



West Basin Municipal Water District

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West Basin and Surfrider Foundation Promote Water Quality *Organizations Form Partnership to Educate Youth Through Teach and Test Program*

Redondo Beach, CA – West Basin Municipal Water District was honored by the Surfrider Foundation for its participation in the Teach and Test Program, which pairs local high school students with graduate students from Loyola Marymount to test water quality at local beaches. West Basin contributed \$6,500 that helped pay for the necessary supplies and the assistance of the graduate students.

The program was developed to allow students to learn about community service and water quality while participating in a scientific study that would expand their scholastic knowledge. While measuring water quality at local beaches with Loyola Marymount graduate students, high school students from throughout the South Bay had access to a college campus and laboratory as well as learned the rigors of scientific study. They also learned the impact that the community can have on beaches and the quality of ocean water.

“We were thrilled to participate in this program because it allows us to educate future generations on the importance of water quality,” said West Basin President William A. Baker, who attended the ceremony on behalf of the District. “Education is a vital piece of West Basin’s mission to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for the region. It is our future leaders who will soon be making decisions about the water supply.”

West Basin has always made education a top priority. In addition to helping fund various educational programs throughout the South Bay, West Basin’s award-winning education program, Planet Protector Water Explorations, has brought more than 20,000 students to the West Basin Water Recycling Facility. During an action-packed field trip, the students are given a lively presentation that is capped with a tour of the Water Recycling Facility. After lunch,

students then visit the Manhattan Beach Marine Lab and Aquarium, where they learn the connection between water conservation and preserving the marine life in local beaches.

For more information on the District's education programs, please visit www.westbasin.org.



Pictured (from left) are Alan Walti, Chairman of Surfrider Foundation, South Bay Chapter; President William A. Baker, West Basin; and Joe Geever, Surfrider Foundation Environmental Coordinator, Southern California Regional Manager.

(An electronic version of this photo is available upon request.)

West Basin is a public agency that wholesales imported water to cities, mutual water companies, investor-owned utilities and private companies in the South Bay and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles

County, serving a population of nearly a million. In addition, West Basin provides the region with recycled water for municipal, commercial and industrial uses. Formed in 1947, West Basin is committed to ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for the region.

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