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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PCWA Helps Customers Save Water, Money

AUBURN -- At a time of year when water use is at its highest, the Placer County Water Agency is offering some timely ideas on how to save water and save money on your water bill.

PCWA has announced several customer services that are available this year as part of its ongoing Water Efficiency Program.

House and Business Calls

The water agency has begun a program called Water Wise House and Business Calls. At the request of customers, trained water efficiency technicians are dispatched to homes, apartments, mobile home parks and businesses to check for leaks both inside the home and out, and to offer customized water-use advice.

Typical visits include checks of toilets, showerheads and faucets for leaks, flow measurements and irrigation system inspection. Free water-saving devices such as low flow showerheads are available on request.

Toilet Rebate Program

Approximately 500 rebates are being made available this year on a first-come, first-served basis for replacement of older, water-hungry toilets with new 1.6-gallon or less ultra low-flow models. The program offers a \$75 per toilet rebate to PCWA customers and may be used for residential, commercial, institutional and industrial locations.

To receive a rebate, customers should call PCWA Customer Service to check qualifications and to reserve a rebate. Rebate forms are then mailed to customers. After replacing the toilets, customers are asked to submit completed forms along with sales receipts for the new low-flow toilets. The \$75 per toilet rebate will be credited to the customers' water account.

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Irrigation Customer Programs

This year, PCWA will fund up to 40 large landscape water surveys and provide detailed water use analyses and recommendations. Some grant funding is available for large landscape improvement incentives.

PCWA has also installed two CIMIS (California Irrigation Management Information Systems) weather stations in Placer County to collect real time weather data that helps farmers and ranchers set irrigation schedules.

Water Education for Teachers

PCWA is coordinating a school education program in which PCWA hopes to reach 40 local teachers through two WET (Water Education for Teachers) workshops. In addition, the agency hopes to reach another 20 educators through a California Water Curriculum Workshop, to be held in conjunction with the Placer County Office of Education.

For Information

For information on any of these Water Efficiency Programs, contact the PCWA Customer Service Center in Auburn. Call (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030 or see www.pcwa.net.