

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Apple Valley Ranchos Partners with Apple Valley Unified School District on Water Conservation

Apple Valley, CA (Aug, 4, 2014) — As part of the company's continued commitment to serve the community, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (AVR) partnered with the Apple Valley Unified School District (AVUSD) to replace 176 old high-water-use urinals with Ultra Low Consumption Urinals at various schools within the district.

"Now more than ever conserving water is vital to the Town of Apple Valley and we are proud to fund this project and to join forces with AVUSD, an organization that recognizes the benefits of conservation," said Tony Penna, general manager, Apple Valley Ranchos.

The Ultra- Low Consumption Urinal fixture models use an eighth of a gallon per flush compared to the high consumption urinals that use one to two gallons per flush. With the average school urinal flushed 6,000 times a year, AVUSD will save up to two million gallons of water annually.

AVUSD Assistant Superintendent Matthew Schulenberg said the project will help save funds that can be used to further support other student activities. "In addition to conserving a scarce resource, this project will help the district decrease operational expenses. The funding not spent on utilities can be used to support various classroom expenditures in the best interests of the students."

Schulenberg noted that the project will also benefit the entire Town of Apple Valley, given the current water shortage in California. "An underlying benefit to the District and the community is conserving a valuable natural resource that is in short supply. Reducing our usage and modeling that behavior to our students and the community will have a positive long-term impact on the local environment and the local educational community."

Penna said this is the second partnership with AVUSD. In 2011, AVUSD, AVR launched a pilot project to help reduce water usage at Granite Hills High School. In the project AVR replaced 32 urinals with waterless urinals. Each new waterless urinal can save up to 40,000 gallons of water per year. With the installation of 32 urinals that's a potential savings of up to 1,280,000 gallons of water per year.

Utilizing the Mojave Water Agency's (MWA) Cash for Grass program, which provided partial funding to help remove the approximately 7,000 square feet of turf, the landscape was replaced with water conservation in mind.

Additionally, AVR also provided Granite Hills High School with conservation irrigation nozzles that were installed in turf areas. The conservation nozzles provided a heavy drop instead of a spray, which helps irrigate wisely in the High Desert's windy conditions.

AVR also offers the conservation irrigation nozzles to customers at no cost.

Penna further stated "In addition to providing safe reliable water service each and every day to our customers, we look to support our community whenever we can."

About Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company delivers safe, reliable water and exceptional service to about 20,000 connections, about 63,000 people, in the Town of Apple Valley and parts of San Bernardino County communities. Additional information may be found by visiting avrwater.com.