

Rancho Water
WORKING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rancho Water Awarded \$1.6 Million in DWR Grants

Turf replacement and groundwater banking programs to benefit from grant funding

Temecula, Calif. – The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has awarded Rancho California Water District (Rancho Water/District) with a grant totaling \$1.6 million as part of its Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grant program. The funds will be used for water conservation programs benefitting customers and a region-wide project supporting expansion of groundwater banking in the Temecula Valley.

In an effort to conserve water and reduce surface runoff from over-irrigation, Rancho Water has teamed up with the Riverside County Watershed Protection Program to offer customer support for those wishing to replace their turf with California-native gardens. This \$500,000 initiative will provide assistance to customers to submit turf replacement rebate applications and implement low-water-use landscapes. This program is designed to help customers see the appeal of California-native landscapes that fit within the aesthetic of the community and save money through reduced water usage.

Additionally, the grant will fund a \$1.1 million project which will increase Rancho Water's capacity for groundwater recharge and recovery. As extreme and historic drought conditions continue to deplete water supplies throughout California, the state is in need of water infrastructure projects that develop new sources of supply and storage. Rancho Water is exploring the expansion of water storage in the Murrieta-Temecula Basin by an

additional 150,000 acre-feet which is enough water for 300,000 homes. This project will allow Rancho Water to develop this new water storage capacity as well as explore cost-effective sources of additional water supply for the region.

“This grant award comes at a critical time as we face continued drought conditions and strains on California water supplies,” said Robert Grantham, Rancho Water General Manager. “We are thankful for this grant from DWR which allows the District to further our water reliability programs necessary to help stabilize water supplies within our community and region.”

This \$1.6 million grant is part of more than \$42 million that was awarded by DWR as part of the Proposition 1 IRWM grant program. The program provides funding for projects that help meet long-term water needs of California such as infrastructure systems, water resource management, and improving regional water self-reliance which reduces the need for imported water.

To find out more about DWR and Proposition 1 grants, visit water.ca.gov. For more information about Rancho Water, visit RanchoWater.com.

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About Rancho California Water District: *The mission of Rancho Water is to deliver reliable, high-quality water, wastewater, and reclamation services to its customers and communities in a prudent and sustainable manner. Rancho Water is a local, independent Special District, organized on August 16, 1965, servicing approximately 150 square miles and about 45,000 service connections in Temecula, Murrieta, and parts of unincorporated Riverside County.*



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