

DROUGHT SYMPOSIUM 15  
Program Information as of 10/2/15

Debbie Franco, *Community and Rural Affairs Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning and Research*, will discuss efforts being taken by the governor's office to deal with the drought.

John Helminski, Assistant Director, City of San Diego's Pure Water Program, will discuss the city's innovative water reuse efforts.

David Feldman, *Professor and Chair, Department of Planning, Policy and Design and Director, Water UCI, University of California, Irvine*

"It takes more than a village: governance innovations for a water-sensitive city"

This presentation discusses Melbourne's institutional innovations to cope with - and surmount - the challenges posed by the Millennium Drought. While numerous technical approaches were adopted by the city, all were facilitated by governmental arrangements that: mandated cross-jurisdictional coordinated response; permitted regional oversight of local utility operations; and, delegated to localities authority to impose water use restrictions, implement conservation measures, fund rainwater harvesting projects, and employ direct public outreach via mass-media messaging. One lesson of this case is that major droughts create windows of opportunity for decision-makers to engage the public, and political conditions that encourage novel responses. Policymakers must be willing to pursue multiple remedies, however, to reinforce public confidence in their competence to deal with such crises.

Professor Feldman will be joined by UCI professors Stanley Grant and Amir AghaKouchak.

Jerry White, *Plant Growth Management Systems*

"Effective Ways to Improve Resiliency of Trees and Turf"

Urban soils are some of the harshest environments to grow healthy plants. While the focus of proper plant selection and reducing water waste in the landscape receive a lot of attention, improving soil health is perhaps even more critical to focus on when trying to improve the resiliency and sustainability of urban landscape environments. The concepts explained in this presentation will outline the steps needed to improve soil resiliency and reduce the need for synthetic inputs to create healthy growing environments in urban settings.

Lori Kiesser, *Development Officer, Inside the Outdoors*; Stephanie Smith, *Operations Manager, Inside the Outdoors*

"The Role of Water Education in Changing Communities"

Inside the Outdoors is the hands-on and science and outdoor education program of the Orange County Department of Education. This is an interactive presentation on the role of water education in changing community behaviors to mitigate the impact of the drought. Inside the Outdoors will engage in hands-on activities to learn about water source, direct and indirect use and water foot printing. Water

education is essential to raise awareness of drought impacts and to implement actions communities can take to improve conservation.

The Orange County Sanitation District will give a presentation regarding its Groundwater Replenishment System.

Richard Beck, *Vice President, Michael Baker Corporation and a member of the Society of Wetland Scientists, Southwest Chapter*, along with a member of the Regional Board, will give a presentation on wetlands, mitigation and the drought.”

Ty Teissere, *Greywater Action*

Greywater, Green Landscapes: Reusing household greywater is an affordable and viable strategy to reduce potable water consumption while maintaining a green and productive landscape. In this presentation you'll learn about common and popular greywater systems, costs, permit requirements, and health and safety considerations. We'll also discuss greywater incentive programs in place around the state.

Poseidon Water will give a presentation about increasing water supplies through desalination.