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WATER AUDITS AND WORKSHOPS SAVE TIME, WATER AND MONEY

CARSON, Calif.—In a recent Green Garden workshop, West Basin Municipal Water District Director Gloria Gray, of Inglewood, helped 60 residents of Athens, Ladera Heights and Inglewood reduce their water use outdoors by providing them with *free* landscape water audits and *free* irrigation controllers.

“West Basin is working to cut our imported water use in half by the year 2020,” said President Gloria D. Gray. “Every gallon conserved helps our region become less dependent on unstable, imported water supplies and more focused on locally-produced sources, saving water, energy, and money.”

West Basin’s Green Garden program provides *free* outdoor residential water audits to help homeowners reduce runoff, make their landscapes healthier, and determine whether they qualify for a state-of-the-art irrigation controller and rotating sprinkler nozzle. Audits are conducted by a professional landscape technician.

New equipment is then given out at a “Green Garden” workshop, where residents receive training for the devices, learn other water-saving techniques, and exchange their old water-wasting equipment for new water-saving devices. Director Gray’s recent workshop was held on March 27, 2010 at the First Church of God in Inglewood. Once the resident installs the equipment, a trained technician then follows up to make sure the device has been installed properly and ensure the device is working as intended.

Conserving water at home by using less in your yard (which can be up to 70% of home water use in West Basin’s service area) will help reduce your water bill and save precious drinking water as we enter a fourth year of drought and face limited fresh-water supplies.

A Smart® irrigation controller can save an average of 47 gallons of water a day and waters only when the soil and climate indicate that watering is needed. The 60 controllers distributed will save one million gallons of water a year.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is reducing our dependence on imported water through its Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean-water to our portfolio by the year 2020. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. West Basin is a wholesalerwater district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area.