

Water Use Efficiency Awards & Water Awareness Month

February 11, 2026

Water Conservation Subcommittee

Lisa Cuellar, Sustainability Coordinator

Water Use Efficiency Awards



- Water Use Efficiency has been giving out awards for excellence in water use since 1998.
- Each year we highlight our customers who have gone above and beyond to save water.

WUE Award #1 – Commercial Indoor

Best Western Wine & Country Inn

- ✓ Replaced 84 3.5 gpf toilets with 0.8 gpf ultra high-efficiency models
- ✓ Installed low-flow aerators

Estimated Annual Savings = **620,000 gallons**



WUE Award #2 – Commercial Outdoor

Bennett Valley HOA

- ✓ Removed 10,924 sq. ft. of turfgrass
- ✓ Environmentally friendly sheetmulching approach
- ✓ Complies with NFT irrigation ban

Estimated Annual Savings = **399,000 gallons**



WUE Award #3 – Commercial Outdoor

Mount Vista HOA

- ✓ Removed 11,624 sq. ft. of turfgrass
- ✓ Installed a smart irrigation controller
- ✓ Complies with NFT irrigation ban

Estimated Annual Savings = **424,000 gallons**



WUE Award #4 – SFR Outdoor

4764 Woodview Dr.

✓ Installed 11,725 gal of rainwater catchment

Estimated Annual Savings = **35,175 gallons**



Water Awareness Month (WAM)



- City Council Proclamation and WUE Awards – May 19th
- Advertise through social media, radio, newsletters, and local partnerships.
- Eco Friendly Garden Tour

2026 WAM Events

Eco Friendly Garden tour

- Saturday, May 9th
- 10am - 4pm around Sonoma County
- 4 Santa Rosa gardens + Laguna Foundation
- Over 3,000 people expected
- www.savingwaterpartnership.org/eco-friendly-garden-tour

Earth Day event

- Saturday, April 25th
- 12 noon - 4pm at Courthouse Square
- www.srcity.org/EarthDay



WaterSmart Expo!

- WaterSmart Expo 2025
 - June 2026
 - Wednesday Night Market in downtown Santa Rosa
 - 5pm - 8:30pm



Recommendation

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities Water Conservation Subcommittee approve the proposed 2026 Water Use Efficiency Award winners.

Thank you