

## In This Issue:

Fall Back on November 6

Keep Fats, Oils and Grease Out of Your Drains

“Water Is Life” Poster Contest Winner

Ask Juan

# pipelines

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Irvine Ranch  
WATER DISTRICT

## Time to Fall Back on Nov. 6

### Time to reset your sprinkler timer

Daylight-saving time ends on Sunday, November 6, so remember to set your clock back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

This semi-annual time change coincides with seasonal climate shifts that signal it's time to adjust your irrigation controller timer. As the length of daylight shortens, the temperature cools, humidity increases and plants require less watering. Reduce the frequency and duration of the times you irrigate accordingly.



Let setting back your clocks this November serve as a reminder to check and replace old or weak batteries found in irrigation controllers and smoke detectors.



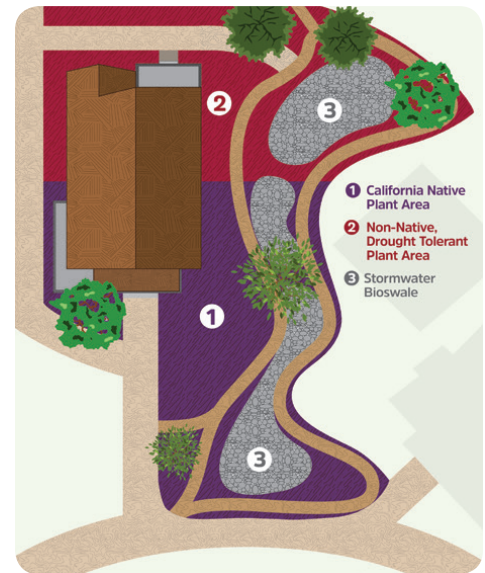
## Visit Our New RightScape Demonstration Garden At the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh Campus

Want to be inspired to create your own drought friendly garden? Visit the new RightScape demonstration garden surrounding the Irvine Ranch Marsh House. Here, you'll find more than three dozen plant varieties. Each is identified with a plant marker/QR bar code to scan for mobile access and more plant care details. A plant guide brochure will be available soon.

Both California native and non-native drought tolerant plant types are featured in two distinct sections of the landscape design. The garden's large colorful interpretive signs show how these basic plant types differ in their growing characteristics and water needs. Additional signs illustrate how efficient irrigation technology and scheduling are key to keeping the garden looking healthy.

A stormwater bioswale, consisting of river rocks and stones, runs prominently through the demo garden. Its function is to collect and concentrate irrigation or rain water, allowing it to seep into the ground instead of running off-site.

The IRWD San Joaquin Marsh Visitor Center is free and open from dawn until dusk, seven days a week. It's located at 35 Riparian View in Irvine. To view a directional map, visit [www.irwd.com/san-joaquin-marsh](http://www.irwd.com/san-joaquin-marsh).



Overhead site plan for RightScape Demonstration Garden



House and grounds before and after the demo garden was planted in September 2016. It takes approximately two years for most of the plants to mature and fill in to their full size. View the garden now to see how much space should be allowed between each plant.

# Keep Fats, Oils and Grease Out of Your Drains



Did you know that fats, oils and grease poured down drains is the leading cause of sewer spills during the holiday season? Over time, the grease sticks to sewer pipes and when it builds up, blocks the entire pipe, resulting in costly repairs and cleanups.

Here are tips for safely getting rid of leftover cooking grease from holiday turkeys, hams and roasts:

- Place left over grease into containers with lids, such as jars, and place into a trash receptacle for pick up on trash day.
- Mix oils with absorbent materials, such as coffee grounds, put in a lidded container and dispose with the trash.

- If cleaning a greasy pan, pour grease into a container and wipe excess grease from the pan with paper towels. Place the towels into the trash.
- If using a deep fat fryer, mix oils with absorbent material, such as cat litter, or soak up excess oil with newspaper and put into the trash.

For more information, visit [irwd.com](http://irwd.com) and click on “Fats, Oils & Grease FOG” under “Customer Care.”



## Ask Juan

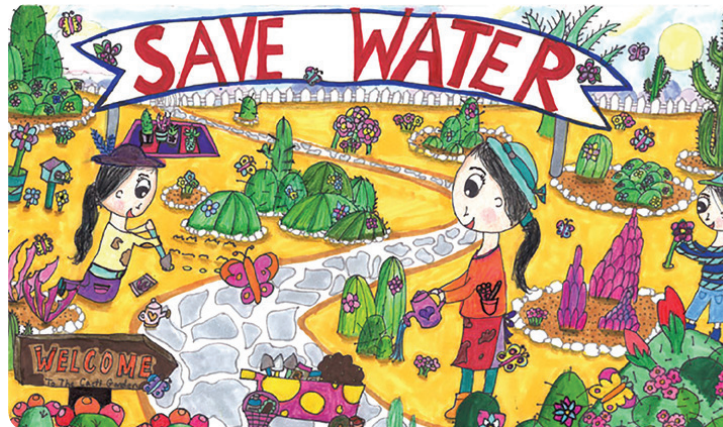


**Q:** Juan, I'm going to let my water-guzzling curbside and driveway lawn strips die. When is the best time to replace the dead turf grass in these areas with a new drought friendly garden?

**A:** Plan now and plant later—in late fall. We are approaching an ideal time for establishing drought friendly plants in Central Orange County. Climate appropriate plants establish roots better when exposed to the cooler soil and air temperatures typical here in late fall. Your new plants will also respond well to early seasonal rain, if we get any!

## Poster Contest Winner

Melody Yu was a third grader at Turtle Rock Elementary School in Irvine when she entered the annual “Water is Life” poster contest last March. Her poster, right, has been selected from a field of about 160 entries for publication in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s “Water is Life” student art calendar for 2017.



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