

## SANTA BARBARA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2016** AS WATER AWARENESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

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; and

WHEREAS, California and Santa Barbara County are in the fifth consecutive year of extremely dry conditions and on January 17, 2014, the Governor of California proclaimed a State of Emergency, and on February 2, 2016 the State Water Resources Control Board extended and revised Statewide Emergency Conservation Regulations through October 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors declared a drought emergency on January 21, 2014, with continued proclamations monthly since that time; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, Governor Brown signed Executive Order B-29-15 requiring mandatory water use reduction of at least 25% as compared to 2013 levels for urban users throughout California and established other policies and incentives to reduce water use; and

WHEREAS, over the trailing five years, Santa Barbara County rainfall has set a record for the lowest five year average rainfall at key rain gages that have rainfall record dating back a hundred years or more; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara, through the Public Works Department, is working cooperatively to conserve and protect our valuable water resources with water purveyors throughout the county and facilitate securing additional supplies; and

WHEREAS, this cooperative effort was established decades ago because the efficient use of our local water resources is always a priority, not just in times of drought.

NOW. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY ORDERED that the County of Santa Barbara, Board of Supervisors, State of California, proclaims May 2016 as Water Awareness Month in Santa Barbara County, and urges all residents learn more about their precious water resources and the importance of wise water use and to join in supporting local water agencies and organizations in their effort to be "Water Wise in Santa Barbara County".

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2016, by unanimous vote of all members present.

Supervisor - 1st District

2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District