



**September 27, 2021**

Contact: Amy Rocha

310-991-0032 | [amy@westbasin.org](mailto:amy@westbasin.org)

## **WEST BASIN SHOWCASES ESSENTIAL ROLE OF WATER AGENCY STAFF**

*California's Water Professionals Appreciation Week is Oct. 2 - 10*

**CARSON, Calif.** – As part of California's 2021 Water Professionals Appreciation Week, Oct. 2 through 10, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is highlighting the essential role of water professionals and local public water agencies in providing critical water and wastewater services to the state's residents and businesses. With drought conditions worsening in California, the work carried out by water professionals to ensure high-quality water supplies for our communities is more important than ever.

"As we weather a severe drought and the lingering effects of the pandemic, we appreciate the dedication of our professional staff and trained operators who unfailingly carry out our mission of providing a reliable supply of high-quality water to our communities," said Board President Harold C. Williams, MSCE, P.E.

The Board of Directors issued a proclamation in support of Water Professionals Appreciation Week and recognized the important services West Basin staff provide. West Basin is also highlighting careers and industry education information through the District's social media channels (<https://linktr.ee/WestBasinMWD>), and generally promotes a well-educated, diverse future workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in water industry careers.

In addition, the district website ([www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org)), ongoing (virtual) tours of the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility in El Segundo, and a virtual educational festival ([www.westbasin.org/waterharvest](http://www.westbasin.org/waterharvest)) on October 23<sup>rd</sup> are other opportunities to learn about what district staff do.

Water Professionals Appreciation Week was established in 2017 by the California Senate. Recent labor studies estimate that 60,000 people work in California's water industry and it needs roughly 6,000 new employees each year due to turnover. The water industry offers a wide variety of rewarding career opportunities in engineering, biology, finance, business administration, law, communications and many more types of positions in high-demand occupations.

###

*West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that serves nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin provides imported drinking water, recycled water, and conservation and education programs. Through its Water for Tomorrow Program, West Basin is committed to protecting, diversifying, and securing our water supply for the future while continuing a history of innovation and industry leadership. Visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org) to learn more.*