

# THE APP RAP

By Alex Pawlakos

**App:** Hello Vino by Hello Vino, Inc.  
**For:** iPhones and Android phones  
**Price:** Free

For the over-21 crowd, having to choose the perfect wine for a particular meal or a special occasion can be a daunting task. This is especially true if you are a wine novice who aspires to be a wine connoisseur. It is no surprise that there is a great app available that makes it easy to buy wine like an oenophile. Hello Vino is the perfect wine app to sort out all sorts of questions one might have when buying wine. You start your search from a list which includes a wine pairing for your meal, a wine suggestion for an occasion, a wine according to taste/flavor, a wine from a country or region, wine by type or variety, or popular wine picks. After you choose one of the categories, Hello Vino walks you through a step-by-step process where you answer one question followed by another. For example, if you select "a wine pairing for your meal," you will be asked to choose the type of food, followed by a series of questions to single out precisely the food you are eating. At that point, a list of recommended wines will be presented to you, including links for articles and reviews from on-

line writers, wine ratings and reviews from the popular wine review organizations as well as a link to the winery itself. If you already have a bottle of wine, or are examining one in the store, Hello Vino lets you scan the label to instantly access food-pairing information, critical reviews and other useful information. This is a great app for anyone who enjoys wine and wants to learn more about choosing the right wine, and a delicious wine, for any occasion. You'll be considered an authority on vino in no time!

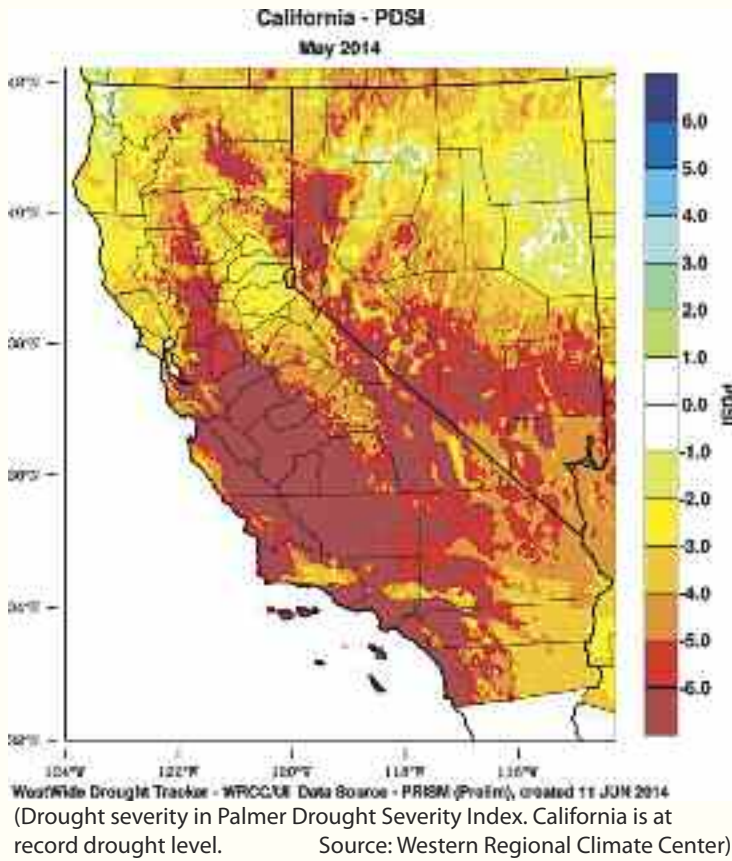


Alex Pawlakos enjoys biking, weightlifting, and tutoring in his spare time. He is a reporter on Express Yourself™ Teen Radio and an economics major at UC Berkeley.

# TEEN SCENE

## Making a Splash this Summer: The 10% Water Challenge

By Andrew Wang



the lawn, and let the other half go dormant. This cut down our water use from 200 gallons per day to 120." As a starting point for water conservation, Brian has some common-sense tips worth paying close attention to:

1. Turn off the faucet and don't let water run when you don't need it.
2. Take shorter showers.
3. Use sprinklers in the early morning or late evening to minimize evaporation.
4. Run the dishwasher and washing machine only with full loads.

Teens are making important contributions to our local conservation effort. As of June, creative solutions by community members have helped our county achieve a 3 percent reduction in water usage, according to EBMUD. With the collective effort of teens and our families, we can make it all the way to our goal of 10 percent, and do our community's part in helping survive the drought.

For teens, the coming of summer means long days, hiking trips, vacations and (finally!) sleeping in, but nothing shouts out summer like being able to dive into a cool, refreshing pool to refresh both mind and body. But this summer, with our reservoirs drying up, and a statewide drought emergency in effect, teens might have to look elsewhere for fun in the sun.

Call it a dry season. From January to June, the Lafayette Reservoir has collected a meager 14 inches of rainwater, a mere half of the historical average in that time period. With rainfall reaching its lowest levels in almost a century, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has been forced to tap into Sacramento River

water supplies for the first time, and is calling on our community to save 10 percent more water than last year.

Lamorinda teens are taking up the challenge to cut their water usage. Kelly Williams and her family invested in water-conserving equipment: "We put in low-flow faucets and shower heads. We also installed a valve system for the hoses so they wouldn't leak." Rising senior Nick Lum has switched to taking shorter showers – every gallon makes a difference.

Brian Davis, recent Campolindo graduate and a member of Campo's Lorax/Global Student Embassy environmental club, has made some big sacrifices in his household to conserve water: "We removed half



Andrew Wang, the Director of Concerts for Be the Star You Are! charity, is a rising senior at Campolindo High School. Besides writing and reporting, he enjoys programming, playing the piano and violin, and tossing a good Frisbee.

Teen Scene is YOUR voice. If you have something to say or have writing skills and want to be part of our Teen Scene team, email our Teen Coach, Cynthia Brian, [Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com](mailto:Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com).

The opinions expressed in Teen Scene are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly.

## Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

Submit stories and story ideas to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

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