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# pipelines

APRIL 2017 | NUMBER 4



Irvine Ranch  
WATER DISTRICT

## Save the Date

### May 2017 RightScape Workshops

Irvine Ranch Water District  
Multi Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine

#### Soil, Water and Plant Relationships Workshop

Wednesday, May 10  
6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Learn about building up  
your soil, composting, plant  
development, and proper  
watering.

#### California Native Plants – Guest Speaker Workshop

Saturday, May 13  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

This workshop features  
Rob Moore, award-winning  
California native landscape  
designer and frequent  
speaker at Tree of Life  
Nursery. Learn how to  
landscape using California  
native plants. Learn about  
native plant communities,  
proper planting techniques,  
pruning, watering and  
overall care.

Sign-ups required:  
[rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events)

## Where Does Your Water Come From?

### LOCAL GROUNDWATER

57% of the total water supply

26 local wells pump groundwater  
from the Orange County  
Groundwater Basin, which  
underlies much of the IRWD  
service area.



Groundwater Pumping  
Station in Irvine

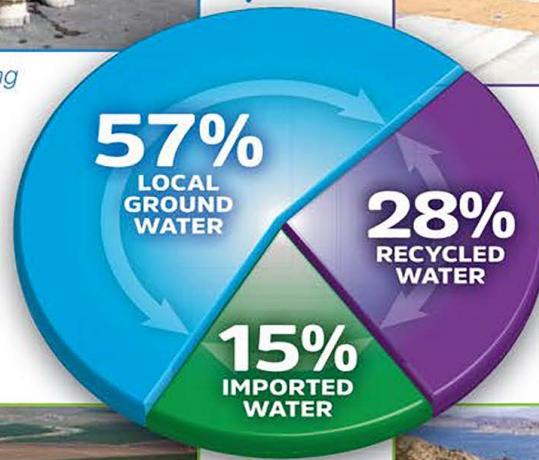
### RECYCLED WATER

28% of the total water supply

Sewage is treated at the Michelson  
Water Recycling Plant in Irvine and  
converted into recycled water for  
use in many of the area's green  
spaces, as well as several local  
dual-plumbed buildings and  
manufacturing businesses.



Michelson Water  
Recycling Plant,  
Irvine



California Aqueduct,  
State Water Project



Parker Dam on the  
Colorado River,  
Lake Havasu, Arizona



### IMPORTED WATER

15% of the total water supply from  
two sources

Imported water from Northern CA  
travels to Southern CA via the State  
Water Project.

Imported water from the Colorado  
River makes its way to Southern CA  
via the Colorado River Aqueduct.

# 27th Annual Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 22 • 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Peter & Mary Muth Interpretive Center (overlooking Upper Newport Bay), 2301 University Drive, Newport Beach

How can we protect our planet and preserve our natural resources for the future? Join IRWD staff, OC Parks and local environmental organizations to celebrate what we all can do. Family-friendly activities will feature science discovery, live wildlife exhibits, arts and crafts, face painting, a scavenger hunt and live music.

## Natives Abound at the Marsh

If you have been thinking about re-landscaping your yard with California native or drought-tolerant plants but are not sure what they look like, visit the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh, where many plants are in bloom.

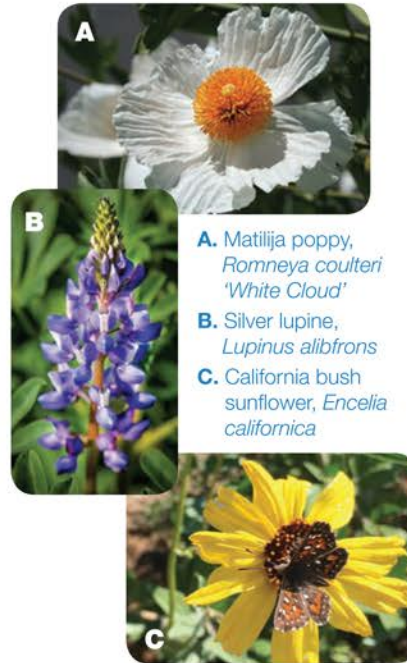
The 320-acre fresh water marsh contains about 96 percent native plants. There are lupine, encelia, goldfields and southern honeysuckle, to name just a few of the more than 60 plant species at the marsh.

During the spring, the marsh is filled with color and fragrance. Check out the Mexican elderberry, or the Matilija poppy. This poppy blooms on a large shrub and has delicate, tissue-like white petals and a yellow button-like center. It resembles a sunny-side-up fried egg and has a sweet fragrance.

If you are interested in attracting butterflies to your yard, take a walk through the butterfly garden in the marsh's meadow. Tiles located on poles depict different types of butterflies native to this area. The plants in this garden attract the butterflies shown on the tiles.

In addition to providing a habitat for native plants and wildlife, the ponds of the San Joaquin Marsh are used to divert and clean urban runoff that flows into San Diego Creek before reaching Upper Newport Bay.

IRWD has expanded on the success of the marsh into a watershed-wide system of wetlands called Natural Treatment Systems (NTS). Twenty-five smaller wetlands have been constructed throughout IRWD's service area, many of which are accessible to the public. Information and maps to the marsh and the NTS wetlands are available at [irwd.com/services/natural-treatment-system](http://irwd.com/services/natural-treatment-system).



A. Matilija poppy, *Romneya coulteri* 'White Cloud'  
B. Silver lupine, *Lupinus alibifrons*  
C. California bush sunflower, *Encelia californica*

## Save the Date

### OC Master Gardeners Composting Workshops

Wednesday, May 24 or  
Wednesday, June 21  
3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

South Coast Research and Extension Center  
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

Learn about traditional composting and vermicomposting (using worms). Event will be held outside in the composting demonstration area. This workshop is **limited to 20 participants**.

**Sign-ups required:**  
[rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events)

### Suggested Weekly Sprinkler System Watering Schedule

Month	Turfgrass	Drought Tolerant Plants	% Option*
April	3 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	70%
May	3 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes	80%
June	3 days, 2 cycles of 5 minutes	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	100%

\*Some irrigation controllers have a feature by which the watering times can be set by changing the percentages instead of specifically entering the days, cycles and minutes.

To customize a watering schedule for systems other than sprinklers, visit [rightscaperesources.com/Watering-Guide](http://rightscaperesources.com/Watering-Guide).

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