the community through their water conservation programming partnership.

The IERCD is a public agency focused on open space preservation, wildland rehabilitation and education and outreach to residents in and near Riverside and San Bernardino counties. SGPWA works with IERCD to create enriching learning programs that encourage young people to conserve natural resources for future generations.

Together over the past year, the two entities have educated 1,564 local students on water topics and engaged the public at several workshops and community events.

The public will be able enjoy this interactive collaboration at two upcoming events, the Beaumont Cherry Festival on May 30-31 and June 1-2 at Noble Creek Regional Park in Beaumont, and the Bogart Fishing Derby on June 8 at Bogart Regional Park in Cherry Valley.

"We are grateful to our partners at IERCD for the vital outreach work they do to educate local youth and Pass area residents on our water systems," Mickey Valdivia SGPWA Board President. "Conservation starts at home, and IERCD ensures that message is engaging and fun."

IERCD presents water preservation-focused classroom programs to schools throughout the region on behalf of SGPWA. This past school year, IERCD visited 63 classrooms at 16 schools. Presentation topics include "The Value of Water," with educational activities and teaching young students about the water cycle and how we rely on various sources of local and imported water.

In addition to schools, IERCD and SGPWA collaborate to reach out to the broader community. Representing SGPWA, IERCD delivered several workshops in 2023 and 2024 at Solera Oak Valley Greens HOA and Four Seasons HOA. The programming detailed the benefits of waterwise landscaping and included professional speakers.



The partners have previously hosted booths at Stagecoach Days in September 2023 and Banning's Winter Wonderland in December 2023, bringing classroom resources out into the community.

This collaborative effort will continue to reach out to local schools, community spaces and events to further education and conservation goals. SGPWA and IERCD ensure the public understands the connection between protecting our natural resources and improving quality of life.

Learn more at <u>www.sgpwa.com</u>.

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About San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

Formed in 1961, SGPWA is a State Water Contractor that serves a 225-square-mile area of western Riverside County. The service area includes the cities of Calimesa, Beaumont, and Banning, and the communities of Cherry Valley, Cabazon, and the Banning Bench. In addition to importing State Water Project (SWP) water from Northern California to augment local groundwater sources, the Agency builds local system infrastructure, participates in water transfers, partners in statewide water projects and collaborates on regional water reliability and conservation efforts.