

## CONSERVATION CORNER

### Wildfires and Water

Ensuring that water and fire management are effective is an important goal for the Southern California region. Water and fire management are interrelated goals because water supply, surface water quality, drought, climate change, ecosystem health, and human development can affect both.

Through significant and continued devotion to water conservation, La Verne residents weathered California's historic drought. The prolonged dry period will continue to have many long term effects though such as depleted groundwater tables and, more recently, heightened fire risk. Wildfires are a natural part of the ecosystem within Southern California, but changes brought about by human development significantly alter the natural system. Drought, climate change, and urban growth can cause fires to pose significant danger and unique challenges to property and infrastructure.

Given these factors water conservation is critical, as drought conditions or climate change can affect the supply of natural water sources, the frequency and behavior of wildfires and the timing and length of fire season throughout California for years to come. Fires can also adversely affect the quality of the waters in Southern California. Recovery from wildfires requires initial clean up of burned debris and erosion control. This ensures that large amounts or concentrations of pollutants caused by fire do not end up in local waterways like the San Gabriel River or the Pacific Ocean.

### January Oil Filter Recycling Event

The City of La Verne is hosting an oil filter recycling event at Autozone Auto Parts on 1410 Foothill Blvd, La Verne, CA on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, from 9 am to 1 pm. Residents may receive up to 2 new oil filters in exchange for 2 used filters while supplies last. Those who bring in used oil or used filters are eligible to receive a **FREE** motor oil change kit. Used oil must be properly stored in a clean, uncontaminated container.

