



NEWS RELEASE

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MWDOC PARTNERS WITH WYLAND FOR ORANGE COUNTY WATER CHALLENGE

Fountain Valley, CA (March 6, 2017) – The Board of Directors of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) has approved a partnership with the Wyland Foundation to hold an Orange County spinoff of the Annual Wyland National Mayor’s Challenge. The Challenge will have OC mayors calling on their residents to “Take the Pledge” to conserve with the winning city getting OC bragging rights and a park makeover.

“It’s no secret we take water conservation very seriously here in Orange County,” said MWDOC Board President, Wayne Osborne. “Obviously, the City of Laguna Beach has proven that in the past. Competition is good. We all can do a little more.”

Every year the Wyland Foundation hosts the annual Wyland National Mayor’s Challenge. It is a friendly competition between cities across the nation. Mayors will challenge their residents to conserve water, energy, and other natural resources. Last year, our very own City of Laguna Beach won the top spot nationally in their population category.

This is the first time the Wyland Foundation has partnered with a county for a regional challenge. The breakaway MWDOC competition is between cities in MWDOC’s service area, which includes 28 water agencies. The winner of the OC competition will not only be recognized by the Wyland Foundation, but they will also get their very own water-wise pocket park.

The pocket park, which will be approximately 1,000 sq. ft., will be awarded to the city who has received the most pledges from their residents through the Wyland Foundation National Mayor’s Challenge. The location of the pocket park will be determined by the city, water agency, and program organizers. The pocket park will serve as a demonstration garden that is water-efficient, and home to California friendly landscape.

The winner of the competition will be selected May 15 and they will be notified by June 1.

The Wyland Foundation was founded by Wyland, the world renowned marine-life artist. The Wyland Foundation is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and preserving the world’s oceans, waterways, and marine life.

The challenge is presented by the Wyland Foundation and Toyota, in conjunction with the National League of Cities, U.S. EPA, U.S. Forest Service, the Toro Company and Earthy Friendly Products (the makers of ECOS)

The breakaway challenge is hosted by the Municipal Water District of Orange County and Wyland Foundation.

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