

FTDNC

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

Keeping the Neigh in Neighborhood



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July 16, 2009

Attention Please: Members of the Energy and Environment Committee

FTDNC supports recommendations of its Equestrian Committee, as follows:

1. First Tier water for horses: Owners of licensed horses are to receive up to 5 hcf/month of first tier water from DWP, in consideration of up to 20 gallons consumed by each horse, every day in hot months. Although it is now mid-summer, DWP has yet to establish a means by which people who qualify may receive this benefit.

Many horse owners have licensed horses in anticipation of the water benefit. Although this small consideration is sorely needed and appreciated, it remains unavailable. When can horse owners expect the program to begin and how will they qualify?

2. Recycled Water: The FTDNC Equestrian Committee is aware that _____gallons of recycled water flow daily to the ocean. Within the horse community alone, recycled water could, and would if available, be used to water riding arenas, dust abatement landscaping, permeable stable roads and parking areas. Such water use is generally mandated in Conditional Use Permits of commercial barns, preventing conservation by law.

Stable owners are willing to use employee time to fill water trucks and transport such water to the respective barns. DWP prevents this potential use, absolutely, by insisting that water presently flowing to the sea should be sold to users trucking the water, at a rate of 90% of the potable rate. Conservation can be greatly improved within the equestrian communities if water presently being dumped into the Los Angeles River is made available at little or no cost through a local outlet. Not only would conservation be served. But the State of California _____would cease penalizing the city for non- use of this resource.

The FTDNC Equestrian Committee recommends that the 5 hcf of first tier water offered for horse use become available immediately. The Committee also recommends that DWP be encouraged to partner with LA City equestrian communities to enable their use of recycled water, thereby effecting noteworthy conservation during our ongoing drought.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale Gibson, President
Royan Herman, Equestrian Committee Chair

Cc: _____ Nahai
Dale Thrush, Jim Dantona