



Sonoma County Water Agency PRESS RELEASE

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Nominations Sought for Water Conservation, Water Management Projects

Sonoma Valley, CA – Nominations are being sought for successful water conservation and water management projects in the Sonoma Valley. The Sonoma Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel, which is studying groundwater, will highlight projects at a November 5 award ceremony.

“We know that homeowners, grape growers and businesses are taking extraordinary steps to conserve water, and we’d like to recognize these efforts,” said Mark Bramfitt, chair of the advisory panel. “Sharing these success stories helps other valley residents envision new possibilities for their own properties.”

There are no limits on the types of projects eligible for nomination. Examples include protecting and managing groundwater recharge areas, replacing landscaping with low water plantings, rainwater catchment and use systems and installation of permeable paving.

“Winners will be awarded certificates – but more importantly their projects will serve as case studies,” said Marcus Trotta, a hydrogeologist with the Sonoma County Water Agency, who provides staff support to the panel. “Increasing awareness and providing people with new conservation tools and information is a goal of the panel, as it seeks to increase the sustainability of our local groundwater resources.”

The Basin Advisory Panel, which was formed in 2007, has developed a groundwater management plan for Sonoma Valley. The plan includes 10 action items to protect and

preserve groundwater, including: conservation, improved groundwater recharge, use of recycled water and groundwater banking.

The management plan and information about the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel can be found at www.sonomacountywater.org/projects/svgroundwater. A nomination form is attached. Nominations can be referred to Marcus Trotta at (707) 547-1958 or at mtrotta@scwa.ca.gov.

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Sonoma County Water Agency provides water supply, flood protection and sanitation services for portions of Sonoma and Marin counties. Visit us on the Web at www.sonomacountywater.org.