



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 (currently on hold)
- 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
 - Ordinance underpins water use target in SB 606 & AB 1668

Why provide these trainings?

- MWELO implementation is responsibility of cities and counties (unincorporated areas)
 - Cities may pair with water agencies to implement
 - 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
- 1,500 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



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



