Napa County 2013 Watershed Symposium



Engaging Urban Populations in Resource Stewardship



Steve Lederer
Director of Public Works
County of Napa

Presentation Overview

- Stewardship
- Urban Environments
- Awareness & Education
- Results Through Outreach
- Taking Action
- Example Programs & Opportunities
- Recognizing Urban Stewardship



Stewardship

- ◆ Wealth of Natural Resources in the County
- Stewardship takes many forms
- ◆ People make a difference
- ◆ Every action counts!
- Opportunities abound



Urban Environments

- Most of the population is located in urbanized areas
 - Our Cities, Towns & Enclaves



- ◆ The Napa Valley A river runs through it!
 - Our most populated areas are adjacent to rivers, creeks and streams
- Turning challenges into opportunities
 - "Engaging urban populations in resource stewardship"

Awareness & Education

- ◆ KEY Build environmental awareness
 - Opportunities to connect, learn & take ownership
- Presentations, outings and field-trips
 - Classroom/community presentations, docent walks, field-trips, fish & wildlife viewing
- ◆ Events and resources
 - Community events, Farmer's Markets, Earth Day, local news/calendars, online/web access



Results Through Outreach

- Providing targeted education & outreach
 - Some examples supporting resource stewardship



Taking Action

- Achieving stewardship involvement and hands-on opportunities
 - Providing ways to connect, learn and take ownership



- ◆ Green Business Programs
 - Recognizing those that do good



- Committing to standards and practices to create an environmentally friendly and sustainable community for residents, visitors and animals alike
- Promoting 'green markets' for local services and goods

- ◆ Household Hazardous Waste Programs
 - Purpose: Reduce illegal dumping and appropriate disposal of toxics in landfills
 - Collection & Reduction focused
 - Mostly cleaning products, pesticides, auto products, and paints
 - Legislative Advocacy: Extended Producer Responsibility
 - Public education to reduce household hazardous waste

- Composting Programs
 - Keeps valuable organics out of landfills
 - Returns compost back to local agriculture and landscapes
 - Use improves soil structure, reduces erosion and conserves water
 - Reduces landfill methane gas a potent GHG



- ◆ Recycling & Litter Programs
 - Recycling keeps valuable resources circulating in the economy
 - Products using recycled materials conserve energy and water



- Litter abatement protects waterways
- County/Cities offer convenient curbside collection
- CalRecycle funds support education, equipment, businesses, institutions & community organizations



- ◆ Water Conservation
 - Crucial to meet 20% by 2020 reduction goal
 - Protects local supplies and provides more for the environment
 - Rebates available for toilet retrofits, grass removal, washer replacement, and rainwater harvesting
 - Community workshops and outreach conducted throughout the year
 - Free water-saving devices available throughout most of the county

- ◆ Napa Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (NCSPPP)
 - City/County coordinated awareness and prevention program
 - Funds 1st 8th grade classroom presentations
 - Supports Our Water Our World (OWOW)
 Point of purchase education of less toxic chemicals
 - Only water down the drain!



Recognizing Urban Stewardship

- ◆ Everyone can make a difference
- ◆ Let your passion motivate you
 - Opportunity abounds in Napa County
- ◆ Get involved
 - As an individual → As a coordinator/leader
- ◆ Celebrate your success
 - For yourself and for others





Questions, Discussion & Contact Information



Steve Lederer 707-253-4351

steven.lederer@countyofnapa.org

www.countyofnapa.org