



# Update on Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Workshops in Partnership with California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA)

Conservation & Local Resources Committee

Item 4c

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# What is MWELO?

- Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
  - First passed in 1992
  - Updated every three years
- Applies to new development and retrofitted landscapes
- Standards include
  - Efficient irrigation systems
  - Graywater usage
  - Storm water capture
  - Turf limitations

# Benefits to Metropolitan

- MWD has vested interest in the installation of water efficient landscaping
- IRP goals presume efficiency gains due to region-wide implementation of MWELO
- New state water efficiency targets are based on increasing implementation of MWELO

# Why provide these trainings?

- MWELO implementation is responsibility of cities, counties, and water agencies
  - Implemented by less than half of CA cities
  - Landscape expertise not always available in planning departments
  - Non-Governmental Organizations are pursuing legal action to enforce MWELO
- Landscape contractors have not been educated on MWELO

# Why partner with CLCA?

- California Landscape Contractors Association
  - Non-profit established in 1952
  - Founded to protect the scope of work allowed under C-27 licenses
- Provides training and resources
  - Certified Water Manager program
- Members include:
  - Landscape contractors
  - Landscape designers
  - Vendors
  - Consultants
  - Educators
  - Government personnel

# Scope of Work

- Approximately 10 classes throughout MWD service area
- Workshop participation goal of 60 attendees
- Subject matter experts speaking on variety of topics:

- Plants and soils
- Irrigation
- MWELO history
- Water budgeting
- MWELO compliance and permitting



# Workshop Structure

- Morning Session

- History and Future of MWELO
- Understanding the Ordinance
  - Plants and Soils
  - Irrigation

- Afternoon Session

- Water Budgeting
- MWELO Case Study
- Q&A Panel



# Workshop Locations To Date





# Program Update

- 6 workshops
- 347 attendees from 111 cities
- Bilingual materials provided
- Class and speaker ratings of Very Good or Excellent by all attendees



# Staff Observations

- High demand for MWELO training throughout service area
- Partnership with CLCA gives MWD better access to landscape contractors and maintenance personnel
- Refundable deposit registration method ensures “no show” rate of less than 1%
- Preliminary results of pilot program are very successful
- Staff believes it would be beneficial to continue to provide workshops on an ongoing basis

# Next Steps

- Continue to hold workshops throughout service area
- Work with CLCA to market other classes/programs
- Maintenance class for professionals



