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# pipelines

JANUARY 2018 | NUMBER 1



Irvine Ranch  
WATER DISTRICT

## Save the Date

### California Friendly Landscape Training (CFLT) Workshops

#### January Workshop:

Wednesday, Jan. 17  
6 – 9 p.m.

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,  
Irvine

Become a water-wise gardener. Learn six ways to make your garden California friendly:

- Using a holistic approach
- Building a living soil sponge
- Rethinking elements of your site
- Right plant, right place
- Using rainwater as a resource
- Managing irrigation

#### February Workshop:

Saturday, Feb. 24  
9 a.m. – Noon

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,  
Irvine

Become a water-wise gardener.

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

## 2018 Water Resolutions From Your IRWD Team



From left: Enrique Zanetti, Lauren Gautschi, Amy McNulty, Luis Genis, Nathan Lacy, Allan Pascual, Juan Garcia, Melody Seesangrit and Joey Baquerizo.

With the New Year here, make it your resolution to conserve water. Meet the Irvine Ranch Water District water efficiency team and check out some of their tips on saving water.

**Amy McNulty:** I take my car to a commercial car wash instead of washing it at home because water at commercial car washes is reused multiple times. I save water, my car looks great, and I have more time for exciting things, like designing a drought-tolerant landscape for my home.

**Allan Pascual:** I change the irrigation controller setting monthly based on

the IRWD-recommended schedule ([wateringguide.com](http://wateringguide.com)).

**Enrique Zanetti:** Check your toilets for leaks and think about upgrading to a water-efficient washing machine and dishwasher. (See [rightscapenow.com/rebates](http://rightscapenow.com/rebates) to save on a high-efficiency clothes washer.) Taking meter readings is a great way to calculate the exact amount of water you use day by day. You may be able to see a pattern—and take action on days of the week when your usage spikes. For a tutorial on meter reading, visit [irwd.com/services/meter-information](http://irwd.com/services/meter-information).

Continued on page 2, **Water Resolutions**

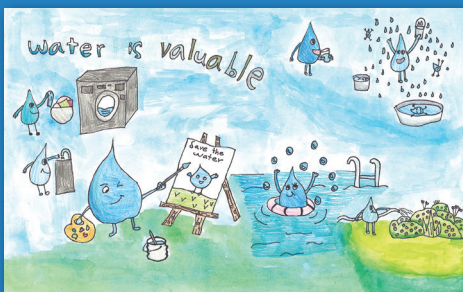
### Suggested Weekly Sprinkler System Watering Schedule

	Turfgrass	Drought-Tolerant Plants	% Option*
January	2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	30%
February	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	30%

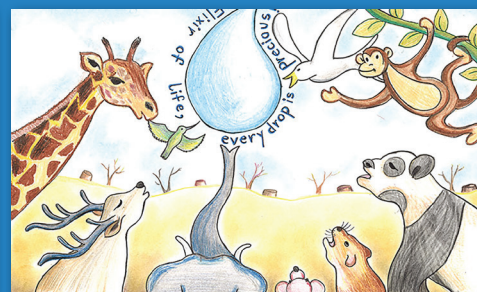
\*On some irrigation controllers, watering times can be set by changing the percentages instead of entering the days, cycles and minutes.

# Poster Contest Winners

Congratulations to IRWD's "Water is Life" poster contest winners! **Allison Kim**, a second grade student at Beacon Park Elementary School in Irvine, and **Runkini Das**, a fourth grade student at Portola Springs Elementary School in Irvine, were honored at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California art recognition event. Their entries will be part of the 2018 student art calendar.



"Water is Valuable" by Allison Kim



"Elixir of Life, Every Drop is Precious" by Runkini Das

## Water Resolutions

Continued from page 1

**Luis Genis:** I leave the faucet off while brushing my teeth and I only turn on the lights when necessary. Conserving electricity indirectly saves water.

**Nathan Lacy:** Use refillable water bottles and fill up at faucets, water fountains, and hydration stations. Breaking the bottled-water habit will help save the environment—because you don't cause water and energy to be wasted in the production of single-use plastic bottles.

**Lauren Gautschi:** I love participating in sports activities. To save water, I am sure to shower after playing sports! This prevents multiple showers and decreases the amount of laundry.

**Joey Baquerizo:** Set timers and reminders! Pick your favorite shower song (ideally not "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida") and finish your shower as the song comes to an end. Set calendar reminders with the computer in your pocket to remind you when you should be checking your irrigation timer settings.

**Juan Garcia:** Consider replacing your lawn with a low water use ground cover.

**Melody Seesangrit:** Check for broken sprinkler heads by routinely performing manual station runs. Watch IRWD's "How to Check for Sprinkler Leaks" video at [rightscapenow.com/how-do-i/how-do-i-fix-a-leak](http://rightscapenow.com/how-do-i/how-do-i-fix-a-leak).



**Q:** My New Year's resolution is to be more water conscious and more environmentally friendly when it comes to my landscape. What are your suggestions?

**A:** Thanks for your question. What a great idea! To be more water conscious, consider the use of more water-friendly plants such as California natives or succulents. Some of my favorite California native

plants are *Ceanothus spp.*, otherwise known as California lilacs. There are various species of these plants that will provide color at different times throughout the spring and summer, and use very minimal water once established. To be more environmentally friendly, consider putting in a habitat garden.

If you're interested in attracting birds, butterflies and other forms of life to your garden, many California native plants have co-evolved with our local fauna. The Orange County chapter of the California Native Plant Society has many great ideas on its website, [occnps.org](http://occnps.org). When selecting plants, make sure to reference [PlantRight.org](http://PlantRight.org). You can also check out IRWD's butterfly garden at the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Got a question? Email [askjuan@irwd.com](mailto:askjuan@irwd.com). See past answers at [rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan](http://rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan).

## Save the Date

### Turf Be Gone Workshop

Wednesday, Feb. 7  
6 – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD  
Multi-Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,  
Irvine

Learn the steps to remove your lawn and replace it with a water efficient garden.

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

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