Vallecitos Water District rewards customers with water-wise landscapes

San Marcos, CA – The Vallecitos Water District Board of Directors recently recognized winners of the San Diego County California Friendly Landscape contest, rewarding customers for having a beautiful garden to enjoy that was designed with water conservation in mind.

Their landscapes were judged by Vallecitos staff for the overall appearance, as well as appropriate use of plants, hardscape, mulching, and use of water-wise principles in their design. Wednesday’s Board award ceremony acknowledged:

- Raymond and Connie Klaudt from San Marcos who earned first place / Best in District for their landscape. “We were fascinated with all of the different varieties of succulents and hope we are doing our little part to help beautify San Marcos,” said Raymond and Connie Klaudt.

  With landscaping being a one of their hobbies, the Klaudt's conceptualized their own design and created a beautiful garden in the process. Their winning landscape included changes to both their front and backyard.

- Second place was Bernd Becker from San Marcos. Becker hired senior designer Olivia Cerra from EarthwormStudio, a San Diego based company that specializes in designing and installing drought tolerant landscapes. Cerra revamped his backyard by removing all the grass and replacing it with artificial turf. Included in the landscape were a whole palette of succulents, cacti, and other drought tolerant perennials. “I couldn't be happier with the results - much lower water bills and plants that always look vibrant and healthy,” said Becker.

- Patricia Torcat of San Marcos was the third place winner. She decided to switch to a water-friendly garden because it was too difficult to maintain her lawn. The sprinklers were on every day for a long time and no one in her household liked to mow the lawn. Now her front yard has drought tolerant flowering plants.
All winners received a gift certificate to an area nursery along with recognition on Vallecitos’ website and Facebook page. The first-place winner will also be recognized at the regional award ceremony at the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

The annual San Diego County California Friendly contest is a collaboration among the Vallecitos Water District and other water agencies in the region.

Vallecitos Water District is an independent, special district dedicated to providing water, wastewater and reclamation services to approximately 94,000 people in a 45-square-mile area that includes San Marcos; the community of Lake San Marcos; portions of Carlsbad, Escondido and Vista; and other surrounding unincorporated areas. The public is invited to Board meetings, taking place at 4 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month at Vallecitos’ Administration, Maintenance, and Operations Facility - 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos.