

**May 4, 2004**

**Contact: David A. Breninger  
(530) 823-4850  
or: Dave Carter  
(530) 265-NEWS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

*Auburn* - Details of an enhanced water use efficiency program will be presented to the Colfax City Council Tuesday night (May 11) by the staff of the Placer County Water Agency.

The presentation is part of PCWA's observance of California Water Awareness Month, which is being observed in May by more than 300 organizations across the state. PCWA's theme is "Use Water Wisely - It's a Way of Life."

PCWA Board Chairman Otis Wollan, the elected director of District 5, which includes the greater Colfax area, announced that several benefits will be available to treated water customers in Colfax as part of the program.

PCWA's water treatment plant in Colfax supplies nearly 900 treated water connections in the city. (The water agency also supplies irrigation water to surrounding areas through its canal system and operates six other treated water plants serving cities and communities in Placer County.)

John Kingsbury, PCWA Director of Customer Services, who administers PCWA's water use efficiency program, highlights the Colfax program:

- **Water Wise House and Business Calls:** PCWA water efficiency technicians will visit homes and businesses to check for leaks, offer customized water use tips, outdoor irrigation checks and recommended watering schedules. Customers may request this free service.

- **Toilet Rebate Program:** In a joint program with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the water agency is offering \$75 rebates to customers who replace older

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toilets that use three gallons or more per flush with the new 1.6 gallon or less ultra low flush toilets. The rebate program is limited to 200 rebates that will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Details will be announced through the local media.

- **Meter Replacement Program:** PCWA has received a grant to replace 15,000 old water meters in the next five years and the Colfax area is at the top of the list. Meter replacement work is expected to commence in June. The agency will install new state-of-the-art meters that allow PCWA meter readers to record readings using radio frequency technology. Customers will be notified in advance by mail and door hangers when work is scheduled in individual neighborhoods.

Customers wishing to learn more about the agency's water use efficiency services are encouraged to contact the PCWA Customer Service Center at (530) 823-4850.