



The newsletter of IRWD

March 2014 | Number 3

## Be on the Lookout for Leaks, Win Big

1st Prize: **\$500**  
2nd Prize: **\$300** • 3rd Prize: **\$100**

In honor of Fix a Leak Week, March 17–23, IRWD will be hosting a contest for residents who become **Leak Detectives** and check their sprinklers and outdoor landscape for leaks.



Twenty percent of a household's total water use is **wasted** on overwatering, and sprinkler overspray is a major culprit (as shown in photo).

### Rules

Throughout March:

- Submit a photo\* to [calscape@irwd.com](mailto:calscape@irwd.com) featuring you checking your sprinklers for leaks. If you find a leak, fix it.
- We'll mail you an IRWD CALscape Kit.\*\*
- All photo participants will also be entered into a drawing to win a gift card to one of our WaterSense partners: The Home Depot or Lowe's. First prize is \$500, second prize at \$300 and third prize at \$100.



Examples of photos to submit.



Now through March 30, IRWD customers can also pick up a free sprinkler key\*\* at IRWD offices (15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine) to help reduce overspray from sprinklers.



**CALscape Kit, complete with water-efficient hose nozzle, rain gauge, garden hose repair kit, and moisture meter.**

For more information and resources on how to be a Leak Detective, visit [www.irwd.com/fixaleak](http://www.irwd.com/fixaleak).

Questions? Email [calscape@irwd.com](mailto:calscape@irwd.com) or call (949) 453-5322.

Fix a Leak Week is a partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program.

\*You must possess all the rights to the picture. Photos become the sole property of IRWD. Entries will be accepted until April 7.

\*\*While supplies last. Please allow 6–8 weeks for delivery of CALscape Kit.

You're Invited!

## Sign Up for Your Water Awareness Tour

Irvine Ranch Water District announces the return of the popular Water Awareness Tours. These free tours are offered to those who live or work within the Irvine Ranch Water District boundaries.

Spring tours are scheduled for:

- **Friday, May 30**
- **Saturday, May 31**
- **Saturday, June 7**

Fall tours will be held Friday, September 12 and Saturday, September 13.

Tours begin promptly at 9 a.m. and conclude approximately at 1 p.m.

Visitors will tour our newly expanded Michelson Water Recycling Plant, as well as the San Joaquin Reservoir and San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.



This is an excellent opportunity to gain valuable information about the water system, wastewater treatment, recycled water use and conservation tips.

The tours fill up quickly and are first-come, first-served based on the date we receive your reservation. We are unable to accommodate children less than 16 years of age.

Customers may register online at [www.irwd.com/learning/tours](http://www.irwd.com/learning/tours). Questions: 949-453-5500.

# IRWD Asks Customers to Voluntarily Reduce Water Use by 20 Percent

In response to statewide drought declaration by Governor Jerry Brown, the Irvine Ranch Water District Board of Directors has adopted a resolution asking all IRWD customers to voluntarily reduce their water use by 20%. This voluntary conservation effort will help reduce demand on current statewide water supplies and extend water reserves if the drought continues for an extended period.

“It is important for all Californians to reduce their water use,” said Steve LaMar, President of the IRWD Board of Directors. “While the Southern California region has made substantial infrastructure investments, it is still important that we all do our part to save water. Together we can make a difference.”

For more than 20 years, IRWD has made water use efficiency a top priority through the implementation of water efficient practices and programs and the development of alternative water supply resources such as recycled water. The District offers financial incentives to customers to encourage the installation of high efficiency clothes washers and toilets, and turf replacement and continues to engage customers in innovative and creative ways to conserve water through customer communication programs.

IRWD has also made investments which have reduced its reliance on imported water from 62% in 1990 to 22% in 2013, expanded the use of recycled water, increased storage, and invested in water conservation. These investments have not only reduced long-term costs to IRWD’s rate-payers, but have also provided increased water supply reliability for IRWD customers.

While the average daily water use for an IRWD residential customer has fallen from 170 gallons per day in 1991 to approximately 86 gallons per day in 2014, there are still a few things customers can do to save water:

How Much Can You Save?	Estimated Water Savings
Water only when necessary	1,100 gallons per irrigation cycle
Water before 8 a.m.	25 gallons per day
Check for sprinkler leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads	500 gallons per month
Use a water saving hose nozzle	Up to 7,500 gallons per year
Use a broom—not a hose—to clean driveways and sidewalks	Up to 150 gallons each time
Install a smart sprinkler irrigation controller (REBATE AVAILABLE)	Up to 40 gallons per irrigation cycle
Place organic mulch in your garden	Hundreds of gallons per year
Replace thirsty plants with California Friendly plants (REBATE AVAILABLE)	Hundreds of gallons per year

Visit [www.irwd.com/drought2014](http://www.irwd.com/drought2014) to submit your checklist on how you plan to reduce water use by 20% and to learn more about how to save water.

## Customer Service Information

IRWD Website Link & Social Media Channels »

### 24 Hour Customer Access

(949) 453-5300

email: [customerservice@irwd.com](mailto:customerservice@irwd.com)

### Irvine Ranch Water District

15600 Sand Canyon Avenue  
Irvine, California 92618

Visit us: [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com)



Join our fan page:  
Irvine Ranch Water District



@IRWDnews



View our YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD](http://www.youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD)



The mission of Irvine Ranch Water District, a public agency, is to provide reliable, high quality water and sewer service in an efficient, cost effective manner and environmentally sensitive way that provides a high level of customer satisfaction.

### IRWD Board of Directors

Steven E. LaMar, President  
Peer A. Swan, Vice President  
Mary Aileen Matheis  
Douglas J. Reinhart  
John B. Withers

### General Manager

Paul Cook, PE

### IRWD Pipelines Newsletter

Published by Irvine Ranch Water District  
P.O. Box 57000  
Irvine, California 92619-7000

Comments about this publication?

E-mail: [info@irwd.com](mailto:info@irwd.com)