



The newsletter of IRWD

January 2014 | Number 1

New Year, New You, New Yard

Up to 60% of your home's total water usage is used outdoors. This year, save money and water by turning your yard into a CALscape, a California Appropriate Landscape, because it's the right thing to do for California.

Background

A recent study of Irvine Ranch Water District single-family customer water use revealed:

- 20% of a household's total water use is attributed to over-watering.
- Up to 60% of your home's total water usage is used outdoors.



Your New Year's Resolution Starts Now

You can be on your way to saving money and water by turning your water-thirsty landscape into a water-efficient CALscape. Reducing your outdoor water use starts with the right plants, schedule, and equipment.



THE RIGHT PLANTS – A California appropriate landscape starts with the right plants that are perfectly suited for our mild winters and warm, dry summers. They're low maintenance, use little water and don't need soil preparation or fertilizing. Visit www.irwd.com/calscape to view garden tours, garden galleries, a searchable plant database, and a garden resources section.



THE RIGHT SCHEDULE – Keep your plants hydrated and healthy using the right amount of water with a CALscape Watering Schedule, available on our website (and on page 2 of this newsletter).



THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT – Water your garden efficiently and get the most from every drop of water with water-efficient equipment, such as rotating nozzles. We offer resources and rebates to help you water efficiently and effectively at www.irwd.com/calscape.

Resources

To help you transform your landscape into a CALscape, www.irwd.com/calscape offers resources, such as:

- Garden Galleries
- Searchable Plant Database
- Planting Guide
- Efficient Watering Schedule
- Rebates on Sprinklers, Weather-Based Irrigation Controllers, Rain Barrels and more!



You're Invited!

FREE CALscape Workshops

Wednesday, January 29 • 6 pm

Friday, March 7 • 6 pm

Friday, March 21 • 6 pm

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room

15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine, CA 92618

Come learn about creating a water-efficient California-Appropriate Landscape from landscape experts.



Email calscape@irwd.com to sign up—include your name, number of attendees and which date you'd like to attend.

Questions:

calscape@irwd.com or 949-453-5581

You're Invited!

The Home Depot Garden Sale

Bring this flyer to the IRWD booth for a FREE Hose Nozzle

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Saturday, March 8 | : | Saturday, March 22 |
| 9 am – 1 pm | : | 9 am – 1 pm |
| The Home Depot | : | The Home Depot |
| 20021 Lake Forest Dr. | : | 6200 Irvine Blvd. |
| Lake Forest | : | Irvine |

- Learn from local experts how to plant a water-efficient landscape
- Special discounts on water-efficient plants
- Vendor displays
- Educational demonstrations
- Giveaways and more!

Fix a Leak Contest: Be on the Lookout for Leaks

In honor of Fix a Leak Week, March 17–23, IRWD will be hosting a contest for **Sprinkler Leak Detectives**. Twenty percent of a household's water use is wasted on overwatering, and sprinkler over-spray (as shown in photo) is a major culprit.



1st Prize:
\$500
2nd Prize:
\$300
3rd Prize:
\$100

For complete rules and information on how to be a **Leak Detective**, visit www.irwd.com/fixaleak. Throughout March:

- Submit a photo showing your Leak Detective skills to calscape@irwd.com.
- We'll mail you an IRWD CALscape Kit.
- All participants participants will also be entered into a drawing to win a gift card to one of our WaterSense partners: The Home Depot or Lowe's. First prize is valued at \$500, second prize at \$300 and third prize at \$100.
- Now through March 30, IRWD customers can also pick up a sprinkler key* at IRWD offices (15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine) to help reduce overspray from sprinklers.



CALscape Kit, complete with water-efficient hose nozzle, rain gauge, garden hose repair kit, and moisture meter

Fix a Leak Week is sponsored in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program.

*While supplies last. Please allow 6–8 weeks for delivery of CALscape kit.

Suggested Weekly Irrigation Schedule

| Month | Turfgrass | Trees, Shrubs & Ground Cover | % Option ² |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| January | 2 days, 2 cycles ¹ of 2 minutes each | 1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each | 30% |
| February | 2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes each | 1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each | 30% |
| March | 3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each | 2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each | 50% |

The above chart suggests a weekly schedule for spray-head irrigation, assuming heavy clay soils common to most local coastal and foothill areas. Generally, these are the MAXIMUM times you will need for full sun areas. Your landscape's particular watering times may vary. Start with this schedule and increase the times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated areas, check your irrigation system before increasing the watering time.

¹ By "cycling" the irrigation controller to turn on for the recommended number of minutes an hour apart, deeper watering and healthier root growth are gained, while runoff is reduced.

² The % option, either a button or a dial, permits the watering run times for all electric valves managed by a controller to be increased or decreased with just one adjustment by percentage.

Customer Service Information

IRWD Website Link & Social Media Channels »

24 Hour Customer Access

(949) 453-5300
email: customerservice@irwd.com

Irvine Ranch Water District

15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, California 92618

Visit us: www.irwd.com

Join our fan page:
Irvine Ranch Water District

@IRWDnews

View our YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD



The mission of Irvine Ranch Water District, a public agency, is to provide reliable, high quality water and sewer service in an efficient, cost effective manner and environmentally sensitive way that provides a high level of customer satisfaction.

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IRWD Pipelines Newsletter

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P.O. Box 57000
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Comments about this publication?
E-mail: info@irwd.com