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# pipelines

APRIL 2018 | NUMBER 4



Irvine Ranch  
WATER DISTRICT

## Save the Date

### Garden Design Series: From Concept to Finish

#### Garden Design Basics

Saturday, May 5  
9 a.m. – noon

#### Efficient Irrigation

Saturday, May 12  
9 a.m. – noon

#### Putting It All Together

Saturday, May 19  
9 a.m. – noon

UC ANR South Coast  
Research and  
Extension Center  
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

This three-part workshop series—presented by IRWD and the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources—is open to the public. Each class builds on the preceding one to provide a deeper understanding of sustainable garden design.

The series is limited to 24 participants per class. Participants must attend all three workshops.

#### Register and get class

#### fee info at:

[rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events)

## Old Meds? Don't Flush Them

Your toilet is not the place to dump unmentionables. Many products are unsuitable for flushing, including sanitary products, wipes and medications.

Each year, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration hosts National Prescription Drug Take Back Day to prevent drugs, particularly opioids, from getting into the wrong hands. In 2017, the event collected a record 456 tons of pills.

In observance of this year's Take Back Day on April 28, IRWD reminds you not to flush medications. Take them to a collection receptacle at a police agency or participating drug store, such as Walgreens at 13052 Newport Avenue in Tustin. To find a year-round collection center near you, visit [takebackday.dea.gov](http://takebackday.dea.gov) or call 800-882-9539.



Drugs can harm wildlife and pollute the ecosystem. So please dispose of pharmaceuticals properly.



## Pledge to Conserve — For Hometown Pride and Prizes

Will you pledge to conserve water this month? If so, you and your city could both be winners.

Before the end of April, just click on [mywaterpledge.com](http://mywaterpledge.com) and make a series of online pledges as part of the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation. Cities with the most pledges in each of five population categories will win. And participants from winning cities will be entered to receive hundreds of environmentally friendly prizes, such as \$5,000 for home utilities, water-saving fixtures and home improvement gift cards.

Irvine is in it to win it. "I am hopeful that what is a short-term challenge for our residents becomes a long-term practice of conservation," Mayor Donald P. Wagner said. For more information, see [cityofirvine.org](http://cityofirvine.org).

# Sea & Sage Summer Camp Enrollment

Registration is open for Sea & Sage Audubon Society's nature day camps. The organization offers a variety of camps at IRWD's beautiful San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary: Fledgling Camp for children ages 7 and 8; Marsh Birds Camp for ages 9 to 12; plus Advanced Bird Camp and Birds, Bugs, Blossoms for 11 and older.



Painting birds craft project completed by a group of students between the ages of 9 and 12.

Each camp features daily nature walks, journaling, research and art projects. Information and enrollment forms are available at [seaandsageaudubon.org](http://seaandsageaudubon.org). Register today, because camps fill up quickly.

## Recycled Water Filling Station Reopens

IRWD's Residential Recycled Water Filling Station has reopened for the season. IRWD customers can get free recycled water for gardens and plants. The station is open for limited hours seven days a week. Bring your own container. For details and hours of operation, see [irwd.com/services/fill-station](http://irwd.com/services/fill-station) or call 949-453-5500.

## Ask Juan



**Q:** What's your favorite California native drought-tolerant plant?

**A:** There is a vast selection of California native plants that are water efficient and perfect for the landscape. If I had to choose, I absolutely love our *Ceanothus*

*spp.* or California Lilacs. They are evergreen, very drought tolerant and provide a burst of colorful flowers that range from white and light pink to blue and deep purple. Be careful not to overwater these plants, especially in the summer. One or two deep waterings per month in the summer is all you need once established. Try to plant the species that is native to your area for best results. If you live in Irvine, that would be Woollyleaf Ceanothus (*Ceanothus tomentosus*).



*Ceanothus spp.*, California Lilac

For more information, visit the California Native Plants Society website at [cnps.org](http://cnps.org). Or join us for the May 16 Soil, Water and Plant Relationships class. Happy planting!

Got a question for IRWD landscape expert Juan Garcia? 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 [rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan](http://rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan).

## Save the Date

### Creating an Edible Garden

Wednesday, April 25  
6 – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD  
Multi-Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine

Useful tips on growing your own fruits and vegetables.

### Soil, Water and Plant Relationships Workshop

Wednesday, May 16  
6 – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD  
Multi-Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine

Learn about building up your soil, composting, plant development and proper watering.

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

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