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For Immediate Release

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LVMWD Joins Third Annual "Imagine a Day Without Water" Campaign Promoting the Value of Our Water Resources

Calabasas, CA (October 12, 2017)— Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) joins elected officials, community leaders, businesses and other water utilities participating in the third annual "<u>Imagine a Day Without Water</u>," a nationwide day of education and advocacy about the value of water. Led by the <u>Value of Water Campaign</u>, organizations across the country are citing the crucial need for investment in our nation's water infrastructure to ensure that no community is without a safe and reliable water supply.

"Droughts are a fact of life for Southern Californians. Our focus is to provide a sustainable, high quality water supply for our customers," says David W. Pedersen, LVMWD general manager. "By addressing aging water infrastructure, building new facilities, and employing innovative water technologies, the District will be able to withstand future droughts and ensure no customer ever experiences a day without water."

"We're thrilled LVMWD is a part of 'Imagine a Day Without Water.' This national day of action educates water customers and public officials about the essential role water plays in all of our lives, and the threat that aging and underfunded water infrastructure poses to our communities and economy" said Radhika Fox, CEO of the US Water Alliance and Director of the Value of Water Campaign. "It is easy to take our water infrastructure for granted because it is often underground and out of sight. But, the systems that deliver water to and from our homes and businesses require reinvestment and upkeep just like roads and bridges. It is time to take action before we face a crisis."

America's water infrastructure is aging and in need of investment, having been underfunded for decades. A single nationwide day without water service would put <u>\$43.5 billion of economic activity</u> at risk. In just eight days, a national water service stoppage would put <u>nearly two million jobs</u> in jeopardy.

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In his testimony before the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment on September 26, Mr. Pedersen stated that federal and state reinvestment in the water infrastructure must be a national priority. "Imagine a Day Without Water" tells the stories of the challenges faced when water infrastructure fails, but also cites the innovative solutions being implemented in communities nationwide.

LVMWD joined "Imagine a Day Without Water" because the District is currently 100 percent reliant on imported supplies for its drinking water. LVMWD is committed to investing in alternative water supply sources that would reduce the District's demand for imported water supplies and secure a water resilient future. The <u>Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority</u> has already begun planning and pursuing funding for an advanced water treatment facility that would further treat recycled wastewater to produce high-quality drinking water.

A study conducted by the Value of Water Campaign has found that there is over <u>\$220 billion in</u> <u>economic activity</u> to be gained nationwide by closing the water infrastructure investment gap. The American public is already widely supportive of implementing these needed investments. Above any other pressing political issue, Americans <u>name rebuilding our nation's infrastructure</u> as the issue they most want our elected officials to address.

From missing a morning shower and coffee to lunchtime dining, flushing, washing, bathing, irrigating and firefighting, it's difficult to imagine the full impacts of a true "Day Without Water." Yet, the recent hurricanes that deprived communities of this essential service remind us that a reliable supply is invaluable.

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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Imagine a Day Without Water Media Contact

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<u>The Value of Water Campaign</u> educates and inspires the nation about how water is essential, invaluable, and in need of investment. Spearheaded by top leaders in the water industry, the Value of Water Campaign is building public and political will for investment in America's water infrastructure.