



You're Invited! Fifth Annual Water: Take 1 Online Short Film Festival Kicks Off Sept. 21

Get those creative juices flowing and start thinking about your next film entry now because the 5th Annual **Water: Take 1 Online Short Film Festival** kicks off Sept. 21!

The public is invited to attend the Water: Take 1 kick-off reception from 6-8 p.m. on Sept. 21 at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel, 450 East Harbor Blvd. Celebrate and learn about water and conservation with this cocktail reception. Enjoy complementary drinks and appetizers and a special video screening about making a difference in the water community.

Those interested in attending this free event must register ahead as seating is limited. To register, go to www.watertake1.com and hit the "RSVP NOW" button to register.

RSVP NOW

If you have questions please email Debra or call (805) 652-4587 or email her at dmartinez@venturawater.net. Or, go to www.watertake1.com and hit the "RSVP NOW" button to register.

The 5th annual Water: Take 1 online short film festival, presented by Ventura Water, aims to elevate the value of water by inviting filmmakers from across

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Dear Valued Customer,

School is in full swing, warm weather continues, and you continue to conserve exceptional amounts of water so Ventura endures this multi-year drought. This Fall marks Ventura Water's sixth year serving residents as an independent department within the city's organizational structure. It is my privilege to purposefully pause and thank all of my wonderful staff for providing high quality, reliable water resource services for the Ventura community. This department is 100 people strong and their tasks vary from daily repetitive fieldwork to complex problem solving and policy decision making. Many of the employees have special certifications that qualify them to perform the critical work they provide. Some of these same employees continue to strive to learn more and maintain credentials above the job requirements. Not only do our employees care about water

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the globe to submit short films of less than five minutes, in any genre (animation, comedy, documentary, drama, experimental, or sci-fi) that address the topic of water. This year we welcome a new partner, the Palmdale Water District.

Last year, 48 film entries were submitted featuring a wide variety of locales. A panel of environmental and entertainment professionals judge the entries, and awards will be given at a ceremony in the spring of 2017.

Not sure what your short film should look like? View the winning films from the 2015 festival at www.watertake1.com.

Sign up for the Water: Take 1 NewsReel e-newsletter [here](#).

Ventura Water encourages local residents - especially students, film buffs and people interested in water, the environment and conservation - to submit a short film. Great prizes, including cash awards, are given in various categories.

resources, but they care about our community at large and have been known to report crimes and other suspicious behavior while out and about doing their jobs.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask one of our many employees in the field. They are happy to serve you and help in any way. Look for our Ventura Water logo to know you are getting a trusted source for information.

Enjoy the Fall and thank you for being our partner in this extended drought.

Sincerely,



Shana Epstein,
Ventura Water General
Manager

Ventura Water Wi\$e Incentive Program 2016



Save money & water with turf rebates



Up to \$3,200* for Residential • Up to \$6,400* for Commercial
*subject to available funding

Apply Now! Ventura's New Water Wi\$e Incentive Program Launched Sept. 14

Ventura Water opened the application period for its popular Water Wi\$e Incentive Program on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The city of Ventura expects hundreds of applications based on the success of last year's program that reimbursed approximately 330 program participants, so get your application in now!



Register Now for FREE Water Wise Gardening Classes for 2016

Sign-up now for FREE Saturday morning Water Wise classes through November. All classes are held on Saturdays from 10-11:30 a.m. These classes are practical and offer hands-on fun. Sign up [here](#).

Sept 24: Water Wise Watering
~ Terrified of your timer? Dumb-founded with drip? Come learn from the experts from Ewing, Toro and Aquaflo to find out how to water efficiently. This class will be held at the Public

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For more information on Ventura's Water Wi\$e Incentive Program or to apply online, visit www.removeyourturf.com or click [here](#), or call (866) 983-9232.

The Water Wi\$e Incentive program, which aims to reduce water use by offering rebates to customers who replace grass with efficient landscape, has some new components to equip residents to reduce water use through 2016 and beyond. They include: an online application portal that automates every aspect of the participants' experience, offering weather-based irrigation controllers to qualified applicants, and free high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles through a web administered voucher program accessed by visiting www.freesprinklernozzles.com.

The program offers rebates of \$2 per square foot of turf removed for eligible residential projects. Homeowners may receive up to a \$3,200 rebate per home. Commercial properties or homeowners associations may receive up to \$6,400. All rebates will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be subject to terms and conditions as well as available funding.

Since the program's inception in July 2015, approximately 357,000 square-feet of turf has been removed, yielding a water savings of approximately 50 acre-feet per year. Over a 20-year period, projects completed under the program so far could result in up to 1,000 acre-feet of water savings.

"The appeal of water efficient landscapes isn't just for times of water shortage. Our community is undergoing lifestyle transformations that result in a more sustainable way of life for a Southern California city that depends solely on 100 percent local water resources," says Shana Epstein, General Manager of Ventura Water.

Works Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road.

Oct 22: Ocean Friendly Gardens and Integrated Design ~ Ocean Friendly Gardens conserve water and habitat, increase permeability to slow water down, and retain water for reuse. Integrating grey-water and rainwater harvesting can maximize your water supply on-site. Join Lisa Burton from Nature by Design as she shares what it means to "re-wild" our urban landscapes. Class location TBD.

Nov 19: California Natives, Mediterranean, Drought Tolerant? Right Plant: Right Place ~ There are only five places on Earth that host the biodiversity of Mediterranean climates, and Ventura is one of those locations. Learn about which plants thrive here and how to choose the right plant for the right place. The class location is TBD.

APPLY FOR TURF REBATES IN 4 EASY STEPS



RemoveYourTurf.com • 866-983-9232



Save Water, Take a Photo & Share How You Capture Conservation – and Win Great Prizes!

Have you been "Capturing Conservation?"

Earlier this summer, Ventura Water launched **Capture Conservation**, a local photo contest that offers residents who have battled to conserve water, an opportunity to capture what they've done in a photo. Enter and not only show-off how you conserve water, but also have a chance to win great prizes (listed below).

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www.saveourh2o.org



www.epa.gov/watersense/



www.home-water-works.org/calculator



Prizes:

We are offering great prizes at the end of this summer awareness campaign, including four tickets to the Absinthe Show at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas, a deluxe car wash, a [day trip to Santa Cruz Island for two](#) with [Island Packers](#), and our newest prize - a \$100 gift card to Green Thumb nursery in Ventura! Get your photos in now before winners are selected!

How to Enter:

It’s easy to enter. Just take a photo that captures your water conservation efforts! Be creative! Post the photo(s) on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter with the hashtag #keepsavingventura, and that’s it! Make sure you click on “share” to share your experience ... and remember #keepsavingventura!

Visit the Ventura Water Facebook page for more details. For complete contest rules click on the official rules on contest entry page. To enter click [here](#).

CAPTURE CONSERVATION

- 1 Save water
- 2 Take a photo
- 3 Enter to Win: /venturawater #keepsavingventura

VENTURA PHOTO CONTEST

VENTURA WATER

#Keep saving Ventura!

New conservation figures show that Ventura Water customers continue to respond to the call of conservation by exceeding our goal of reducing water use by at least 20 percent each month. This is especially important during the driest and hottest months of summer! Way to go Ventura!

In August, our customers reduced water use by 20.88 percent, compared to 22.44 percent in July. Conserving every month of the year is critical to ensuring that our water supplies last! As the weather cools, the importance of water conservation remains just as high as when it’s warmer outside. #Keep saving Ventura!



Want a professional opinion on how to be water efficient in and around your home? Ventura Water continues to offer free on-site water conservation surveys to commercial and residential water customers to equip them to be more water efficient. Please contact Customer Care at myvtawater@cityofventura.net or call (805) 667-6500 to schedule a water conservation survey.

Use the Water Calculator tool to help schedule your irrigation timers more efficiently at www.venturacountygardening.com/calc/. Learn more by clicking [here](#).

www.saveourh2o.org/sprinklers101





Join the 32nd California Coastal Cleanup Day Saturday, Sept. 17

Help keep Ventura's beaches and waterways clean! The 32nd California Coastal Cleanup Day is Saturday, Sept. 17, from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will remove debris from the coast, creeks, rivers, lakes and shorelines throughout California.

Come on out to one of approximately 20 cleanup sites in Ventura County or a site in Ventura, including Ventura Harbor's beaches and San Buenaventura State Beach.

"Coastal Cleanup Day gives community members a chance to gather and do something positive for the environment. When people have tangible proof that they are contributing to making a difference in the health of the community, it's extremely empowering and it fosters continued growth and participation of vital events like this," said Craig Jones, Management Analyst II for Ventura Water.

Please bring your own reusable supplies for the cleanup such as a water bottle, gardening gloves and trash bucket. Please also wear a hat, sunscreen and closed-toe shoes.

For participating beaches and waterways in Ventura County, visit www.vc-coastcleanup.org.



Ventura Water



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Ventura Water Website



YouTube Channel



Water: Take 1 Website

[Read Our Blog](#)



VENTURA
WATER

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