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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Water Conservation Workshop Features “Extreme Garden Makeover”

Chico, California – Calling all gardeners! The Butte Environmental Council and Orchard Supply Hardware invite the public to join us on an “Extreme Garden Makeover” at the Oak Way Community Garden in Chico on Thursday, June 18, from 5-6 p.m. BEC and Orchard will show the community how to conserve water in times of drought, including demonstrations on using drip irrigation, mulching, and other water conservation techniques, as well as a Q&A session with experts, and “garden gate prizes” and coupons.

The Oak Way Community Garden is located on the corner of W. 8th Ave. and Hwy 32 in Chico, and is one of two community gardens established by BEC in the last few years. The community gardens utilize unimproved land owned by the City of Chico to increase access to gardening and fresh vegetables for Butte County residents. The City provides a “no-cost lease” to BEC. In addition to leasing individual plots, BEC has partnered with Disability Action Center (formerly Independent Living Services of Northern California) to construct a universal access “Everyone’s Garden” within the Oak Way Community Garden.

BEC continues to respond to the high community demand for educational workshops, particularly on water conservation. BEC has already hosted 6 such workshops over the past two years, including demonstration projects in which two lawns were converted to water conserving, bird-friendly native landscapes.

Due to the ongoing California drought, BEC is instituting a “no overhead watering” policy at both of its community gardens. Please join us as we makeover two 15’ x 15’ garden plots and learn how to achieve water conservation and save money in your own garden. Special thanks to Orchard Hardware Supply for helping to host this event, providing gardening experts and giveaways. Orchard Hardware Supply has been an ongoing partner with BEC on the gardens, providing tools and other garden supplies.

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For further information, visit BEC’s community gardens page at <http://www.becnet.org/community-gardens> or Contact:

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On the day of the event, press inquiries may call cell phone 530-588-3605.

The Butte Environmental Council is a non-profit environmental organization based in Chico, California. BEC's mission is to protect and defend the land, air and water of Butte County and the surrounding region through action, advocacy and education. Since 1975, BEC has played a significant part in shaping the environment and policies of Butte County and surrounding areas.