

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROSEMOUNT'S MAYOR JOINS NATIONAL CHALLENGE TO CONSERVE WATER

Rosemount Mayor Bill Droste has joined a national challenge to encourage water conservation, and he invites the City's residents to join him in the effort.

The Mayor announced that he is joining the Annual National Mayors' Challenge for Water Conservation, now in its fifth year. The Challenge is a competition encouraging cities across the nation to see who can be the most "water wise" by asking their residents to take a series of informative, easy to use pledges online to conserve water, energy, and other natural resources.

Residents of winning cities during April can qualify for a drawing with more than \$50,000 in prizes. Residents can pledge online at www.mywaterpledge.com. A separate drawing will be held to provide prizes for classrooms that take part in the pledging.

The Challenge is a non-profit community service program created by the Wyland Foundation, with cosponsors that include Toyota and the Toro Company.

The Rosemount City Council adopted several initiatives this winter that touch on the need for the community to be mindful of water consumption trends. The Metropolitan Council is studying the risks throughout this region to the aquifers that supply drinking water. The Met Council's work so far has confirmed that our water resources will be more sustainable if consumption can be kept under control.

"We at the City of Rosemount are working on several initiatives in this regard," Mayor Droste said, "ranging from the creation of a citizens' task force that will consider issues like water consumption, to recycling the water used at the Central Park splash pad. Our Utility Commission has been active, looking for ways to encourage water conservation."

Rosemount is also taking part in a program to provide rebates for toilets, washing machines, and irrigation controls that meet conservation standards. Residents can apply for a rebate using instructions at www.ci.rosemount.mn.us/publicworks.

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