



NEWS RELEASE

May 13, 2014

May is Water Awareness Month

The City of Santa Maria Utilities Department, along with other water agencies across Santa Barbara County, is observing the month of May as Water Awareness Month. Water Awareness Month helps educate California residents about water issues and encourage the wise use of water resources. The goal is to develop an awareness of water and the need to conserve water throughout the City and in the environment.

During this year's campaign, City residents can receive (while supplies last) a water conservation kit or other promotional items such as toilet tank banks, shower timers, and informative brochures. The City offers complimentary water audits to City residents throughout the year, but residents are especially encouraged to take advantage of them during Water Awareness Month. During a water audit, the City's Water Conservation Specialist visits your home and evaluates your fixtures for opportunities to save water (and money) both indoors and outdoors.

The Utilities Department also recently sponsored its 5th Annual Water Awareness School Poster Contest for third-grade students enrolled in the Santa Maria-Bonita School District. Students competed, creating colorful posters symbolizing Water Awareness Month and showing the importance of water conservation in our community. Student winners were announced at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2014. Prizes were awarded for 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place, and honorable mention.

Congratulations to the following students from Tunnell Elementary School in Ms. Stenzel's class:

First Place - Analisa Perez
Second Place - Angelica Gonzalez
Third Place - Marianna Arredondo Ramos
Honorable Mention - Juan Gonzalez

For more information, questions regarding water conservation, or to schedule a complimentary water audit, please call the Utilities Department at (805) 925-0951 extension 7235.

Department:	Utilities
Contact Person:	Myra Ritchie, Water Conservation Specialist
Telephone Number:	(805) 925-0951 ext. 7235
E-mail Address:	mritchie@cityofsantamaria.org