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## **May is Water Awareness Month** *RWA Offers Ways to Be Water Smart and Save Money, Too*

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – May is Water Awareness Month in California, and the Regional Water Authority’s Water Efficiency Program offers many ways for local residents to Be Water Smart. Using water wisely helps protect our natural resources, lowers energy costs and reduces water and wastewater bills – whether your home is metered or not.

“Water is our most valued natural resource,” RWA Executive Director Ed Winkler said. “By offering easy ways for people to become more water-efficient in their homes, yards and gardens, we can help our region save water and energy costs, and better protect the American River.”

Homeowners are encouraged to contact the Be Water Smart Hotline at 888-WTR-TIPS (888-987-8477) to find out how to take advantage of the following services and rebates:

- **Free Water Wise House Calls.** As part of this free service from your local water supplier, a trained water efficiency professional will visit your home to check the irrigation system, devise a custom watering schedule, check indoor plumbing fixtures for leaks, and provide free water-saving devices. Call 888-WTR-TIPS to find out more.

- **Free Workshops.** Numerous workshops and events are held throughout the year on water-wise gardening and other practices. For a calendar of events in your area, visit <http://www.rwah2o.org/rwa/educated/calendar/>.
- **Ultimate “Water Wise” Garden Makeover Contest.** The contest, which ends May 31, is aimed at helping local homeowners save water and money by incorporating low-water use plants and trees into their landscaping. The grand prize is a front yard landscape makeover. Download an entry form today at <http://www.rwah2o.org/rwa/educated/#UltimateWaterSmart>.
- **Ultra-Low Flow Toilet Rebate.** Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District (SRCSD) and participating water service providers are providing rebates of up to \$125 for ultra-low flush toilets of 1.6 gallons per flush or less. Rebates vary from \$50 to \$75 depending on your water service provider. The SRCSD may also contribute up to \$50 per toilet to district customers. Call 888-WTR-TIPS for details.
- **Clothes Washer Rebate.** In addition to a \$175 rebate offered by Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) for high-efficiency clothes washers, participating water service providers are offering an additional \$50-\$75 to SMUD customers depending on their water service provider. That means customers may receive up to \$225 in rebates for a new water-and-energy-saving machine. Download a clothes washer rebate application at <http://www.rwah2o.org/rwa/educated/homeowners/rebates/#two>.

RWA is a joint powers authority representing 22 water providers in the greater Sacramento area. Its primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources. For more information, see [www.rwah2o.org](http://www.rwah2o.org).

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