



Department of Water Resources provides Drought Preparedness Workshop for the Inland Empire

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Inland Empire – The Inland Empire Utilities Agency participated in the recent *Water Conditions and Drought Preparedness Workshop* hosted by the Department of Water Resources.

“Faced with historic dry years for the State of California, and storage in many of the state’s reservoirs and groundwater basins well below normal, IEUA has been shifting its vision and programs to better meet the needs of local communities through better and more aggressive management of local water resources,” stated IEUA Board President Wyatt Troxel.

Working with its local water agencies, IEUA is managing its water supplies through construction of local projects such as recycled water connections and better water conservation. Over the next three years, IEUA and its local water agencies expect to connect about 330 customers (schools, parkways, parks, golf courses, and private businesses) to recycled water. “Recycled water use will reduce the need for imported water by 10 percent after the 330 customer connections,” stated IEUA Vice President Terry Catlin. “By investing in recycled water to reduce its demand on expensive imported water, IEUA and its local water agencies are not only saving money we are helping to drought proof our region.”

In partnership with Chino Basin Watermaster, Chino Basin Water Conservation District, and San Bernardino County Flood Control District, IEUA and its local water agencies are building on its flood control infrastructure making it possible to recharge storm water and highly quality recycled water along with imported water from northern California to help meet the Chino Basin’s future water needs.

The Chino Basin Desalination program is another innovative project helping to drought proof our region. The Desalination program produces approximately 24 million gallons per day of high-quality drinking water. “Not only does the desalination program increase our water supply,

it also helps curb our electrical needs as it takes only half as much energy to desalt our groundwater as it does to pump water from Northern California,” stated Troxel.

“IEUA and its local water agencies are taking the drought seriously,” said Troxel. “We have been meeting monthly to discuss our water supply strategy. Our goal is to achieve the Governor’s plan to reach a 20 percent reduction of water use statewide by 2020. If we all work together this goal is achievable.”

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