City of Veneta

Community Profile

Population 4,975
Location Veneta

Position Description

Sponsor City of Veneta
Supervisor Brian Issa,
Community Services Director

Assignment The RARE participant is working with the City of Veneta on natural resource planning. Initially, the participant is responsible for a water conservation research project for the city and is conducting research into water conservation strategies including incentives, rebate programs, code requirements, and other tools for reducing overall water demand. Following completion of the research project, the city will select a conservation strategy to pursue.

Also, the RARE participant is collaborating with city staff, private consultants, and local utilities to create a detailed, five-year water conservation program. The program will include: defined goals and objectives, conservation strategies, potential impacts, budget and staffing needs, necessary outreach and education materials, as well as evaluation tools and measurements of success. The end product will be a comprehensive, multi-pronged conservation program aimed at significantly reducing peak water demand over the next 3-5 years.

Upon completion of the plan, the participant will begin to implement key activities such as developing educational materials and campaigns and promoting leak detection and smart watering programs for residential homes with the ultimate goal to reduce peak demand during the 2010 summer irrigation season. Finally, the RARE participant will identify key opportunities for pilot conservation projects with an emphasis on partnership projects between local agencies and nonprofits.

RARE Participant

Kyle Roberts grew up in Hood River, Oregon. He received a BA in Geography and a BS in Sociology from the University of Oregon. Kyle has had a lifelong interest in the way communities are planned, function, and interact with the natural world. Recently, Kyle interned at the City of Creswell where he co-authored the Creswell Downtown Plan. Following his year of service, Kyle is interested in pursuing a Master’s degree in Community and Regional Planning. Ultimately, he hopes to become a city planner.