# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com





## **Online Education Center & Virtual Programs**

WaterSmart Innovations Conference – Fall 2021

Justin Finch & Rhonda Himley

### Moulton Niguel Water District

- Water, Wastewater, Recycled Water
- Serve 6 Cities in south Orange County, CA
- 37 Square Miles
- 170,000+ Customers
- 55,000 Accounts
- Import 100% of our Potable Water
- Meet 25% of Customer Demand with Recycled Water
- Water Budget-based Rate Structure





### School Education Program Response to COVID-19

- Moulton Niguel's Online Education Center
- Watershed presentations & field trips
- Project WET teacher training
- Water UCI Middle School Challenge
- Youth Environmental Summit (YES)







### **Online Education Center**

- Interactive Lessons
- Videos
- Posters
- Maps and more







### **Online Education Center**

Video – Where Our Water Comes From



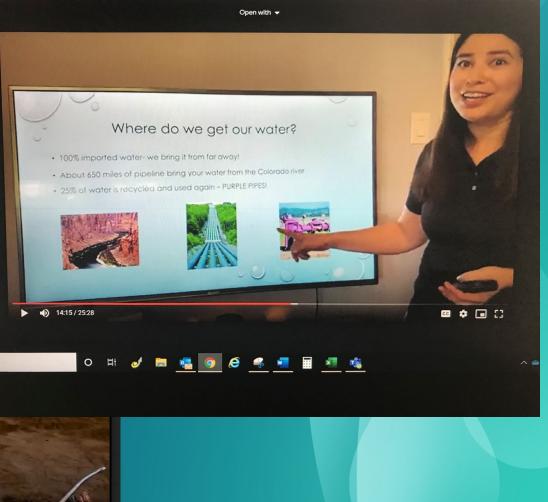


# **Online Watershed Presentations & Virtual Field Trips**

- Audience: Middle School & High School Students
- 28 classes received virtual sessions
- Virtual instruction & water quality testing
- Record number of 1,227 students!

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## Watershed Fieldtrip Flyer

- STEM focus
- Appeals to Middle & High School educators
- Meets Next Generation Science Standards

### CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHERS!



Free STEM-based science program for middle schools and high schools in the Moulton Niguel Water District service area.

Biology 🐼 Chemistry 🐼 Environmental Science 🐼

Explore the Aliso Creek watershed and perform water quality tests to evaluate the health of the creek.

### WHAT'S

- 1) Presentation (virtual or in-class) on watershed education & human environmental impacts
- 2) Field trip (virtual or in-person) to perform scientific water quality tests at a local creek

#### THIS WATERSHED PROGRAM PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Engaging real-world connections to science
- Discuss point and non-point source pollution
- Encourage students to get involved in their local watershed to help protect local creeks and beaches
- Alignment with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- Focus on DCI's (disciplinary core ideas) of Earth and Human Activity, plus cross-cutting concepts including cause and effect relationships

### PROGRAM AVAILABLE: AUGUST 2021 - JUNE 2022



#### **READY TO SIGN-UP?**

Educators can register at bit.ly/MNWDCoastkeeper

#### HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact Dyana (OC Coastkeeper) dyana@coastkeeper.org 1714-850-1965 x1004







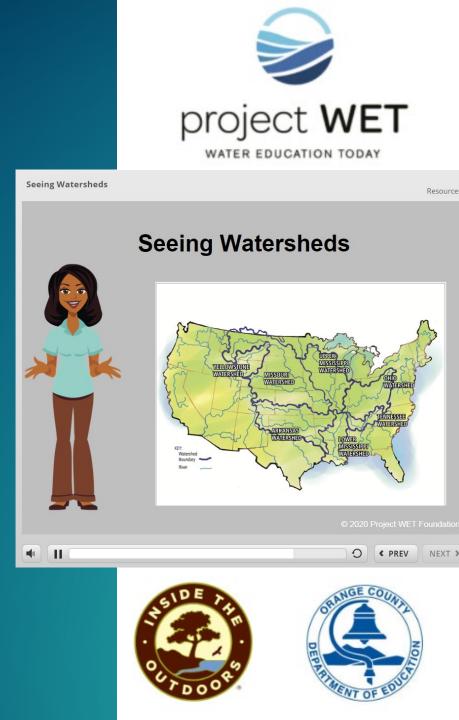
## **Project WET Online Training**

• Audience: Teachers

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- Increased Participation
- Convenient for Teachers using Zoom
- Hybrid Workshops with Online Training Portal
- Chat & Breakout Features for Teachers to Share Ideas





### WaterUCI Middle School Challenge Community Academy Water Warriors

- Online presentations to teachers
- Virtual awards presentation by Water UCI



### Water Conservation Challenge

#### Challenge:

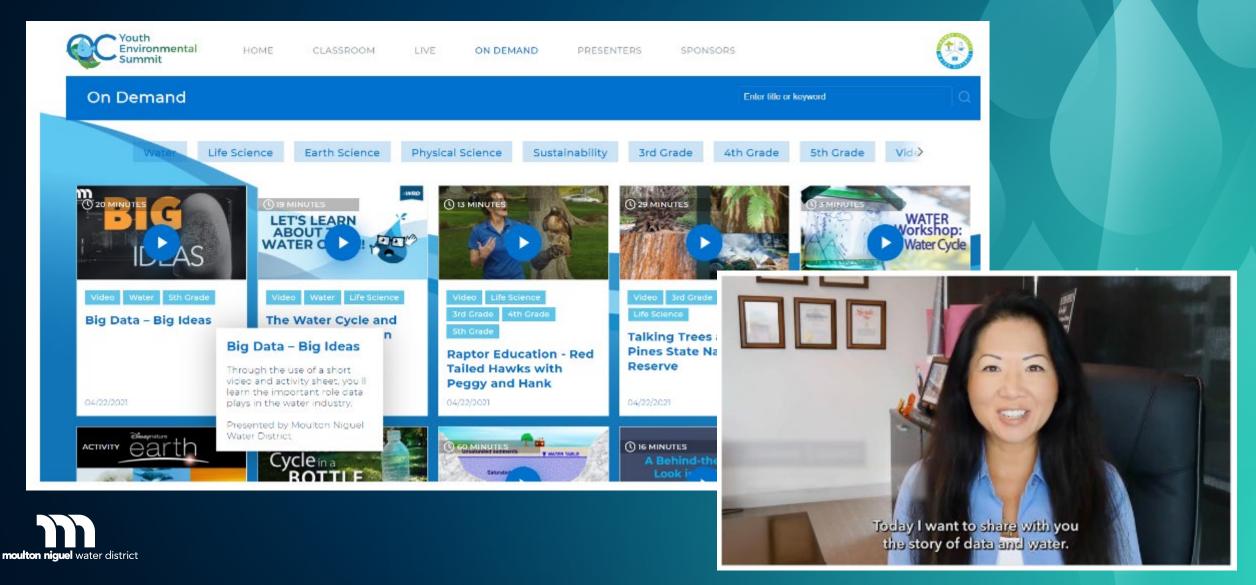
You are to come up with an original idea to increase water conservation. Think sustainability.

#### Criteria and Constraints:

 Must be an original idea that can include a campaign, viral video, law or policy, water price structure, technology or any other methods to increase water conservation and raise drought awareness.



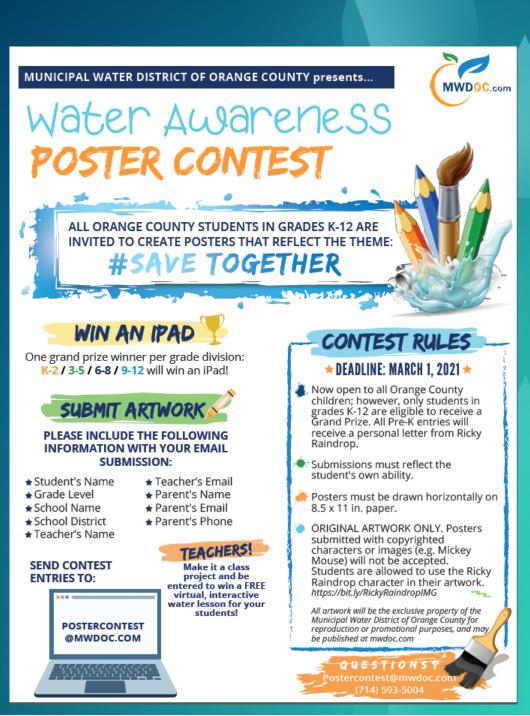
# Orange County Water District Youth Environmental Summit (YES) BIG DATA – BIG IDEAS Video



## **Other Educational Involvement**

- Water Awareness Poster Contest
  - 86 submissions/7 MNWD winners

(Record number!)





### 2021 Water Awareness Poster Contest Winners





# **Questions?**

(Easy Questions) Justin Finch JFinch@mnwd.com

(Hard Questions) Rhonda Himley RHimley@mnwd.com

