



For Immediate Release:
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WEST BASIN, FIRE DEPARTMENT DEDICATE NEW OCEAN-FRIENDLY GARDEN

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) together with City and County officials, dedicated the new ocean-friendly demonstration garden at L.A. County Fire Station 171 in Inglewood with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, December 6th.

“This educational garden will help teach members of the community how to landscape with plants that are appropriate for the local climate,” said West Basin Director Gloria D. Gray. “It is using 80% less water than before and is a great tool for those who want to learn how to use water more efficiently in their yards, which is part of West Basin’s Water Reliability 2020 goals,” Gray said.

The Water Reliability 2020 Program aims to reduce our dependence on imported water in half by the year 2020 by doubling water recycling, doubling conservation and adding a small amount of desalinated ocean-water to West Basin’s water supply portfolio. The ocean-friendly garden program will help West Basin work toward its conservation goals and increase water use efficiency by reducing the amount of water used outdoors.

An Ocean-Friendly garden eliminates runoff and pollutants to the ocean, uses significantly less water than a conventional landscape, and is low maintenance. The Ocean-Friendly garden program is a partnership between West Basin and the Surfrider Foundation and includes collaboration with the Green Gardens Group or G3LA. Native and drought-tolerant plants, smart controllers and drip line irrigation, mulch, swales and berms, and permeable ground surfaces are elements that have been included in the Fire Station 171 Garden.

Speakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony included West Basin Director Gloria D. Gray, Fire Chief Daryl Osby, Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Inglewood City Council Member Eloy Morales, and Battalion Chief Kelly Seyarto.

“This garden is environmentally-sound, it’s saving water, and the aesthetics are awesome,” said L.A. County Fire Chief Daryl Osby.”

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West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin is reducing its dependence on imported water through the 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. www.westbasin.org