

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **WRD Named 2010 *WaterReuse Institution of the Year*** ***Pre-eminent Association Recognizes WRD Innovative Water Projects***



**LAKESWOOD, CA** – The pre-eminent WaterReuse Association has named the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) the *WaterReuse Institution of the Year* for 2010. The award recognizes institutions whose significance and contributions to the community continue to advance the water reuse industry.

The award was presented at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual WaterReuse Symposium in Washington, D.C. to WRD for taking major steps to eliminate imported water for groundwater replenishment in south Los Angeles County.

WRD manages two of the most heavily used groundwater basins in the state. Groundwater from these basins provides 40% of the overall water supply to the 4 million residents in 43 cities in WRD's service area.

Over ten percent of the state's population relies on WRD to replenish the groundwater basins. As a result, the District has developed smart water reuse projects that simultaneously meet regional needs while contributing to long-term statewide solutions. Programs like WRD's Water Independence Now (WIN) will ensure that the region has a reliable source of local water supply as the future of imported water becomes less certain.

The WIN program is a nationally recognized model of local water supply development that includes the Leo J. Vander Lans Advanced Water Treatment Plant in Long Beach, California and the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program (GRIP).

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These efforts replace imported water with purified wastewater for the protection and replenishment of the groundwater basins.

“This is a great honor for WRD to receive the *WateReuse Institution of the Year*. This award symbolizes the recognition from our colleagues as it recognizes our commitment to securing our region’s water sources by using innovative water reuse projects,” said WRD Board President Sergio Calderon.

“This award is further evidence of WRD’s leadership in developing a local, reliable and sustainable water supply that includes smart water recycling projects,” said WRD General Manager Robb Whitaker. “Our projects will have permanent benefits that greatly contribute to solving California’s water crisis,” concluded Whitaker.

The WateReuse Association is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance the beneficial and efficient uses of high-quality, locally produced sustainable water sources for the betterment of society and the environment through advocacy, education and outreach, research and membership.

***About WRD***

*Created by voters in 1959, WRD is a regional groundwater management agency that protects and preserves the quantity and quality of groundwater supplies for nearly four million residents in southern Los Angeles County or 10% of the State’s population. For more information please visit [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).*

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