

Eco-Tip for 10-8-17

Invitation to Share Solutions for Sustainable Water Supply

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If you live or work in Ventura County, you most likely benefit from the groundwater managed by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (GMA).

Local groundwater provides two-thirds of the water we use. It is the water bank farmers draw from in drought years. In recent decades, more groundwater has been pumped than replaced; current practices are unsustainable. Not just the drought, but long-term practices have drained groundwater elevation below sea level. This results in seawater intrusion, contaminating fresh water with salt.

Recent state legislation requires groundwater basins where demand significantly outpaces recharge to make a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for bringing a sustainable balance within 20 years. A statewide leader setting the standard, the Fox Canyon GMA is close to finished with the first draft of the plan, providing an advantage for potential grant funding towards projects that increase efficiency in water use and treatment.

You can help! Fox Canyon GMA is inviting the public to share creative, viable, and cost-effective solutions for sustainable water supply and conservation strategies. To join the Sustainability Challenge, visit [FCGMASustainability.org](http://www.FCGMASustainability.org) and share your ideas with us by December 30th, 2017.

Ventura County residents value their agricultural heritage. However, without sustainable groundwater resources, the farming community will face an uncertain future. Fox Canyon GMA is working with agricultural leaders, municipal water providers, and others to promote best practices in groundwater governance. To learn more about what we are doing, and see the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan, please visit FCGMA.org.