

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Contact:** Gerhardt Hubner, (805) 654-5051

### **CASQA Recognizes Boeing Company for its Santa Susana Biofilter**

*Awards ceremony to acknowledge excellence in Stormwater Quality Management*

LAKE TAHOE, Calif. – September 09, 2013 — The California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) will present an award to Boeing for its Santa Susana biofilter at the ninth annual CASQA Stormwater Conference awards luncheon Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013, at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Lake Tahoe.

Boeing will receive the Outstanding Stormwater BMP Implementation Award for its Santa Susana biofilter, which is designed to harness natural processes to treat stormwater runoff while promoting habitats that encourage pollination. The system uses plants, soils and filter media to capture sediment and pollutants before releasing cleaner water back into the watershed. The biofilter also serves as an educational tool for students and the community, as its surrounding ADA-compliant walking paths are lined with educational signage and benches where visitors can observe its top layer of native vegetation.

“The Santa Susana biofilter is a reflection of the project team’s expertise, valuable public input and strong regulatory oversight by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Working with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Pollinator Partnership and the Wildlife Habitat Council provided the spark to design the biofilter as an educational tool for students and the community,” said Paul Costa, Boeing’s Environmental Operations and Compliance Manager at Santa Susana. “This award validates the hard work of a dynamic team, who — under the leadership of a panel of stormwater experts — developed an innovative natural stormwater solution that is effective, educational, beautiful and replicable. The Santa Susana biofilter represents Boeing’s commitment to responsible environmental leadership in Ventura County and beyond.”

“The CASQA Awards Committee evaluated the creativity and innovation of organizations as they addressed stormwater and environmental challenges in their communities,” said Gerhardt Hubner, Awards Committee Chair. “Boeing’s biofilter is an exceptional, multi-use stormwater project in a number of important ways. The company merits recognition for its groundbreaking research and the biofilter’s effectiveness in reducing the amount of polluted runoff that enters storm drains, streams and the ocean. CASQA values Boeing and the project team’s success, innovation and dedication to the improvement of stormwater quality in California.”

Three other CASQA stormwater management awards will be given this year:

- The Outstanding Sustainable Stormwater Project award, presented to Placer County for its Low Impact Development (LID) Guidebook
- Outstanding Stormwater News, Information, Outreach and Media Award, presented to the City of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County Water Agency’s Creek Stewardship Program
- The Leadership Award, presented to Scott Taylor, PE, D.WRE for outstanding leadership and exceptional contributions to the stormwater quality management profession throughout the State of California



The CASQA awards program identifies and recognizes creative approaches, outstanding projects, best practices and exemplary accomplishments in the field of stormwater quality management. CASQA awards can be given to both public and private projects and individuals from public agencies and private businesses. A CASQA member must nominate award candidates, and candidates are evaluated on demonstrated excellence, ingenuity, creativity, professionalism and documented results. Awards may be made at local, regional and statewide levels.

### **About CASQA**

*The California Stormwater Quality Association, founded in 1989, helps develop stormwater management programs and regulations that are technically and economically feasible, provide significant environmental benefits and effect compliance with State and Federal laws. Through its efforts to improve stormwater management practices, CASQA is on its way to creating cleaner waterways and beaches throughout California.*

*The association collaborates with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards, municipalities, special districts and businesses to achieve effective stormwater quality management programs in California. Membership consists of individuals and groups from government agencies, businesses, science organizations, development groups and construction groups. For more information about CASQA or to become a member, please visit [www.casqa.org](http://www.casqa.org).*

###