



ORANGE COUNTY CHILDREN'S WATER EDUCATION FESTIVAL

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Web Site: www.ocwd.com or www.childrenwaterfestival.com

CRYSTAL ANNIVERSARY OF FREE WATER EDUCATION FESTIVAL FOR O.C. SCHOOLS NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

Disneyland Resort is Presenting Sponsor of Two-Day Festival for Orange County 4th-6th Graders

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. – (Oct. 18, 2010) The Orange County Water District's (OCWD) Groundwater Guardian Team will present the 15th annual Children's Water Education Festival March 23-24, 2011, at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum in Yorba Linda. The Festival, which is the largest of its kind in the nation, educates Orange County's fourth, fifth and sixth grade students about water and the environment.

The Festival is provided at no cost to schools, making public and private financial support crucial to the success of this educational event and its continued growth. While the event is free, many schools are unable to attend because of transportation costs. An easy way for individuals and organizations in the community to support their neighborhood school is to help underwrite transportation costs, which generally runs \$300 to \$500 per bus. Contributions are tax deductible.

Presented by the Orange County Water District, Disneyland Resort, National Water Research Institute, Municipal Water District of Orange County and the Orange County Water District Groundwater Guardian Team, the mission of the Festival is to educate students about water-related and conservation issues that correspond to California Science Standards. The Festival teaches youth to think “blue” and make a difference in protecting our water resources for today, tomorrow and for future generations.

“The event is more than an opportunity to educate students about protecting and preserving our environment, groundwater and drinking water resources,” said Frank Dela Vara, Director, Environmental Affairs and Conservation for the Disneyland Resort, a Festival sponsor for 14 years. “It is a chance to plant seeds of knowledge that will help empower our youth to make a difference.”

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CHILDREN'S WATER EDUCATION FESTIVAL ADD 1-1-1

HOW TO REGISTER

Year after year, teachers return to the Festival with their classes to engage in a unique educational opportunity. Orange County teachers can register their classes online at www.ocwd.com or www.childrenwaterfestival.com. Registration must be completed by December 10, 2010, however space is limited and selections are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Educators are strongly encouraged to submit applications as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Festival is a fun, environmental education program designed to teach students about the interdependence of water, soil, plants, trees, animals and humans. Interactive displays and activities feature topics like the water cycle, groundwater and surface water protection, wetlands preservation, recycling, pollution prevention and water treatment, distribution and conservation, and local environmental issues.

Conducting a Festival of this size requires more than 400 volunteers, staff and presenters, as well as in-kind and monetary donations. Many of the schools that attend do not have transportation for field trips and must charter one or more buses. An easy way for individuals in the community to support their neighborhood school is to underwrite transportation costs, generally \$300 to \$500 per bus. Contributions are tax deductible.

In addition to monetary and in-kind donations, presenters are needed to staff the Festival's interactive booths. Through hands-on activities students learn about the world in which they live and what they can do in their homes, communities and schools to protect our natural resources.

LOOKING FOR ENVIRONMENT, WATER, SANITATION, ENGINEERING, BLUE TECHNOLOGY, OCEAN EXPERTS

Festival organizers can assist presenters with the right tools, activities and partners to staff an activity booth. Volunteers also are needed during the two-day festival to help with a range of activities, from staffing registration tables to directing students to their next activity. The Festival is looking for 200 volunteers to work each day.

To sponsor, donate supplies, present an activity or volunteer, contact Amanda Gavin at (714) 378-3202 or agavin@ocwd.com. To register, go to www.ocwd.com or direct to www.childrenwaterfestival.com.

-30-

A list of sponsors and presenters from the 2010 Children's Water Education Festival is attached below.

2010 Children's Water Education Festival Sponsors and Presenters

Presenting Sponsors:

Disneyland Resort
Municipal Water District of Orange County
National Water Research Institute
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District Groundwater Guardian Team

Title Sponsors:

Santa Ana Watershed Association
Siemens Water Technologies Corp.

Signature Sponsors:

California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Orange County Recycled Used Oil Program
Townsend Public Affairs

Program Sponsor

Wells Fargo

Platinum Sponsors:

Anaheim Public Utilities
Association of California Water Agencies/Save Our Water
California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Carollo Engineers
City of Costa Mesa
Irvine Ranch Water District
City of Newport Beach Utilities
County of Orange Stormwater Program
Orange County Sanitation District

Gold Sponsors:

Allergan
Anchor Printing
CDM
Clif Bar & Co.
Emerson Process Management
HDR
Kiewitt Pacific Co.
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill
Stefano's Golden Baked Hams
Tetra Tech, Inc.
Vapur

Benefactors:

AMEC Geomatrix
Best Chauffeured Worldwide
Black & Veatch
Butier Engineering, Inc.
Clif Bar Kids
Dan Copp Crushing Corp.
Emerson Process Management
Farmer Boys
Laguna Beach County Water District
Malcolm Pirnie
McDonald's
Mesa Consolidated Water District
Orange County Conservation Corp.
Orange County Water Association
Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering, Inc.
RBF Consulting
Ricoh Electronics, Inc.
Rutan & Tucker, LLP
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Scholastic Science World
Separation Processes, Inc.
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
The Islands Golf Center
Trojan UV
Yorba Linda Water District

Special Assistance:

Atlas Films
Boart Longyear
DDB Engineering
Disneyland Resort Environmental Affairs
Disneyland Resort Support, Attractions, Services & Entertainment
Disneyland Resort Community Relations
Friends Church
Genterra Consultants, Inc.
National Geographic Magazine
Ornelas Graphics
Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum

Presenters:

Algalita Marine Research Foundation
Anaheim Ducks
Anaheim Fire Department

Anaheim Public Utilities
Bolsa Chica Conservancy
CA Dept. of Boating & Waterways
California Department of Fish & Game
The Back Bay Science Center
California Latino Water Coalition
Caltrans
City of Newport Beach
County of Orange - OC Watersheds/Orange County Stormwater Program
Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle)
Discovery Science Center
Disneyland Resort Environmental Affairs
Disneyland Resort Horticulture Irrigation Team
Dr. Wilderness Show, Inc.
Earth Adventure
EarthCapades Environmental Vaudeville
Green Earth Magic Show (GEMS Inc.)
Inside the Outdoors/Orange County Department of Education
Irvine Ranch Water District
Malcolm Pirnie
Mesa Consolidated Water District
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Municipal Water District of Orange County
National Geographic Magazine
New Education Options, Inc.
O.C. League of Women Voters/Kids Voting USA
Ocean Institute/Wyland Foundation
OCWD Groundwater Guardian Team
Orange County Sanitation District
Orange County Used Oil Recycling Program
Orange County Water District
Outdoor Education Center
Rain Bird Corp.
Rainforest Café
RBF Consulting
Richard Nixon Foundation
Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum
Rock Steady Juggling
San Bernardino Forest Association
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Watershed Association
South Coast Air Quality Management District
Southern California Edison
The City of Santa Ana
The Energy Coalition, Peak Students Energy Actions
Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary/Cal State University, Fullerton

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Geological Survey
University of California, Irvine/CLEAN Education
Vapur
Wild Wonders Inc.
Wonders of Wildlife
Wyland Foundation

-30-