

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Contact: **October 14, 2016** Amy Rocha, Public Information Specialist 310-660-6236 | AmyR@westbasin.org

WEST BASIN WATER HARVEST FESTIVAL 2016 CELEBRATES A WATER WISE LIFESTYLE AND DECADES OF WATER RECYCLING

Free community event on Oct. 22 includes facility tours, games and water education activities

CARSON, Calif. – <u>West Basin Municipal Water District</u> (West Basin) will host its annual Water Harvest Festival (Water Harvest) on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at its Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility in El Segundo. The family-friendly event features more than 30 educational booths, water-related activities including fun games and stage shows, along with a kids costume contest, face painting, reptile petting zoo, photo booth and an opportunity to win a grand prize giveaway.

Water Harvest activities, demonstrations and shows encourage, promote, and focus on water wise living, environmental stewardship, and water conservation by demonstrating how to use water efficiently in and around the home. The Discovery Science Foundation's Discovery Cube will also provide youth interactive learning programs.

West Basin will host tours of the water recycling facility every 15-minutes throughout the event. Visitors can get an inside look at the process of converting wastewater into five different types of "designer" waters for non-potable uses. Tour guests even have the opportunity to taste the recycled water, which is purified to drinking water quality. Since the facility was first built more than two decades ago, it has produced over 175 billion gallons of recycled water, conserving potable water and keeping 40 million gallons of wastewater from the ocean each day.

"For more than twenty years, West Basin has recycled water and pursued a diverse water portfolio, and we continue to make great strides," said West Basin Board President Carol W. Kwan. "Events like Water Harvest help to provide our community members with information about a variety of programs taking place to ensure water reliability in our region."

Event sponsors include California Water Service Company, Suez, Golden State Water Company, Water Replenishment District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, DRP Engineering, CH2M, Civil Source, The Louis Berger Group, Tetra Tech, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., National Water Research Institute, Carollo Engineering, Inc., Michael Baker International, Arcadis, SPI Engineering, The Solis Group, Parsons, H20 Innovation, AEGIS Engineering Management.

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.

Guests can share their water education moments, images, and conversations using #WaterHarvest2016 and @WestBasin on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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ABOUT WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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 <u>www.westbasin.org</u> to learn more.