

pipelines



October is Disaster Preparedness Month: Sign up for CodeRED

Having an emergency supply kit is an important part of disaster preparedness, but there is another tool that IRWD customers can take advantage of – **CodeRED**, a high-volume, high-speed system for mass emergency notifications.

Customers who sign up for CodeRED have the choice of receiving voice, email or text messages whenever there is a water-related emergency. The system works in coordination with AlertOC and the County of Orange Emergency Notification System.

“The advantage of CodeRED is that it will alert our customers about water-related emergencies, while the county system is more broad-based,” explains Gina Jackson, IRWD Customer Service Manager.

For example, CodeRED was utilized in August when a water main line break occurred in a portion of the IRWD Service area. Customers in that area received periodic updates while repairs were being made. Likewise, last December customers in the Williams Canyon area who were affected by floods and water outages caused by wash-outs also received updates.

Signing up for CodeRED is easy. Just visit www.irwd.com and click on **Emergency & CodeRED**. From there, click on **CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment Form**.

Get timely updates on water-related emergencies with the

Irvine Ranch Water District

CODERED

Emergency Notification System

Sign up for this free service at www.irwd.com.

For local breaking emergency news or special alerts, visit our Twitter Channel [@IRWDemergency](https://twitter.com/IRWDemergency). Or join us on Facebook at: Irvine Ranch Water District.



IRWD employees take part in a preparedness drill at the Emergency Operations Center.



This IRWD Zone 8-9 pump house was gutted by the 2007 Santiago fire, so crews manually adjusted depths to the nearby reservoir.

IRWD, Always Prepared

IRWD is committed to emergency preparedness and conducts annual drills and exercises for employees. In addition, there are real-life events that put what staff has learned to the test. After the 1994 Northridge earthquake, IRWD crews were sent to assist in restoring water service in the hard-hit areas of Reseda and Northridge. Twenty-three employees rotated through 12-hour shifts over four days to get the water flowing.

In 1999, IRWD rolled out a 16-foot-long Emergency Response Trailer, equipped with everything needed for such a response, including orange cones, protective suits, self-contained breathing apparatus, rubber boots and gloves, two children's wading pools used for decontamination, medical supplies, first aid kits, generators and medical monitoring equipment. When an emergency situation calls for it, IRWD's highly-trained hazardous materials response team utilizes the Emergency Response Trailer to take immediate action.

In October 2007, the Santiago Fire ravaged Orange County and kept IRWD crews across many departments working around the clock to keep the water flowing to firefighters. Crews were out close to the fire lines, installing generators, operating pumps and manually measuring reservoir depths in areas where power and phone lines were knocked out by the flames. Some crews manned hoses to help protect key water facilities. One of the IRWD pump houses in the Portola Hills area was destroyed.

Last December, torrential storms cause significant damage to Williams Canyon, washing out a road along with IRWD water mains that supply water service to canyon residents. Over several days, including Christmas, crews worked in the

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24-Hour Service (949) 453-5300

If you discover a disruption in your water service or other problem call the IRWD 24-hour emergency line and a representative will assist you.

24-Hour Online or Mobile Access

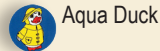
Visit our website: www.irwd.com



IRWD is now on Facebook.com

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Irvine Ranch Water District



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@IRWDemergency
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@AlwaysH2OSmart



IRWD's YouTube channel is:
IrvineRanchWD

IRWD 50th Anniversary Event



A crowd-pleasing activity at our September 17 Customer Appreciation Event was the Water Quality Lab tour, conducted by IRWD Scientist Jason La .

Come Hungry Oct. 29

On Saturday, October 29, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., the Sea & Sage Audubon Society's Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held at the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh Campus. While you're there, enjoy a bird walk, check out the latest Education and Wild Birds Unlimited exhibits, and stop by the Chapter Ambassadors' Table to discover the many ways you can become involved with the Sea & Sage Chapter of the National Audubon Society. For more information, visit www.irwd.com and click on Community Programs and Community Partners.



Save Water and Money with Always Water Smart Rebates

Take advantage of the following rebates IRWD is offering to help you save:

- High Efficiency Clothes Washers - **\$285.00** rebate
- Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles - **\$4.50** rebate per nozzle
- Weather Based Irrigation Controller - Up to **\$425.00** rebate

Please visit www.alwayswatersmart.com for more information about all of our residential, landscape, and commercial rebate programs.

Irvine Ranch Water District



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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rain to provide access for equipment and construct two water bypass lines to restore water to residents.

Practice does make perfect. Emergency drills, such as the statewide, six-hour Emergency Preparedness Drill in 2008 was the largest such drill in the nation's history and the first time IRWD had participated in a drill of this magnitude.

Cut along dashed line and post this schedule near your irrigation controller.

Suggested Weekly Autumn Irrigation Schedule			
Month	Turfgrass	Trees, Shrubs & Ground Cover	% Option***
October*	3 days, 2 cycles** of 3 minutes each	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	50%
November	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	1 day, 2 cycles of 4 minutes each	40%
December	2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes each	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	30%

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.

*Beginning in September, plants' water needs drop by approximately 30 percent even if the temperature is hotter, because the days are shorter, so evaporation decreases. Also, plants begin to go into a dormant phase, where they need less water. In some years, humidity is also higher, increasing your level of discomfort, but decreasing plants' water needs as it slows down the rate of evaporation. This rapid drop in water needs will continue in October and November.

**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.

***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.