## NAKED WATER SURVEYS FOR WATER DISTRICTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA – LESSONS LEARNED

## WATER SURVEY

- 1. Data is recorded on tablets versus paper for easier and faster processing.
- 2. Survey reports address the "lowest hanging fruit" in short reports rather than numerous pages of charts, pictures, etc.
- 3. More emphasis is placed on a water management plan for the property than WBIC and nozzle rebates.
- 4. The person responsible for authorizing any enhancements, along with other staff, receives the report to ensure changes are made.
- 5. After the report has been presented the site's water usage is monitored.
- 6. Monthly e-mails are sent to site owner and staff. This has been affective and generated good responses.
- 7. The top water users in services should be identified. A feasibility study should be conducted for each site to determine the potential water savings.
- 8. The price of a water survey ranges from \$500 to \$2,500 depending on the potential the site has to save water.

## **CASE STUDIES**

Commercial Site Location: Thousand Oaks, CA Type: Middle School Landscaped Area: 3.8 Acres Start Date: November 2012 Savings: 1.82 Acre Feet Survey Cost to Water Agency: \$1,623

Residential Site Location: Thousand Oaks, CA Type: Large Estate Landscaped Area: 7.4 Acres Start Date: July 2013 Savings: 1.11 Acre Feet Survey Cost to Water Agency: \$2,029

## **BLUE DASHBOARD**

The Blue Dashboard is a tool used by water managers, water agencies, and property owners in effort to manage and conserve water.

The dashboard allows water agencies to monitor sites after a survey has been completed, and compare their usage to historical use. A rollup page totals all savings for every site enrolled. This can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of water conservation programs.

Water managers are able to use the date from Blue Dashboard to take action when usage is above the target.

All sites are listed for a quick reference. The percentage of the budget is shown in red (over historical), yellow (over budget), or green (under budget).

The property owners are provided a login to Blue Dashboard to view their water consumption. They can compare the site's usage to a budget or to a historical 5-year baseline.



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