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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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AUBURN-- Three new water efficiency rebate programs will be offered to customers of the Placer County Water Agency, it was announced at Thursday's (Nov. 20) meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors.

Director of Customer Services John Kingsbury said the agency's rebate program is being expanded to include rebates for lawn replacement with non-water consuming materials or water efficient plants, for point-of-use hot water heater installations, and for addition of whole house hot water circulation systems.

PCWA's rebates allow customers to save water and save money and are given as credits on customer water bills. The agency already offers rebates for the replacement of older model toilets and washing machines with new water-efficient models.

Kingsbury said the new programs details are being finalized and should be in operation in the next few weeks. He asked interested customers to watch for announcements.

The new rebates include:

1) Lawn Replacement. \$1 per square foot up to 1000 square feet for sod replacement with non-water consuming material, such as chips, bark or gravel. 50 cents per square foot up to 1000 square feet for sod replacement with water efficient plants.

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2) Hot Water Heaters. \$50 rebates for the installation of point-of-use hot water heaters. Estimated savings of 3600 gallons of water per year.

3) Hot Water Circulation. \$150 rebates for installation of whole house hot water circulation systems. Estimated annual savings of 10,950 gallons.

PCWA Board Chairman Mike Lee applauded the program. “In view of what’s happening around the state today, it’s really nice to see the agency taking a proactive approach to water efficiency,” he said.

In other business, directors:

- approved a combined 2009 PCWA budget of \$82.4 million. The overall budget includes the Water System at \$56.1 million, the Power System at \$13 million and the Agency Wide budget at \$13.3 million.

- heard a presentation from Stewart Feldman of Stewart Feldman Consulting on the efficient water use and recycling technologies being used by modern car washes. He said today’s new car washes can use about one-third the amount of water used in a home car wash and will also limit the amount of residue that washes off onto the watershed.

The next meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on Dec. 8 at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850