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UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
“Conserving Water since 1927”

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENTS  
2017 RICHARD V. LAUBACHER WATER CONSERVATION AWARD TO  
CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**Santa Paula, CA April 20, 2017** – During today’s Association of Water Agencies – Ventura County (AWA VC) annual Symposium, United Water Conservation District (UWCD), the special district tasked with managing, protecting, conserving and enhancing the water resources of Ventura County, presented its annual Richard V Laubacher Water Conservation Award to Calleguas Municipal Water District. The award was presented to Calleguas Board President Thom Slosson by UWCD Board President Bruce Dandy.

Citing Calleguas’ long standing commitment to water conservation and sustainability, Dandy said, “Richard Laubacher provided steadfast leadership, encouraged collaboration and possessed the vision to spearhead a number of innovative projects like the Vern Freeman Diversion and the Pumping Trough Pipeline system – facilities that today define the United Water Conservation District. Calleguas encompasses the principals and values of Mr. Laubacher in its daily management practices as well as in its long range planning.”

Among Calleguas’ many valuable contributions to the region’s water conservation and sustainability efforts, UWCD selected Calleguas as this year’s award recipient because the District has demonstrated vision when it tackled the inherent risks of building its Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP) for brine discharge. The SMP opened the door to alternative water supplies, including providing interim assistance to the City of Oxnard’s Advanced Water Purification Facility project in distributing recycled water and, looking to the future, will facilitate the construction of brackish groundwater desalter units that will yield a supplemental water resource to augment Ventura County’s local and imported water supplies.

The Calleguas Municipal Water District also persists in being a strong advocate in Sacramento for Ventura County’s participation in the State Water Project, insuring all have access to a reliable water supply source, which is critical to the entire county. In fact, Calleguas was among the first agencies to work collaboratively with UWCD on a regional water management approach, and has been instrumental in the conceptualization of a State Water Project pipeline that will enable local State Water Contractors to acquire access to its contracted water allocation.

Named after its former Director Robert V. Laubacher, the UWCD Laubacher award was first presented in 1997. Coincidentally, Calleguas Municipal Water District earned a previous Laubacher award in 1998, which Dandy said, “Confirms Calleguas’ steadfast commitment to water conservation, not just when it’s fashionable as in times of drought.”

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## UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### About the Richard V. Laubacher Water Conservation Award

United Water Conservation District created the **Richard V. Laubacher Water Conservation Award** in 1997 to recognize leaders in the area of water conservation. The award is named after the longtime United Director who served on the District's board for over 13 years and was a leader in water issues in Ventura County. The award is voted upon by United's seven-member Board of Directors and presented annually at the AWA – VC Symposium.

### About United Water Conservation District (UWCD)

Since 1927, United Water Conservation District, situated in central Ventura County, has distinguished itself as a leader among water agencies by conserving and enhancing the water resources of the Santa Clara River and Oxnard Coastal Plain, while working to protect the environment's natural attributes. The District conserves runoff from all major tributaries of the Santa Clara River within its boundaries, including Piru, Hopper, Sespe, and Santa Paula Creeks. Without these efforts, much of this valuable water would simply flow out to sea.

Committed to managing the area's water supplies through groundwater replenishment and through the construction and operation of efficient water supply and delivery systems, today the District serves as the conservator of groundwater resources that are utilized by the cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura, Santa Paula, and Fillmore, as well as several mutual water districts and numerous farms and individual pumpers. It also provides surface water for agricultural irrigation and provides treated drinking water to the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme. For more information, visit <http://www.unitedwater.org>