

Water: Take 1 Awards Ceremony is March 22 - Space is Limited!

Celebrate World Water Day with us at the Awards Ceremony

SAVE THE DATE: 5th Annual Water: Take 1 Online Short Film Festival. Winners will be announced at FREE event on Wednesday, March 22 at the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center located at 1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura Harbor.

Water: Take 1 aims to create a greater awareness of water as a valuable resource by inviting filmmakers locally and worldwide to submit short films in any genre that address the topic of water. Last year's film "The Conservation Enforcer" took the Grand Prize, earning the filmmaker a cash prize of \$1,500. Additional prizes will be awarded for the Audience Choice Award, Best Student Short Film, and Ventura Vision Award.

The ceremony will kick off with appetizers and refreshments followed by a screening of the finalist films and the announcement of the winners. Visit www.watertake1.com to see the films entered or click [here](#).

Space is limited. Make sure to RSVP [here](#). If you have questions please email Debra Martinez at dmartinez@venturawater.net or call (805) 652-4587.



Dear Valued Customer,

We are excited with our most recent rains. It is fantastic to see the hills of Ventura green again.

While this wet season has relieved much of California from extreme drought conditions, unfortunately this has not been the case for Ventura County. Lake Casitas, a major water supply for the City of Ventura, remains at approximately 42 percent capacity. To see the updated water supply for Lake Casitas, click [here](#).

Ventura residents' continuous commitment to conservation during these dry years is the reason we can boast about exceeding our 20 percent reduction in water consumption for 2016, with annual average savings of 22.34 percent compared to 2013. The City of Ventura's [Water Wise 2.0 Incentive Program](#), [rain barrel voucher program](#), [free water conservation surveys](#), and [free high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles](#) are all designed to provide more permanent solutions for saving water in and

Register Now for FREE Gardening Classes for 2017

Sign up today for fun, hands-on gardening classes. All classes are free and held on Saturdays from 10-11:30 a.m. Participants can register for the series [here](#) or view the full schedule at www.cityofventura.net/waterwisegardeningclasses.

February 25: Implement an Ocean Friendly Garden ~ Ocean Friendly Gardens promote "CPR," conservation, permeability and retention. Join the Surfrider Foundation in creating healthy soil and conserving water.

Location: Avenue Adult Center, 550 North Ventura Ave.

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March 11: Mulch Madness ~ Residents are invited to collect free mulch at one of two locations:

Location 1: *Cornucopia Community Garden on Telegraph Road between Johnson Drive and Ramelli.* Interested in reducing your waste and improving the health of your soil? Paul Vaksvic will lead a hands-on composting workshop.

Location 2: *Westpark Community Center, 450 West Harrison Ave.* Looking to reduce weeds and sustain moisture? Mulch is the material for you. Come learn from local expert Eric Werbalowsky.

April 8: Aquaponics ~ Join Jan Kolbusz of Restore Ventura to learn about this amazing soil-less gardening technique. Aquaponics grows fish and plants in one integrated system that results in less water, fewer weeds and a greater number of plants per square feet.

Location: *Avenue Adult Center, 550 North Ventura Ave.*

June 10: Optimize Your Irrigation ~ Take the opportunity to save on your water bill! Experts from Toro Company will help you design a watering plan that will fit your home's needs.

Location: *Public Works Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road.*

July 15: Mediterranean Natives and Drought Tolerant Gardens ~ Join local landscape designer Cari Vega at her new sustainable nursery. Enjoy an introduction to beautiful Mediterranean natives and low-water use plants.

Location: *A Smart Garden, 33 South Palm St.*

August 19: Permaculture 101 ~ Don't miss this amazing workshop with specialist Ben Lining of Green Thumb. Learn new and fundamental permaculture designs.

Location: *Green Thumb International, 1899 South Victoria Ave.*

September 9: Creating a Sustainable and Balanced Garden Ecosystem ~ Balanced garden ecosystems are low maintenance, promote healthy soils and support local wildlife. Professional landscape designer and native plant specialist, Lisa Burton of Nature by Design, will teach steps for designing a

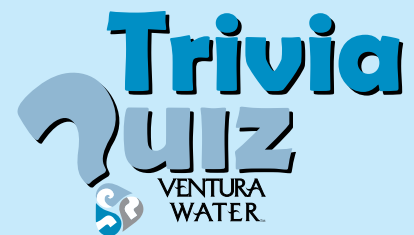
outdoors.

As we experience rain showers, make sure to turn off your irrigation systems. To learn more about what the city's planning for future water supplies click [here](#) for the column written by myself and Mayor Nasarenko.

Stay safe!

Sincerely,

Shana Epstein,
Ventura Water General
Manager



**Test Your Local
Ventura Water
Knowledge &
Win a Prize!**

Question:

**What month and
year was Ventura's
Stage 3 Water
Shortage Emergency
declared?**

(Hint: see
www.venturawater.net)

**To answer the quiz
question, click [here](#).**

balanced garden.

Location: Public Works Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road.

October 21: Water Wise Vegetable Garden ~ Conserve water while growing nutritious food! David Nicholes of Green Thumb will demonstrate techniques that will make your water-wise vegetable garden a success.

Location: Green Thumb International, 1899 South Victoria Ave.



Public Hearing Notice

Where:

**Oak View Community Center
18 Valley Road, Oak View, CA 93022**

When:

Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

The public is invited to discuss the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency's (UVRGA) proposal to serve as the designated Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Upper Ventura River Basin (UVRB). GSAs are designed to sustainably manage groundwater resources at a local level. The Sustainability Groundwater Management Act of 2014 requires local agencies to establish a GSA for the UVRB by June of 2017.

The Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency is comprised of five agencies: the City of Ventura, Ventura County, Casitas Municipal Water District, Meiners Oaks Water District, and the Ventura River Water District. Once the state approves UVRGA as the GSA, UVRGA will be responsible for developing, implementing and enforcing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Throughout this process, regular public meetings will be held to accept comments and update stakeholders. On Thursday, March 9, 2017 the community is welcome to comment on UVRGA's proposal to serve as a designated GSA for the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin.

For meeting agenda and more information visit www.uvrgroundwater.org/.

Congratulations to our winners from January:

Florence Jay and Thomas Schordorf.

- The first Ventura Water customer to email in the correct answer wins. Winners will be notified by email. City of Ventura employees are not eligible for prizes.
 - This month's prize: a rain barrel.
 - By participating in this Quiz you agree that we may publish your name in the Pipeline e-newsletter or share on our social media. Ventura Water will not publish participants' addresses, email addresses or phone numbers.
 - Winners have 30 days from publication to retrieve their prize at the City of Ventura's Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road, during regular business hours. The prize is otherwise forfeited.
 - No player may win and claim a prize more than twice per calendar year.
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www.saveourh2o.org



www.epa.gov/watersense/



www.home-water-works.org/calculator



Water Saving Tip

of the Month

Check your home for leaks! According to the EPA, the average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of wasted water every year. Common sources of leaks include toilet flappers, dripping faucets, showerheads or outdoor irrigation systems.



Ventura Water has free leak detection kits that can help you discover leaking fixtures. If you would like help inspecting your home for indoor or outdoor leaks, Ventura Water will send out a Water Conservation Specialist to conduct a free survey. Call Customer Care at (805) 667-6500 or myvtawater@cityofventura.net to schedule a survey. Click [here](#) for more information.



Ventura Water



Ventura Water CA



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YouTube Channel



Water: Take 1 Website

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www.saveourh2o.org/sprinklers101

