

pipelines



IRWD Celebrates 50 Years of Value

IRWD is 50 years old and we have a lot to celebrate! Our long history of creative leadership and hallmark programs have ushered in a legacy of extraordinary value for our customers, including low, stable rates, a diverse and highly reliable water supply and excellent customer service. Please join us throughout 2011 as we travel back through time and commemorate the people and unique programs that make IRWD what it is today. For more information about this golden anniversary, upcoming events and much more, please visit www.irwd.com.

IRWD San Joaquin Marsh Receives Commendation

The International Making Cities Livable Council presented Irvine Ranch Water District with a Green Places Commendation for the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. The commendation recognizes IRWD for "the low key campus in an extensive wetlands restoration, offering quiet exploration of nature and a rich educational program for children and adults teaching environmental responsibility."

The purpose of the Making Cities Livable movement is to enhance the well-being of inhabitants of cities and towns, strengthen community, improve social and physical health, and increase civic engagement by reshaping the built environment of cities, suburbs and towns. According to the International Making Cities Livable organization, the measure of the city's livability is how good it is for children and youth. *Continued on page 2...*



IRWD's San Joaquin Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary campus features the new IRWD Learning Center, at left, which was designed to compliment the adjacent refurbished historic farm houses, the Sea & Sage House, center, and IRWD's Visitor Center, right.

2011 Water Awareness Tours Scheduled

Curious about where your drinking water comes from? Wonder what happens to wastewater? Interested in knowing more about the District?

You can find these answers and more during one of our FREE resident tours. Learn about the journey of your drinking water, watershed stewardship, the process of wastewater recycling and water conservation. Tours include a chance to meet other residents, a presentation on current issues facing the District, and a question and answer period.

Tours dates are: Fridays, **April 1** and **April 29**; Saturdays, **April 9**, **May 7** and **May 21**. Tours begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at approximately 1:30 p.m.

These tours are open to those who live or work within IRWD's service area. They feature a bus trip to IRWD facilities and a walking tour of the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. Continental breakfast and lunch are served. The tours fill up rapidly and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. We are unable to accommodate children under 16 years of age.

Registration is available at www.irwd.com. Click on "Community Program" and "Tours," then "Always Water Smart Resident Tours," or call (949) 453-5500.



24-Hour Service (949) 453-5300

If you discover a disruption in your water service or other problem call the IRWD 24-hour emergency line and a representative will assist you.

24-Hour Online or Mobile Access

Visit our website: www.irwd.com

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IRWD is now on Facebook.com
Join our fan page:
Irvine Ranch Water District

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IRWD's YouTube channel is:
IrvineRanchWD



IRWD Conservation Manager Fiona Sanchez Wins Statewide Award of Excellence

Described as being one of “the most respected and hardest working people in the California water conservation field,” IRWD Conservation Manager, Fiona Sanchez has received the 2010 Excellence Award from the California Urban Water Conservation Council.



Sanchez has spent more than 15 years in the water use efficiency field at the local, regional, state and national levels. Since beginning her duties at IRWD in 2003, Sanchez has spearheaded countless programs to help IRWD customers be Always Water Smart. Her efforts have also led to the implementation of many innovative water efficiency and conservation programs for all Californians.

On the state level, Sanchez helped craft the water conservation and efficiency provisions of the historic Delta/Water legislative package signed into law in 2009. This effort provides a road map that is designed to help California meet its long-term water supply needs while encouraging improved water use efficiency throughout the state.

After years spent managing the IRWD allocation-based conservation rate structure, which provides IRWD customers with some of the lowest rates and lowest per capita water use in Orange County, Sanchez often lends her expertise to other agencies and cities who are interested in similar programs. Additionally, she has led and participated in a myriad of local and statewide water conservation and use efficiency studies, pilot programs and educational efforts, all of which help IRWD provide innovative water use efficiency programs to our customers.

The California Urban Water Conservation Council was created to increase efficient water use statewide through partnerships among urban water agencies, public interest organizations, and private entities. The CUWCC Excellence Award honors individuals who have made exceptional and inspirational contributions to the promotion and implementation of water use efficiency in California.

Always Water Smart New Year's Resolutions

Keeping these water-saving resolutions will help reduce your monthly water bills year-round:

- Fix leaky toilets--save 30 to 50 gallons per toilet per day
- Fix leaky faucets--save 15 to 20 gallons per leak per day
- Shorten showers--save up to 2.5 gallons per minute per shower
- Wash only full loads of clothes--save 15 to 20 gallons per load
- Fill bathtub half full when bathing--save 15 to 20 gallons per bath
- Run dishwasher only when full--save 2 to 4.5 gallons per load
- Turn off water when brushing teeth--save 2 gallons per minute



Irvine Ranch Water District

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.

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Marsh Receives Commendation ...Continued from page 1

IRWD's San Joaquin Marsh is a hidden gem in an urban environment. It encompasses more than 300 acres of coastal wetlands, half of which have been restored to a natural state. Nearly two-thirds the size of New York City's Central Park, the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary has become one of Southern California's most notable nature respites. It is also home to a wide variety of environmental partnerships and educational opportunities, serving as a living laboratory for students, teachers and the public.

Cut along dashed line and post this schedule near your irrigation controller.

Suggested Weekly Winter Irrigation Schedule			
Month	Turfgrass	Trees, Shrubs & Ground Cover	% Option***
January & February*	2 days, 2 cycles** of 2 minutes each	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	30%
March****	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	50%

The above chart suggests a weekly schedule for spray-head irrigation, assuming heavy clay soils common to most local coastal and foothill areas. Generally, these are the MAXIMUM times you will need for full sun areas. Your landscape's particular watering times may vary. Start with this schedule and increase the times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated areas, check your irrigation system before increasing the watering time.

*In January and February turn sprinklers off before it rains. After it rains, let soil dry out for a few days before turning sprinklers on again.

**By "cycling" the irrigation controller to turn on for the recommended number of minutes an hour apart, deeper watering and healthier root growth are gained, while runoff is reduced.

***The % option, either a button or a dial, permits the watering run times for all electric valves managed by a controller to be increased or decreased with just one adjustment by percentage.

****March through April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately.