

New rates effective Feb. 1

New water rates took effect Feb. 1. You'll see the change on your March bill. Details at IRWD.com/rates.

pipelines

FEBRUARY 2022



Irvine Ranch
Water District

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

Plants for the Planet

Online webinar

Wednesday, April 20
Noon – 1 p.m.

Select the right plants for your landscape. We'll discuss California natives, seasonal water needs, and horticultural care tips.

Sign-up required:
RightScape.com/events

Show your sewer some love

February is traditionally the month of love and romance. In honor of Valentine's Day this year, love your sewer by keeping drains and pipelines clear. Here's how:

- **Never put fats, oils or grease (FOG) down drains.** These substances cause troublesome clogs to pipes and sewer lines. Instead, place them into a heat-resistant container, and throw it into the trash.
- **Keep wipes out of pipes.** Disposable wipes, while handy, clog household pipes and sewer systems. A new law, taking effect in July, requires "do not flush" labeling on wipes to shed light on these problems.



To find out more about sewer care, please visit IRWD.com/services/sewer.

Customers save during sweepstakes



Drip-irrigation systems save up to 12 gallons a day. Visit RightScape.com for rebate information and more.

IRWD customers care about saving water. During the District's recent Drought Response 15% Savings Sweepstakes our customers showed us how they are saving water. People checked for leaks, fixed broken pipes, and installed water-efficient fixtures in their homes.

Grand prize winner Pamela C. focused her water-savings outdoors, where even a little effort can lead to big savings. "We love our yard and making sure it's water-wise!" she said.

Her winning sweepstakes entry for a \$500 gift card was a photo of her husband, Manny, checking on their irrigation system. "He does that several times a year to prevent any major issues and wasted water," Pamela said. "Thank you, IRWD, for a great way to help California reach its 15% reduction goal for water savings!"

Visit RightScape.com for tips and rebates to help you save water.

Smart rebates for rainy-day savings

Oops! Forgot to turn off your sprinklers in a drizzle—again? What if you had a timer that took care of that for you?

Weather-Based Irrigation Controllers detect when it's rainy, wet or windy, and automatically shut off or adjust run cycles according to the weather—saving you from overwatering your landscape to the tune of about 13,500 gallons of water a year.

Right now, you can get up to \$255 in rebates for installing a smart controller at your home. The rebate amount

usually covers the cost of the device.

And while you're at it, why not consider other opportunities to save water? IRWD offers a host of both outdoor and indoor rebates, including rotating spray nozzles (\$4 each), and drip irrigation (70¢ per square foot). We'll even pay you \$4 per square foot to cut turf from your landscape!

Visit RightScape.com for more on rebates, and for tips and information on everything from fixing leaks to planting a water-efficient landscape.

Rain barrel rebate!

Make the most of seasonal storms with a \$35 rain barrel rebate from IRWD! Go to

RightScape.com/rebates/residential-rebates#outdoor.



Send us your community calendar items

Are you planning an upcoming community event or activity? Consider submitting the item to the Irvine Ranch Water District's Community Calendar. Email details including event date, time, place and purpose to info@IRWD.com. Visit IRWD.com/community/community-calendar to learn more.

Ask Juan



Q: We have a lot of grass and are trying to find some alternative ground coverings. Can you recommend some low-growing, drought-tolerant coverage to replace turf?

A: Many ground covers come to mind, such as silver carpet (*Dymondia margaretae*) and lantana. Some are low-growing and some flower. If you are interested in something that can take foot traffic and is

water thrifty, kurapia is a good plant to consider. Take a look first-hand at the demonstration garden at IRWD Headquarters, 15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine.

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 RightScape.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan.

California native corner

Juan's February plant: blue-eyed grass

Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*) grows throughout California, particularly in open, grassy areas. The flowers are purplish-blue and occasionally white. The plant prefers some moisture and good drainage, but also tolerates summer dryness. Blue-eyed grass is easy to grow and can be planted to give a pop of color. Learn more at CalScape.org and CalScape.org/planting-guide.php. — Juan



Ask Customer Service

Q: How does water use affect my bill?

A: IRWD uses a budget based rate structure to calculate your monthly water bill.

Each customer is assigned a monthly water budget and your water use rates will depend upon whether you stay within the monthly budget.

If there has been a change in your household, or if you believe your water budget needs adjusting, apply for a variance at IRWD.com/variance.

Visit IRWD.com/services/residential-water-rates for more information. To view your water bill information and usage history, sign up for our WaterInsight Program at IRWD.WaterInsight.com.

Got a question? Email info@IRWD.com with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line.

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24-Hour customer service: 949-453-5300
Email: CustomerService@IRWD.com
Address: 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618
Website: IRWD.com

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