

California Water Service to Host May 25 Water Awareness Festival in Selma

SELMA, Calif. — This Water Awareness Month, California Water Service (Cal Water) will host a free community festival on Thursday, May 25, in Selma, to help customers and their families learn about their water and celebrate the work that has made Selma one of the utility's top 10 water-saving districts in the state. Attendees will also learn, amid these times of record inflation, how further conservation efforts can save them money and whether they qualify for financial assistance, monthly discounts, and more.

"We want to thank our customers for all of the hard work that they have been doing to make conservation a way of life in California," said Stuart Skoglund, Selma Operations Manager. "At the same time in this financial climate, we want to support our customers, some of whom are struggling to make ends meet. We want them to know about programs available to them, so nothing stands in the way of enjoying safe, clean, reliable, and affordable water."

The family-friendly event, which will take place from 4-7 p.m. at Lincoln Park Plaza at the corner of Mill Street and McCall in Selma, will be a celebration with music, food, face-painting, and more. It will also include opportunities for attendees to learn about water quality, their water system, conservation programs, and customer assistance programs. The utility is encouraging eligible customers who meet maximum income limits to apply for a one-time benefit of up to \$15,000 per household for past-due or current bills from the California Department of Community Services & Development's (CSD) Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). There will also be a mini-conservation garden-building station and an opportunity-drawing for a high-efficiency clothes washer (high-efficiency washers use 35-50 percent less water and approximately 50 percent less energy than traditional washers).

In March, Cal Water's Selma district reached water savings of 27.8 percent and was the eighth top water-saving district out of 26 districts in California. Cal Water, together with its customers, has reached water savings of 24.4 percent as of March 2023 compared to March 2020, with 17 districts saving – some significantly more than 15 percent.

California Water Service provides high-quality, reliable water utility services to about 25,000 people through 6,447 service connections in Selma, and about 2 million people through 494,500 service connections statewide. What sets Cal Water apart is its commitment to enhancing the quality of life for its customers and communities. Guided daily by their promise to provide quality, service, and value, the utility's employees lead the way in working to protect the planet, care for people, and operate with the utmost integrity. Integral to Cal Water's strategy is investing responsibly in infrastructure, sustainability initiatives, and community well-being. The utility has been named one of "America's Most Responsible Companies" and "America's Most Trustworthy Companies" by *Newsweek* and a Great Place to Work®. More information is available at www.calwater.com.