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Contact:

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WEST BASIN CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF WATER RECYCLING AT ANNUAL WATER HARVEST FESTIVAL

Free community event on Oct. 24 will include tours, games, rides, food, and water education activities

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. – <u>West Basin Municipal Water District</u> (West Basin) presents its annual Water Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at its water recycling facility in El Segundo. The free and fun-filled event will feature more than 30 educational booths which will provide activities and games, such as face painting and a rock climbing wall, along with a kid's costume contest, stage shows, pony rides, a reptile petting zoo, and a chance to enter into a grand prize giveaway.

Water-themed stage shows will be presented throughout the day by The Discovery Science Center. The interactive game shows will emphasize the importance of water conservation, demonstrate what it means to be in a drought, and teach the audience ways to reuse water in and around their homes.

West Basin will be hosting tours of its water recycling facility every 15 minutes throughout the event where visitors can get an inside look at the process of converting wastewater into five different usable types of "designer" waters, and even have the opportunity to taste sewer water that has been purified into drinking water quality. Since the facility was first built 20 years ago, it has produced over 165 billion gallons of recycled water, equivalent to the amount of water to meet the needs of the city of Los Angeles for an entire year.

"Especially during this time of exceptional drought, it is important to educate the community about the importance of our precious water supply," said West Basin Board President Gloria D. Gray. "Water Harvest is a unique and fun way for residents to learn how West Basin and its partners are continuing to work together to ensure that we provide a safe and reliable supply of water for our communities."

Event sponsors include California Water Service Company, SUEZ, Golden State Water Company, SVA Architects, Inc., Water Replenishment District of Southern California, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, AKM Consulting Engineers, Carollo Engineering, GeoSyntec Consultants, Inc., HDR, Michael Baker International, Murakawa Communications, National Water Research Institute, Parsons, Tetra Tech, The Louis Berger Group, AEGIS Engineering Management, ARCADIS US, Inc. C&S Sales, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Lee & Ro, Inc., RMC Water and Environment, SPI Engineering, The Solis Group, Vali Cooper & Associates, and Trussel Technologies, Inc.

The event will take place at the Edward. C. Little Water Recycling Facility located at 1935 S. Hughes Way in El Segundo. Free parking and shuttle service will be available at 1960 E. Grand Ave. (at Sepulveda Blvd.) in El Segundo.

For more information about West Basin, please visit www.westbasin.org. To view ongoing event updates, visit West Basin's Water Harvest event page. Stay connected with us and use #WaterHarvest2015 on Twitter (ewestBasin), Facebook, and Instagram (ewestBasin) to join the conversation.

West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin is an industry leader in water recycling, conservation, and water education. West Basin is currently implementing a Water Reliability program to reduce the agency's dependence on imported water and develop drought-proof local water supplies. The program includes water recycling, water conservation, groundwater desalting and ocean water desalination. Visit www.westbasin.org to learn more.