

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: February 2, 2016
To: Honorable City Councilmembers
From: Water Sub-Committee (Mayor Gurney/Vice Mayor Glass)
Subject: Discussion and Action of Request from the Water Sub-Committee For Opportunities to Collaborate with Daily Acts for Water Conservation Opportunities in Sebastopol
Recommendation: That the City Council Receive the Report and Provide Comments
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes xx No _____ N/A
Net General Fund Cost:
Proposed Fund: Water Fund
Amount: \$4525.00

INTRODUCTION: This item is to request that the City Council Discuss and Act on the Request from the Water Sub-Committee For Opportunities to Collaborate with Daily Acts for Water Conservation Opportunities in Sebastopol.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council is committed to promoting the health of our environment and integrating technologies for improved well-being.

In 2014, the City Council adopted an Water Shortage Contingency Ordinance which requires that the water resources available to the City be put to the maximum beneficial use to the extent to which they are capable, to promote water conservation and the efficient use of potable water furnished by the City, by eliminating intentional or unintentional water waste when a reasonable alternative solution is available, and by prohibiting use of equipment which is wasteful. The citizens were asked to voluntarily conserve in order to achieve an overall system-wide reduction goal of 10 percent by:

Apply irrigation water only during the evening and early morning hours to reduce evaporation losses.

Inspect all irrigation systems, repair leaks, and adjust spray heads to provide optimum coverage and eliminate avoidable over-spray.

For irrigation valves controlling water applied to lawns, vary the minutes of run-time consistent with fluctuations in weather.

Reduce minutes of run-time for each irrigation cycle if water begins to run-off to gutters and ditches before the irrigation cycle is completed.

Become conversant with and strictly adhere to the City's Water Waste Prohibition ordinance.

Utilize water conservation rebate and giveaway programs to replace water guzzling plumbing fixtures and appliances with water efficient models.

Utilize City information regarding using water efficiently, reading water meters, repairing ordinary leaks, and how to make your landscape a water efficient landscape.

Since that time, the State has mandated a 25 percent goal of water reduction which will be in effect until October 2015.

DISCUSSION:

In light of the recent drought like conditions, the Water Sub-Committee has been meeting to discuss ways to further water conservation efforts in the City of Sebastopol. The City has a long standing commitment to water conservation and recently stepped up efforts in response to the dry year conditions, however, due to the recent dry weather, and looking ahead to the spring and summer months, the Water Sub-Committee discussed additional measures to continue conservation efforts.

As such, one of the recommendations is to collaborate with Daily Acts, a sustainability non-profit that inspires action to create more nourishing, connected, and resilient communities. Daily Acts has proposed programs such as rainwater harvesting and greywater systems to educate our community on alternative practices to further reduce water use. A copy of their proposal is attached.

The Water Sub-Committee encourages the City Council to review and discuss the proposal by Daily Acts. Due to budgetary constraints, the Water Sub-Committee is requesting that the City Council approve authorization to budget one workshop (Rainwater Preservation and Installation Workshop) and direct the Budget Sub-Committee to consider additional workshops for the upcoming FY 2016-2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council Discuss and Act on the Request from the Water Sub-Committee For Opportunities to Collaborate with Daily Acts for Water Conservation Opportunities in Sebastopol.

Attachment:

Daily Acts Sample Programs



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1/25/2016

City of Sebastopol – Water Conservation & Education Programs: *Rainwater and Greywater Proposal*

The City of Sebastopol has asked Daily Acts to provide a proposal for the design and implementation of water conservation programming, specifically rainwater harvesting and greywater systems, to educate Sebastopol residents on alternative practices to reduce water use.

Background

Daily Acts is a local non-profit organization that was established in 2002. Our mission is to transform our communities through inspired action and education, which builds leadership and local self-reliance. Through sustainability tours and workshops, community education and events, and model water-wise demonstration gardens, we directly address the root issue of sustained behavior change that is required to ensure ongoing resource conservation. Our programs activate local citizens, support leaders and strengthen communities through use of inspiring educational models.

Scope of Services

Daily Acts will implement a community-based, water conservation education and outreach program in the City of Sebastopol comprised of workshops, presentations, community outreach, and model site volunteerism. Specific services will include: program development, planning, event planning and presenting, scheduling, staffing, site logistics and preparation, follow up, reporting, marketing and promotion. The education and outreach program will prioritize meeting the goals of existing water conservation programs, promoting new programs and engaging citizens and local groups.

In addition to the content of the program, Daily Acts excels at promoting partners in the frequent media, presentations and publications we produce and are affiliated with. The City of Sebastopol is committing to important work to make its communities more resilient and Daily Acts takes pride in sharing the success stories of our partners, which benefits both Sebastopol and the other cities and counties who are inspired to act because of such models.

Timeline

The timeline for this program is from contract start date until June 30th, 2016.



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1. Workshops, Presentations and Outreach \$9,050

1a) Rainwater Harvesting Presentation and Installation Workshop (proposed for March 2016)

Presentation will provide residents with an introduction to residential rainwater storage systems, including cisterns, barrels, rain gardens, and swales. The presentation will also cover best practices and basic designs. Participants will leave the presentation knowing whether rainwater storage is a fit for their property.

Approximately two weeks after the presentation, Daily Acts will offer a hands-on, rainwater storage installation workshop at a residential property or public site in Sebastopol. The purpose of the workshop is to provide education and practical skill-building instruction to residents who are ready to install a rainwater storage system. The primary focus of the workshop is on system design and installation. Workshop participants will leave the workshop with the knowledge and skills to design and install a rainwater storage system on their own property. A follow-up survey will be sent to all workshop participants to determine effectiveness of rainwater programming through installation of residential systems.

1b) Greywater Presentation and Installation Workshop (proposed for June 2016)

Presentation will provide residents with an introduction to residential greywater systems and the Laundry-to-Landscape system will be featured as a simple, cost-effective way to reduce water use and sewer demand. The presentation will also cover codes, best practices and basic designs. Residents will leave the presentation knowing whether greywater is a fit for their home.

Approximately two weeks after the presentation, Daily Acts will offer a hands-on, greywater installation workshop at a residential property in Sebastopol. The purpose of the workshop is to provide education and practical skill-building instruction to residents who are ready to install a Laundry-to-Landscape system. The primary focus of workshop is on system design and installation. Workshop participants will leave the workshop with the knowledge and skills to install a Laundry-to-Landscape system on their own property. In order to maximize participant and instructor interaction, the number of workshop participants is limited to 25 people.

Costs

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>Costs</i>
1. Workshops, Presentations and Outreach	
1a) Rainwater Presentation and Installation Workshop	\$4,525.00
1b) Greywater Presentation and Installation Workshop	\$4,525.00
Total Costs	\$9,050.00

Billing Rates

- **Associate Director/Programs Manager: \$85/hour**
Program and project design, oversight and development, contract and relationship management.
- **Programs Coordinator: \$65/hour**
Event coordination, outreach and logistics, canvassing, evaluation, presentations and community engagement.