



Baywire for August 2010 Meeting

New Statewide Boater Education Program to Begin in September 1st

The SMBRC's successful boater education program, an effort that has been primarily local in scope, is about to go statewide. In coordination with the California State Department of Boating and Waterways, SMBRC's boater program will reach out to boaters, marinas, and harbors throughout the state starting next January.

"We are excited that our successful program is now going statewide," said Grace Lee, the program's manager. "Since 1996 we have focused on reducing pollution from recreational boating activities in local harbors and marinas and we are now ready to take it to the next level."

The program's proposed budget was approved by the SMBRC Governing Board at its August meeting. The program will be housed in the SMBRC's sister organization, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority. For more information, contact Grace Lee, Boater Program Manager, at glee@santamonicabay.org.

Local Water Conservation Measures Presented to Governing Board

The continuing drought and the likelihood of a chronic water shortage have lead local water districts to develop strong conservation measures in recent years. Various efforts and their relative successes or lessons learned were presented to the SMBRC Governing Board at the August meeting.

West Basin Municipal Water District's Public & Government Affairs Manager, Ron Wildermuth, presented West Basin's "Water Reliability 2020" program. Looking to reduce dependence on imported water by 50% by 2020, West Basin is instituting extensive recycling and conservation efforts and is in the process of bringing on line an ocean water desalination pilot project in Redondo Beach.

Adam Arika, Assistant Deputy Director for the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts, discussed water conservation efforts at the county's Waterworks District 29. Key conservation programs include public education and outreach, a viable leak detection program, providing rebates for efficient water use appliances, and a tiered water rate structure. Mr. Arika also noted a popular cash incentive program for removal of home lawns.

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's Resource Conservation Manager, Randal Orton noted that the water district exceeded water consumption reduction goals in recent years. Efforts to meet these

goals included reduced distribution to agricultural customers, voluntary reductions by some customers, increased penalties for excessive water use, and the adoption of specific water budgets.

All three presenters agreed that water conservation efforts must continue, as demand due to population increases as well as demand from other regions continues to rise.

Save the Dates! Two Important Symposia are Coming Up

Rainwater Harvesting Symposium-Wednesday, October 13th - ([website](#))

Please join the SMBRC and partners to explore rainwater harvesting in the existing residential sector. This symposium will be held at the TreePeople headquarters on Wednesday, October 13th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m.

Topics include:

- Understanding what rainwater harvesting is and why cities and districts should encourage it
- Successful municipally-operated rain barrel and cistern programs - case studies

TreePeople is located at 12601 Mulholland Drive in Beverly Hills. For more information, contact Sarah Woodard at swoodard@waterboards.ca.gov .

Ballona Wetlands Science & Research Symposium-Wednesday, December 8th - ([website](#))

All members of the public are cordially invited to attend the SMBRC's free scientific symposium that will highlight current monitoring and research being conducted at wetlands in the region. Presenters will include wetland scientists from throughout California.

Hosted by Loyola Marymount University, the symposium will be held on Wednesday, December 8th, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at LMU's University Hall 1000. RSVP's are strongly encouraged. For more information or to RSVP, contact Karina Johnston at kjohnston@santamonicabay.org .

Governing Board Meeting Calendar for 2010

The 2010 meeting schedule is as follows:

October 21

December 16

Meetings are held at the Del Rey Yacht Club in Marina del Rey from approximately 9:30 to noon. All agendas (including directions to the meeting) and other related information can be found at www.santamonicabay.org (<http://www.santamonicabay.org/>)