



## AM1150 Newscentre

### Okanagan Water Board spreading the word on conservation

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The Okanagan Basin Water Board is working on a simple guide to show home owners how to use rain water to keep their grass green.

Board Director Anna Warwick Sears hopes it helps convince you that saving water can be easy.

"People don't really understand how it affects their community, how it affects their taxes, how it affects their quality of life as a whole when we're wasting water."

Warwick Sears presented the Board's top accomplishments at their Annual General Meeting at the Laurel Packing House today.

She also outlined several goals for the year ahead, including doing a better job in convincing Valley residents that saving water is important.

"They see the big, blue lake outside and they don't realise how water-short we are so we're trying to reach out to the entire community because water is something that is important to everyone and everyone needs to be engaged."

The Federal government is giving almost \$77,000 to the Water Board for projects like the storm water guide, as well as training for research staff.

They'll learn the latest systems being used to track water supplies so that the Okanagan's municipalities have the best information available.

West Kelowna Mayor Doug Findlater was impressed by the Water Board's presentation.

Findlater says saving water is a big deal for West Kelowna Council.

"That's why we brought in the water rate structure we did this year, as part of our Official Community Plan and the rest of our land use planning we're looking at bylaws that encourage landscaping and topography and so on that encourage water conservation."

Findlater joined several other mayors from across the Valley for the Board's annual General Meeting.

James Moore - Kelowna