

W E W A C

Water Education - Water Awareness Committee
P.O. Box 9020, Chino Hills, CA 91709
(909) 931-4238

NEWS RELEASE

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Water Agencies Award Grants to Teachers to Conduct Water Awareness Classroom Activities

The Water Education Water Awareness Committee (WEWAC) has awarded a total of over **\$11,000** to local educators to conduct educational activities to increase students' awareness of the importance of water resources.

18 "Edu-Grants" of up to \$750 each were awarded to:

- ◆ Linda Quach of Ganesha High School in Pomona, for her project entitled "Water Waste Purification."
- ◆ Michelle Willie of Jellick Elementary School in Rowland Heights, for her project entitled "Building a Non-Fiction Water Education Library."
- ◆ Jennifer Chen of Telesis Academy in West Covina, for her project entitled "Our Little Garden."
- ◆ Yvette Kraus of Blandford Elementary School in Rowland Heights, for her project entitled "Non-Fiction Reading Across 3rd Grade."
- ◆ Suzanne MacKay of Townsend Jr. High in Chino Hills, for her project entitled "Exploring & Debating Water & Water Rights in U.S. History."
- ◆ Daisy Panichella of Telesis Academy in Rowland Heights, for her project entitled "Apple TV in Classroom."
- ◆ Nancy Demarais of Kellogg Polytechnic in Pomona, for her project entitled "School Garden."
- ◆ Russell Okinaka of Montclair High School in Montclair, for his project entitled "Comparing the Quality of Purified Store Water with Tap Water."
- ◆ Kay Hoover of Monte Vista Elementary School in Montclair, for her project entitled "H2Olympics."
- ◆ Kimberly Martindale of Monte Vista Elementary School in Montclair, for her project entitled "Blue River."
- ◆ Vicki Schaffer of Blandford Elementary School in Rowland Heights, for her project entitled "Helping to Meet Common Core Needs."
- ◆ Kevin Britten of Chino High School in Chino, for his project entitled "Bottled Water/Tap Water War."
- ◆ Kathleen Diver and Mary Haus of Los Osos High School in Rancho Cucamonga, for their project entitled "Mobile Science Lab to Monitor Community Gardens and Local Xeriscape Projects."
- ◆ George King of California & Technical Center (CTEC) of Pomona, for his project entitled "Field Trip, OC Ground Water Replenishment Plant."

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- ◆ Jose Balvanera of Madison Elementary in Pomona, for his project entitled "School Garden."
- ◆ Mr. Sterbinsky and Ms. Allen of Emerson Middle School in Pomona, for their project entitled "School Garden."
- ◆ Sherrie Walton of Blandford Elementary School in Rowland Heights, for her project entitled "Water Cycle Terrariums."
- ◆ Joshua Whittemore of Telesis Academy in West Covina, for his project entitled "Let's Use our Water Right!"

Grant recipients will complete the classroom projects by the end of the 2013-2014 academic year with WEWAC representatives conducting classroom visits in May and June to view the project and/or receive oral and written reports highlighting project outcomes.

WEWAC is a consortium of conservation professionals representing 15 cities and water agencies located in western San Bernardino County and eastern Los Angeles County, which include the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Glendora, La Verne, Pomona, Upland along with Chino Basin Water Conservation District, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana Water Company, Golden State Water Company, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario Municipal Utilities Company, Rowland Water District and Three Valleys Municipal Water District.

"In 1986, faced with serious drought conditions throughout California, local water agencies and cities pooled resources in an effort to promote water conservation," explained Andrea Carruthers, WEWAC president and community outreach coordinator for Inland Empire Utilities Agency. "Since then, the group has actively worked to promote the efficient use of our precious water resources through successful regional education and public information programs," she added.

In addition to the Edu-Grant program, WEWAC sponsors an annual water conservation media contest, conducts teacher workshops, and participates in educational fairs, and community events. WEWAC also maintains a website, www.usewaterwisely.com, and a "California Friendly®" demonstration garden at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds. For more information, call the WEWAC message center at (909) 931-4238.