

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2023
AS WATER AWARENESS MONTH IN
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY)
CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, water is California's most precious resource and our quality of life and economic well-being depend on the efficient and prudent management of water resources;

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2018, the California Legislature passed two bills – Senate Bill 606 and Assembly Bill 1668 – that, together, implement Executive Order B-37-16 "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life" by establishing long-term improvements in water conservation and drought planning;

WHEREAS, from 2012-2022, Santa Barbara County's rainfall was far below average, representing the driest 10-year period in more than 100 years of record.

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom declared a statewide drought emergency in October 2021 asking for voluntary reduction of 15% and later signed an executive order in March 2022, instructing the adoption of further restrictions;

WHEREAS, in Water Year 2023, Santa Barbara County's rainfall has been the wettest year within the past 18 years.

WHEREAS, in March 2023, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-5-23 to ease drought emergency provisions in response to improved water supply conditions, while preserving continued action to address drought impacts and encourage long-term water resilience;

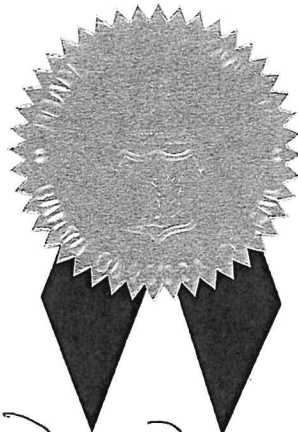
WHEREAS, annual rainfall in California and Santa Barbara County is projected to become increasingly more variable, with a higher risk of both extreme droughts and extreme floods;

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara, through the Public Works Department, coordinates with water purveyors throughout the County to conserve and protect our valuable water resources through the Regional Water Efficiency Program, and facilitates the securing of additional long-term supplies; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative effort was established more than 30 years ago because the efficient use of our local water resources has always been a priority, not just in times of drought and water shortage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY ORDERED that the County of Santa Barbara, Board of Supervisors, State of California, proclaims May 2023 as Water Awareness Month in Santa Barbara County, and encourages all residents to learn more about their water resources and the importance of efficient water use, and to join in supporting local water agencies and organizations in their effort to be "Water-wise in Santa Barbara County," rain or shine.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 2nd day of May 2023, by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Monroe Reynolds
 Clerk of the Board

Philippa
 Supervisor - 1st District

Len Carr
 Supervisor - 2nd District

John Ball
 Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob Mc
 Supervisor - 4th District

Steve
 Supervisor - 5th District