

OCTOBER

BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

SHOWER BETTER MONTH

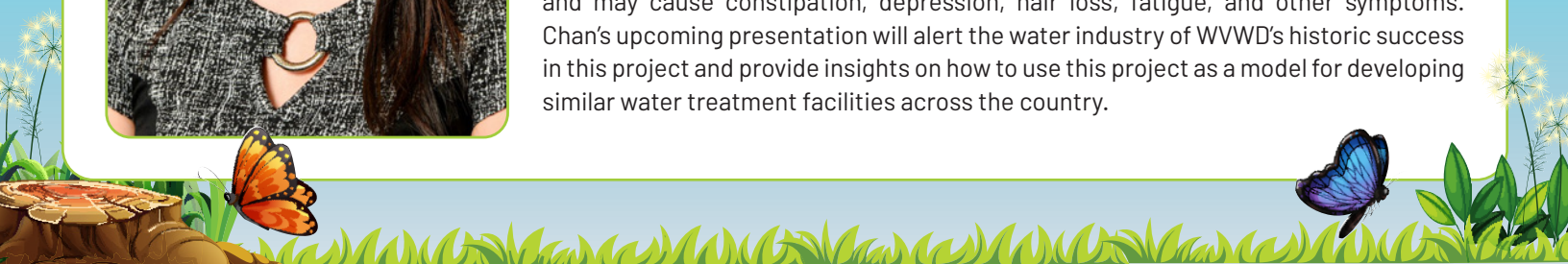
October is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Shower Better Month. During Shower Better Month, the EPA encourages Americans to improve water efficiency and save water during showers. The EPA reports that showers make up 17% of Americans' indoor water use. The agency also notes that the average shower lasts 8.2 minutes and most Americans use about 2.5 gallons of water per minute. At seven showers per week, a single person may use a whopping 6,261 gallons of water over a year. To decrease these numbers, the EPA recommends replacing showerheads with a WaterSense-labeled model. WaterSense-labeled products meet the EPA's specifications for water efficiency and performance and are backed by independent, third-party certification. In fact, a WaterSense-labeled showerhead can save a family 2,700 gallons of water each year and produce as much as \$70 in water savings. The EPA estimates that if every family in the U.S. replaced their showerheads with WaterSense models, the country could save almost \$5.4 billion in water and energy costs every year. To save money and the environment, consider switching to a more sustainable, water-efficient WaterSense showerhead that will save you a substantial amount of money over its lifetime.



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS JOANNE CHAN TO SPEAK ON PANEL



On October 21, West Valley Water District (WVWD) Director of Operations Joanne Chan will speak at the American Water Works Association virtual conference. Partnering with the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW), Chan will give a presentation titled "Making History: Successfully Testing Perchlorate Using Biological Treatment Technology". The presentation will detail the Water District's historic achievement of operating the nation's first fluidized bed bioreactor wellhead treatment system plant, which organically removes perchlorate, a naturally occurring impurity in the American Southwest, from groundwater and transforms it into clean, affordable drinking water. For five years, the plant has flawlessly treated and removed perchlorate, an oxygen-rich molecule that is associated with hypothyroidism, a common condition where the thyroid does not create and release enough thyroid hormone into the bloodstream, which slow your metabolism and may cause constipation, depression, hair loss, fatigue, and other symptoms. Chan's upcoming presentation will alert the water industry of WVWD's historic success in this project and provide insights on how to use this project as a model for developing similar water treatment facilities across the country.



EMPLOYEE 5K FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Breast cancer is the second most prevalent cancer for women in the United States. So as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, West Valley Water District (WVWD) employees will participate in a five kilometer run/walk event to support the American Cancer Society. The event will take place at WVWD headquarters and employees will be encouraged to walk, run or sponsor their coworkers to raise funds for breast cancer research. Thanks to modern medicine funds from efforts like these, people diagnosed with breast cancer have a 90% survival rate.



WVWD PREPARES STUDENTS INTERNS FOR WATER INDUSTRY CAREERS



Strengthening our Water/Wastewater Workforce

This summer, IE Works, a seven-agency regional workforce development consortium spearheaded by West Valley Water District (WVWD), launched its pilot internship program. This

ten-week pilot program, hosted by WVWD, will prepare young individuals for careers in the water industry. WVWD interns, which were selected through a vigorous application process, will rotate through various departments including water maintenance, meter service, water treatment, production and water quality. By pairing practical instruction with industry-related classes at San Bernardino Valley College, interns will learn theory and develop valuable technical skills and industry experience at the same time. This year's interns include Jacinda Ashbaugh (23, from Fontana), Dimitrus Glass (29, from San Bernardino), and Roberto Vargas Solis (24, from San Bernardino).

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