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MEMBER AGENCY OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## For Immediate Release

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## LVMWD Urges Customers to Find and Repair Household Leaks During "Fix a Leak Week," March 20-26

CALABASAS, CA (March 20, 2017)— According to the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), household water leaks waste more than 1 trillion gallons nationwide each year. Although California received much needed rain at the beginning of the year, the reality is the state will be managing water supplies forever. That is why efficient water use is now every Californian's way of life.

One of the biggest water wasters is household leaks. They can account for more than 10,000 gallons of wasted water every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.

Last year, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District processed 187 requests for leak adjustments. To avoid the expense of paying for leaked water, customers should regularly check household fixtures, appliances and irrigation systems for leaks and make the necessary repairs. This week, LVMWD joins water agencies throughout the country in promoting <u>"Fix a Leak Week"</u>—a U.S. EPA WaterSense initiative.

"A good method to check for leaks is to examine your water meter before and after a 15-minute period when no water is being used," said Carlos Reyes, LVMWD's Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach. "If your water meter does not read exactly the same after 15 minutes, you probably have a leak." For step-by-step instructions on how to check for leaks, visit www.LVMWD.com/WaterSystemTroubleshooting.

<u>Toilets</u> are one of the most common sources of household leaks. Other common leaks include dripping faucets and leaking sprinkler systems—all of which are easy to repair. Learn how to fix these and other types of leaks on the <u>EPA</u>

<u>WaterSense website</u>. By fixing leaks around your home, you'll save water <u>and</u>

<u>money</u>.

Fix A Leak Week

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If you need to replace a plumbing fixture, look for the <u>EPA WaterSense-label</u>. Products bearing the WaterSense label are 20 percent more water efficient than average products in that category and achieve independent, third-party testing and certification. Some water-saving toilets and clothes washers are also eligible for rebates from <u>SoCal WaterSmart</u>. For more information on "Fix a Leak Week," visit <u>www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak</u>.

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District provides potable water and wastewater treatment services to residents of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village and adjacent unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County including the Santa Monica Mountains and Chatsworth.

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