



**Dear Valued Customer -**

Thank you to all who joined us for the 6th Annual Water: Take 1 Film Festival. The night truly embraced Ventura's spirit of community and collaboration as reflected in the films that recognized local water heroes and their water conscious actions, initiatives, and programs.

This event would not be possible without our passionate and committed sponsors Nossaman LLP, Carollo Engineers, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, and Hopkins Groundwater Consultants. I would like to acknowledge distinguished guests Matt LaVere, Deputy Mayor; Samantha Omana, representative for Assembly Member Monique Limon; Allison Maginot, representative for State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson; and Vicki Raven, Vice President of Resource Development and Marketing for United Way, for taking the time to recognize and honor local water heroes. Lastly, thank you to our community organizations, professionals, and members of the public who stand

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# 6th Annual Water: Take 1 Film Festival Recognizes Community Water Heroes

Three “water heroes” were honored at this year’s 6th Annual Water: Take 1 Film Festival during a free community event presented by Ventura Water and held at the Ventura Beach Club on April 12.

Jim Ackerman was presented with the Community Member Award, Ventura Land Trust received the Community Organization Award, and the Wyland Foundation was recognized with the National Foundation Award. Each received a \$500 award for their inspirational efforts in water conservation and sustainable resource management.

Ackerman, a retired Ventura County firefighter and Ventura resident, was honored for his water-saving lifestyle that includes participating regularly in Ventura’s Residential Recycled Water Mobile Reuse Program. Ackerman was one of the city’s first waterwise turf replacement participants and has hauled over 10,000 gallons of recycled water since July 2016, using it to maintain a stunning garden at home.

Ackerman said he’s worried about the drought and is grateful that Ventura Water is being proactive with its many conservation programs and public education efforts. “It’s so important to me that I live in a city where they are addressing this critical issue,” he said.

[The Wyland Foundation](#) raises awareness for the value of water and the importance of bringing awareness to water conservation. The City of Ventura was one of five cities out of 4,300 nationwide chosen as one of the most waterwise cities in America in Wyland’s 2016 National Mayors challenge. We honored the Wyland Foundation for its creative campaigns to make a difference worldwide.

[The Ventura Land Trust](#) (VLT) is a community-based, non-profit organization with a mission and vision to permanently protect the land, water, and wildlife of Ventura. VLT was honored for their vital work to ensure and preserve open space for public access that enhances our local way of life — from protecting the natural beauty of our home, restoring habitat, building hiking trails, and preserving our watersheds. Recently, volunteers with the Ventura Land Trust re-planted all 1,000 trees that the organization had previously planted but were burned and destroyed by the Thomas Fire.

Since its inception in 2013, Water: Take 1 has served as a creative outlet for filmmakers worldwide to showcase and communicate the value of water through film.

“This year, Water: Take 1 has a new focus: to honor those in our community who are water heroes and who live and work by example, incorporating water sustainability into their lives and businesses and as a result serve as role models who educate and inform the public through their water-conscious actions, initiatives, and programs,” said Ventura Water General Manager Kevin Brown.

The Water: Take 1 Film Festival was held from 6-8 p.m. Over 100 guests enjoyed an hour of live music, complementary food and drinks followed by the award presentation and screening of inspirational Ventura Water-produced short films profiling each honoree’s water-centric story. Brown and Deputy Mayor Matt LaVere kicked off the screenings and award presentations with welcoming remarks, and Ventura Fire Chief David Endaya closed the ceremony by presenting United Way of Ventura County’s Vice President of Resource Development and Marketing, Vicki Raven, with a check from event sponsor contributions to support the Thomas Fire and Flood fund.

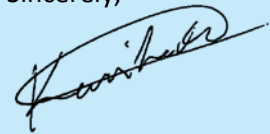
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with us to protect and improve our local water supplies for future generations.

We look forward to growing our circle of partners, sponsors and participants who are passionate about the value of water. If you are interested in getting involved with Water: Take 1 please visit [www.watertake1.com](http://www.watertake1.com).

Water is a precious resource and water conservation needs to be a way of life. An average family of four in our city uses about 17 HCF. Look at your water bill and use this to determine where you stand. As summer approaches, consider applying for Ventura Water’s free smart irrigation controller and sprinkler nozzles program. Smart controllers take your local weather data, soil, and plant types to create a customized watering schedule that will help you save time, water, and money. Remember, the best and most affordable available source of water is the water you conserve today.

Sincerely,



Kevin Brown,  
Ventura Water General Manager





Ventura Water wishes to thank festival sponsors Carollo Engineers, Nossaman LLP, Hopkins Groundwater Consultants, and Kennedy Jenks Consultants for their generous support.



## Ventura High School's Environmental Club Honored With 2017-2018 Watershed Hero Award

In Honor of Earth Day, the Ventura City Council presented the annual Watershed Hero Award to Ventura High School's Environmental Club.

The Watershed Hero Award, sponsored by Ventura Water, is designed to support schools in their efforts to protect local watersheds and become more water efficient. "Many public and private schools in Ventura have been working hard to demonstrate environmental leadership in our community," said Haili Matsukawa, Environmental Services Specialist at Ventura Water. "For many years Ventura Water has encouraged water wise projects on campus through nominations and selection of the competitive award."

**Ventura High School** has made extraordinary efforts to conserve water and mitigate stormwater pollution. Students at Ventura High School have partnered with the Surfrider Foundation to design an Ocean Friendly Garden that will include native plants and rainwater retention features. VHS is currently working with the Ventura Unified School District to finalize the project design and in the Fall, staff and volunteers will be working collaboratively to install the campus garden. This student-led initiative will save water, prevent stormwater pollution from reaching the ocean, and act as a demonstration garden for the public.



## Upcoming Gardening Classes

RSVP [here](#) or to view the full schedule click [here](#).

**May 12: Native Place Maintenance - Spring and Summer**

**Location:** City of Ventura Maintenance Yard at 336 Sanjon Road

**Time:** 10 a.m.

Learn how to maintain a vibrant low-water garden during the dry season. Topics include: correct pruning of common low-water landscape plants, adjusting your irrigation for the dry season, and applying the correct sustainable fertilizers for your garden.

Come ready to put these techniques into practice! Following the workshop, volunteers are invited to meet at Loma Vista Elementary School at 1 p.m. to do some hands-on maintenance of their native plant garden. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gardening clippers, pruners and shears, and rakes or digging shovels.

For questions call 805-652-4501.



## Visit Ventura Water's Outreach Team

Ventura Water's Outreach Team is composed of a diverse set of staff members dedicated to public education and community engagement. Come visit us to learn about employment opportunities, new rebates/incentives, upcoming public meetings, and free water conservation giveaways.

### Walking for Water

**Date:** Saturday, April 28

**Time:** 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

**Location:** Harbor Cove Beach, Ventura

**More information:** <http://www.cleaninternational.org/>

### Water Wise Workshop

**Date:** Saturday, May 5

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

**Location:** 363 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura

**More information:** email [wcdcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:wcdcinfo@gmail.com) or call 805-628-3869

### 2018 Amgen Tour of California

**Date:** Monday, May 14

**Time:** 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.

**Location:** Ventura Beach Promenade

**More information:** <https://www.amgentourofcalifornia.com/host-cities/ventura>

### Ventura Chamber of Commerce Spring Business Expo

**Date:** Thursday, May 17

**Time:** 4:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Four Points Sheraton Ventura Harbor

**More information:** <http://venturachamber.com/>



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LAWN WITH  
WATER WISE  
LANDSCAPING



USE RECYCLED  
WATER TO  
IRRIGATE YOUR  
LANDSCAPE



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FREE HIGH  
EFFICIENCY  
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WATER**

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