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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Merced Irrigation District Charitable Foundation Sponsors Forum on Critical Water Issues**

MERCED, Calif. – Some may take water for granted. It's always there when you turn on the tap, right? But keeping that water flowing takes a lot of long-range planning and cooperation among a variety of people, interest groups and organizations.

Water supply issues are a priority for the Merced Irrigation District Charitable Foundation, which is sponsoring an educational seminar on how these water issues affect our lives and how they will influence the future of Merced County.

Titled "Water Supply Issues & Solutions," the event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Oct. 8, in the Council Chambers at the Merced Civic Center, 678 W. 18th St., Merced.

"Water is the life blood of civilization," said Ezio Sansoni, MID member grower and Foundation Board Chairman. "We take it for granted when it's abundant, but feel its lack when it is scarce. Hence the ever-present need to research better management and more efficient usage of water resources. One of the ways to do that is to share expertise and knowledge in forums like this."

Experts in various fields will share their knowledge and outlook on water issues from various perspectives, including those of agriculture, environmentalists and local agencies in Merced County. Bay-Delta issues and statewide perspectives will also be discussed.

The Merced Irrigation District Charitable Foundation, Inc., founded this spring, is an independent organization with its own board of directors supported by donations from MID employees, member growers and local residents.

The mission of the Foundation is to promote knowledge of water resources through education and participation in youth activities and to provide community assistance and individual hardship relief.

This event is a fundraiser for the MID Charitable Foundation. A tax-deductible donation of \$5 will be gratefully accepted. Seating is limited. Please call MID at (209) 722-5761 to reserve a seat.