



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Water Agency  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** December 12, 2017  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Directors, Water Agency

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**SUBJECT:** Santa Barbara County Greywater Handbook, All Supervisorial Districts

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Receive and file the Santa Barbara County Greywater Handbook and authorize distribution of the handbook for County and public information; and
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to 14 CCR 15378 (b)(5), in that the action has no potential for resulting in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda in order to seek approval for public release and distribution of the Santa Barbara County Greywater Handbook. This handbook includes extensive greywater information that is specific to Santa Barbara County, meant to build upon general greywater system information applicable to all areas.

This handbook functions as a valuable source of greywater information for community use and also serves to provide inspiration for community members to be more water and resource efficient at home.

The Water Agency will post this handbook on the County’s regional water efficiency program website ([www.WaterWiseSB.org](http://www.WaterWiseSB.org)) where it will be available to download free of charge. The handbook will also be available in a color-printed version upon request, and at the various public events within the County that the Water Agency Conservation Team tables. The Water Agency will also be promoting the handbook through the County’s regional water efficiency program social media sites.

In September, 2016 staff released a Request for Proposals to develop the handbook for which local vendor Oasis Design was selected. The consultant selection process along with content and editorial review of the handbook was done in collaboration with staff from Planning and Development and Environmental Health Services.

**Background:**

The Water Agency conducts and coordinates a robust regional water conservation program that promotes the efficient use of County-wide water supplies. In response to the current historic drought Santa Barbara County is facing, the Water Agency has been pursuing additional opportunities for outreach and education on ways to conserve water, such as the development of this Greywater Handbook specifically for Santa Barbara County residents. As greywater reuse has become more popular and code compliant, the Water Agency has received an increasing number of inquiries about greywater through local water purveyors and from County residents.

The Santa Barbara County Greywater Handbook highlights the importance that greywater systems can play in conserving and using water more efficiently while supporting a framework for healthy landscapes, healthy soil, a more sustainable water supply, climate safety and community resiliency.

This 62-page handbook includes a quick action summary which is followed by more detailed discussion of greywater history, why use greywater, what components make a greywater system, how to make the most of a greywater system including safety and design basics, common questions and answers specific to Santa Barbara County greywater systems, and other related topics.

The appendices in the handbook include reference information on State and County greywater system exemption standards, followed by a Resources and References section with citations and supplementary greywater information critical to any interested Santa Barbara County resident.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Narrative:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with this Board action. No General Fund money was utilized for this handbook.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of this action to the Water Agency office, Attn: Christina Lopez.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Santa Barbara County Greywater Handbook, 2017

**Authored by:**

Tyrone LaFay, Water Conservation Coordinator, 568-3541