

Department of Water and Power, City of Big Bear Lake
41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315



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For information contact:

Jerry Gruber, General Manager
Bill La Haye, Water Conservation Coordinator
909-866-5050
jgruber@citybigbearlake.com

BIG BEAR COMMUNITY RECOGNIZED FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

**Association of California Water Agencies Selects the City of Big Bear Lake,
Department of Water and Power to Receive a Theodore Roosevelt Environmental
Award for Excellence in Natural Resources Management**

BIG BEAR LAKE, CA - The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) will present the City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power (DWP) with a Theodore Roosevelt Environmental Award for Excellence in Natural Resources on December 6th at its fall conference in Anaheim. The award recognizes excellence in natural resource management programs that enhance or protect the environment while meeting public needs. The award is presented annually in three categories.

The DWP won the award based on its water efficient landscape programs, which conserve natural resources and protect the natural environment. These programs began in 2002 and include turf buy back, smart controller installation and management, weekly plant tagging at local nurseries, native plants program, plant guide development and distribution program, and the annual xeriscape tour, which is held in conjunction with the local chapter of the Sierra Club.

The award was won through the cooperation of the community, the landscaping industry and the nurseries. According to Jerry Gruber, General Manager of the DWP, "Managing our natural resources is a collective effort. The Big Bear community has shown great progress and a growing commitment to working together to manage our resources. We're proud of our community and its increasing commitment to fulfilling a promise to future generations of adequate natural resources. We congratulate the community."

ACWA was formed in 1910 and is the largest coalition of public water agencies in the country. It is a leader on California water issues and a respected voice for its members in the legislative and regulatory arenas. ACWA's 447 public agency members deliver 90% of the water used by communities, cities, farms and businesses in California.

For more information on water efficiency programs please go to www.bbldwp.com or www.acwa.com.

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