

**New rates  
took effect  
Feb. 1**

You'll see the new rates  
on this month's bill.  
Details at  
[IRWD.com/rates](http://IRWD.com/rates).



## Save the date

### Don't Spring a Leak

Online webinar

**Wednesday, March 16  
6 – 7:30 p.m.**

Learn to prevent water waste inside and out at this special workshop during Fix a Leak Week. We'll discuss how to examine your sprinkler components and find leaks from indoor fixtures.

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

### IRWD Community Tour

In-person event

**Saturday, April 9  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

IRWD's in-person Community Tour is back with live presentations and three miles of walking tours of the Michelson Water Recycling Plant and San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. Space is limited, so sign up today!

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

## The buzz about pollinators

Looking to lure more birds, bees and butterflies to your yard? Many native plant varieties can help.

And now, IRWD offers a new video series to get you started!

The Shed Show is a fun and informative series featuring key topics to inspire you to reinvent your landscape without wasting water.

Episode One kicks off this month with a



special focus on establishing your own pollinator garden, suggesting key plants, design techniques and planting tips to make it easy.

IRWD's very own Senior Water Efficiency Specialist Juan Garcia of "Ask Juan" fame hosts the series and interviews friends who can help you transform your garden into something you can be proud of.

Visit [IRWD.com/  
ShedShow](http://IRWD.com/ShedShow)  
to watch.

## IRWD honored for climate leadership

Irvine Ranch Water District has been distinguished with a gold-level status from The Climate Registry for demonstrating exceptional leadership in meeting rigorous voluntary greenhouse gas reporting criteria.

IRWD also received Water-Energy Leader Gold status for its participation in the organization's Water-Energy Nexus Registry, a consortium of agencies that communicate the importance of tracking and reducing carbon emissions connected to California's water systems.

"These are especially meaningful honors for IRWD, because they underscore so many of our values as a District," said General Manager Paul Cook. "This includes environmental stewardship, transparency, accountability,



and collaboration—all of which are essential to maximizing renewable resources and minimizing our impact on the environment."

The Climate Registry oversees North America's largest voluntary greenhouse gas registry, empowering organizations and public agencies to act on climate change by reducing their carbon emissions.

# Mulch Madness giveaway!



Go crazy with mulch this season—and get 50% off your purchase—thanks to IRWD’s Mulch Madness incentive program in partnership with Tierra Verde Industries at the Great Park in Irvine.

Starting March 1, IRWD is throwing a bounce pass to customers with this special discount to encourage everyone to mulch up their yards for greater water savings and healthier soil. Visit [IRWD.com/MulchMadness](http://IRWD.com/MulchMadness) for more details.



**Q:** Is IRWD tap water safe to drink?

**A:** Yes. IRWD water is clean, tasty and safe. Our Water Quality staff continuously monitor the supply to ensure your tap water is of a high quality and ready to drink.

More than a quarter of a million laboratory tests are routinely conducted each year from sample points throughout our service area to make sure our water meets the quality standards required by state and federal regulatory agencies.

For more information, or to view a copy of our annual Water Quality Report, visit [IRWD.com/services/water-report](http://IRWD.com/services/water-report).

Got a question? Email [info@IRWD.com](mailto:info@IRWD.com) with “Ask Customer Service” as the subject line.

## Fix a Leak and win

This month, in observance of the EPA WaterSense’s Fix a Leak Week, IRWD is rewarding customers who track down and repair leaks in their home.

Enter the Fix a Leak Sweepstakes starting March 3 and be entered to win one of seven \$100 Home Depot gift cards. Fill out an entry form and send us a photo of you checking your home for a leak. Learn more at [IRWD.com/fixaleak](http://IRWD.com/fixaleak).



**Q:** I am planning to add some plants to a small, bare area in my landscape that gets full sun. Do you have any suggestions?

**A:** What a great, clean canvas to start with! How about a pollinator garden? Create a habitat sanctuary by incorporating California native plants that flower at different times of the year. This will attract native birds, bees and insects—creating a healthy, biodiverse ecosystem.

Visit your local native plant nursery and speak to a professional on which plants are best for your landscape and region. You can also check out our pollinator demonstration garden at IRWD’s San Joaquin Marsh or watch our new Shed Show video at [IRWD.com/ShedShow](http://IRWD.com/ShedShow).

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

## California native corner

### Juan’s March plant: California milkweed

There are many varieties of California milkweed to use in our landscape, but it is best to use those that are adapted to our Southern California climate. *Asclepias californica* is native from Baja, California, to the foothills of the Sierras. It is a flowering perennial with woolly and white leaves and stems, boasting deep pink to magenta flowers that hang plentifully. Milkweeds are a host plant to many birds and insects, including monarch butterflies, whose caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed leaves. Learn more at [CalScape.org](http://CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](http://CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan

