

Phones Closed for the Holidays

IRWD will be closed Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Regular hours are 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Thursday at 949-453-5300. Visit IRWD.com/services.

pipelines

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Irvine Ranch
WATER DISTRICT

So Long, 2020! Let's Make a Splash in 2021

Is everybody ready for a new year? 2020 has been a challenging one for sure. But this holiday season, let's celebrate some good things that happened in your water world:

Home growin'. 2020 was the year IRWD water-efficiency workshops went virtual—allowing you to learn at home, during a lunch break from work, while taking a walk, or while feeding the baby. Visit RightScapeNow.com/events and click “Past Classes” to replay the 2020 webinars. Topics range from Control Your Controller to Ocean-Minded Landscaping. Response has been great, so we're not stopping in 2021. See “Save the Date” on the other side of this newsletter; choose an event, register, and tune in live.

Stars in our eyes. IRWD welcomed five businesses to the WaterStar family: Shady Canyon Golf Club, Masimo and Between the Rinks restaurant. WaterStars care about our environment and take advantage of an IRWD program to save water. Businesses can get involved at RightScapeNow.com/WaterStar.



Service that clicks. IRWD offices remain closed to the public to guard against COVID-19. But we've made it easy for you to conduct your water transactions by internet, email or phone. Click on our Coronavirus Resource Page, IRWD.com/services.



Weed all about it! As you sat home during quarantine, gazing at your yard and fantasizing about how gorgeous it could be, IRWD launched *The Dirt*. It's a quarterly digital newsletter designed to teach you how to plant a beautiful landscape and (coincidentally) save water and money. Dig past issues at RightScapeNow.com/the-dirt, and subscribe there to receive the winter issue.

Leak-stoppers. Customers participated in virtual water efficiency audits—another COVID-19-era innovation. Does your bill seem high? Afraid you have a leak? Visit RightScapeNow.com/contact and request a virtual audit. We'll coach you through the problem. You just need Wi-Fi and a smartphone, laptop or tablet.

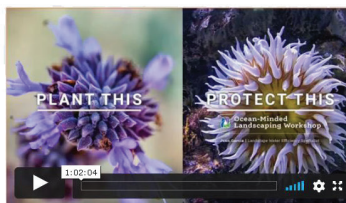


And last but not least... IRWD has a new distinction: Utility of the Future Today. The Water Environment Federation granted us this formal designation in October, in recognition of our water recycling program, which keeps our community green, beautiful and safe. We create drought-proof water from the water that goes down your drain, and use it for irrigation, toilet flushing and industry. Learn more at bit.ly/utilityofthefuture. Watch our video at bit.ly/irwd-rw-video.

Decompress. Our Pressure Regulating Spray Body Program was unveiled, offering you a 50% rebate on state-of-the-art, water-saving sprinkler parts. Apply at RightScapeNow.com/prs-program.



So now this utility of the future looks forward to serving you in the future—starting with 2021!



Library of IRWD water-efficiency webinars at RightScapeNow.com/events.

Easier Bill Pay on the Way!

Coming in early 2021, IRWD will begin using a new bill payment system with no customer fees, and flexible options such as pay by phone and pay by text. Watch for more details in your next *Pipelines* newsletter.



Make Your Grass Green with Envy

Replacing grass with water-efficient RightScaped plants gives you more color, more wow factor, more personality and more opportunity for savings on your water bill. Want even more? Incentives for turf removal are available up to \$10,000. Learn more at RightScapeNow.com.



Q: Hello! The crows are completely ruining my lawn by pulling up grass to get to bugs. Is there anything I can do?

A: It sounds like you might have beetle grubs. I recommend you look for an eco-safe product to spray on the lawn. Environmentally sound brands of pest-control products use essential oil blends to get rid of insects and other pests. These products are usually pet and people friendly. Consult with a garden store like Armstrong

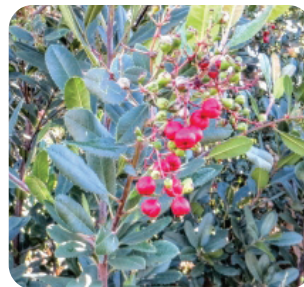
Garden Centers for assistance. Synthetic chemical products are available too, but please do some research and be careful before using them.

Also, certain plants help keep bugs and other pests away. For example: marigolds, chrysanthemums, and herbs such as lavender, chai and bay leaves. Rosemary is common to protect against a wide variety of bugs for vegetable plantings.

Got landscape questions? Email AskJuan@IRWD.com or ask on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with [#irwdcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/irwdcommunity). See past answers at RightScapeNow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan.

California Native Corner Juan's December Plant: Christmas Berry

Christmas berry (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), also known as toyon, produces numerous bright red pea size berries which birds go crazy for in the fall and winter. It has dark green leathery leaves that are sharply toothed. Because it resembles a holly bush with its toothed leaves and red berries, Hollywood was named for this native plant. It's the perfect landscape plant because it is easy to grow, can be trained as a small tree, does well in any soil type and requires little to no water once it's established. Learn more at CalScape.org and CalScape.org/planting-guide.php. — Juan



Save the Date

Be a GSI: Garden Scene Investigator

Online Webinar
**Wednesday, Jan. 13
Noon – 1 p.m.**

Use your powers of observation and trusted internet resources to solve garden problems, identify plants and deal with pests. Learn the steps Master Gardeners take when answering questions on their hotline.

Turf Be Gone

Online Webinar
**Wednesday, Feb. 10
Noon – 1 p.m.**



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

Sign-up required:
RightScapeNow.com/events

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