



NEWS RELEASE

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REGISTRATION OPEN, SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR 2016 OC WATER SUMMIT

Richard A. Wilson, author of "The Death of a Water District," will be one of the key speakers in the 2016 OC Water Summit, which will explore where OC gets its water, the threats to the water supply and answers to those challenges.

The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on May 20 at the Westin South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa. Individual tickets, tables and sponsorships are available; visit www.ocwatersummit.com for more information.

Now in its ninth year, the Summit is organized by the [Municipal Water District of Orange County \(MWDOC\)](http://www.mwdoc.com) and the [Orange County Water District \(OCWD\)](http://www.ocwd.com). Both agencies play vital roles in delivering water to more than 3 million OC residents: MWDOC is the wholesale water agency, while OCWD manages the county's major groundwater basin and operates the world's largest water purification system for indirect potable reuse.

The Summit traditionally discusses cutting-edge water management and technology – that is included in this year's program, but organizers have focused on ensuring the panelists will be engaging to non-water professionals such as civic and business leaders as well. The ongoing California drought has reinforced how important reliable, clean water is to everybody, and OC's \$223 billion gross county product.

Panelists include Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Assistant General Manager and Chief Operating Officer Debra Man, who will discuss potential new sources of water for the region, as well as Poseidon Water Vice President Scott Maloni, who will discuss lessons learned at the Carlsbad desalination plant. Jeff Thompson, Vice President at Rancho Mission Viejo, and Tim Suydam, Senior Water Operations Manager for Stone Brewing Co., will provide insights from businesses that successfully adapted to California's "new normal" of water supply. Experts believe California will likely continue to experience cycles of wet weather followed by sustained droughts.

Wilson is the lunch speaker and will share circumstances – and political errors – that nearly lead to the dissolution of a Northern California water district.

The Summit regularly draws more than 300 water, civic and community leaders from throughout Southern California. The event is supported by sponsorships and ticket sales.

This year's event will also honor the OC city that pledges to save the most water through the [Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation](http://www.wylandchallenge.com).