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Irvine Ranch
WATER DISTRICT

Save the Date

California Friendly Landscape Training

Saturday, Feb. 24
9 a.m. – Noon

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,
Irvine

Learn the steps to remove
your lawn and replace it with
a water-efficient garden.

Spring into Gardening

Wednesday, March 7
6 – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,
Irvine

Learn how to create and
maintain a beautiful, drought-
tolerant garden.

Sign-up required:
rightscapenow.com/events

Kids' Poster Exhibit

Feb. 13, 14, 15, 16 and 20
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. drop in hours

IRWD Lobby
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.,
Irvine

See the winning entries from
the 2017 Water is Life Poster
Contest.

Fix a Leak and Win Gift Cards

In honor of Fix a Leak Week, March 19–25, IRWD is hosting a contest where customers can win a \$500 Home Depot gift card—just for checking for water leaks! Complete our online customer training, take a short quiz and submit your proactive Fix a Leak photo for a chance to win a \$500 Home Depot gift card. Our training and quiz take about 10–15 minutes, and provide a great video overview of how to identify and fix leaks around your home. After completion, submit one or more photos of yourself checking for leaks around your home. The online customer training and quiz can be found at rightscapenow.com/training-center.

Completing these three simple tasks will automatically enter you into the random drawing where one winner will be selected for a \$500 Home Depot gift card. If you choose to only complete the training, you will be entered into a separate drawing for a chance to win a \$200 Home Depot gift card; submit only a photo and be entered for a chance to win a \$100 Home Depot gift card.

Photos can be submitted to the Irvine Ranch Water District Facebook, Instagram, Twitter page or irwd.com/2018fixaleak. For social media, search for Irvine Ranch Water District, follow us and comment on our Fix a Leak graphic with your photo or use #irwdfixaleak when you post your photo. The contest begins Feb. 1 and ends March 25, and winners will be notified by March 31. The contest is open to IRWD customers only and photos become property of IRWD. Find out more details about the contest at irwd.com/2018fixaleak.

Leak Detective's Checklist



Indoors, check for common bathroom leaks such as continually running toilets or dripping showerheads—and fix them.



Outdoors, check for broken sprinklers or overspray. Fix or adjust the sprinkler heads if you find problems.



Check your landscape sprinkler controller. Keep it off during periods of rain, and adjust for the season. (See wateringguide.com for tips.)

Ready, Set, Quake



California is earthquake country and you always want to be ready. IRWD suggests you enroll in the CodeRED® Emergency Alert System to receive updated information in any emergency. Just log on to irwd.com and click "Emergency & CodeRED" in the "Customer Care" bar on the left side of the home page.

Be aware that the first 72 hours after a quake are critical. So be prepared to be self-sufficient at least that long. Stored water is the most important survival supply. The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends that you store one gallon per person per day—up to two weeks' worth if possible.

UCI Achieves Star-Quality Efficiency

Please join us in congratulating the University of California, Irvine, for earning IRWD's WaterStar Certification. UCI achieved this recognition by implementing a wide array of water-reduction projects, resulting in more than 78 million gallons saved annually. UCI's water savings include:

- High-efficiency toilets, showerheads and faucets in dorm rooms – 45 million gallons a year
- Restroom fixture upgrades in academic buildings – 25 million gallons a year
- Replacement of once-through cooling systems – 5 million gallons a year
- Turf replacement and irrigation upgrades – 3.5 million gallons a year

Also, areas irrigated with drinking water have undergone turf conversions and irrigation upgrades. To date, over 159,000 square feet of turf has been removed across campus and replaced with water-efficient and drought-tolerant plants.



IRWD Senior Water Efficiency Specialist **Allan Pascual**, UCI Interim Associate Vice Chancellor **Brice Ken Kikuchi**, IRWD Recycled Water Manager **Mark Tetterer**, UCI Associate Chancellor **Wendell C. Brase** and IRWD Water Efficiency Manager **Amy McNulty** at WaterStar Certification on January 24.

Spring 2018 Resident Tours

Curious about where your drinking water comes from and what happens to it after it disappears down the drain? Want to know more about your water district? Get answers to these questions and more during one of our free resident tours.

Learn about the journey your drinking water takes, the water recycling process, water conservation and environmental stewardship. Tours include the opportunity to meet other residents while

enjoying walking tours of the Michelson Water Recycling Plant and the San Joaquin Marsh and taking a quick bus tour to the San Joaquin Reservoir. The day is capped with lunch and a discussion about water conservation.

Dates for spring tours are **Saturday, April 21**; **Friday, April 27**; and **Saturday, April 28**. Participants must be 16 years of age or older. Sign up by visiting irwd.com/learning/request-a-resident-tour.



Q: I like my grass. Is there a more water-friendly grass out there that you recommend?

A: Consider the cycles of drought that California goes through. We might have one, two or three good years of rainfall—but right around the corner could be another drought. Still, you can have landscape that is vibrant, green, flowering and water-efficient. Drought-tolerant

landscape does not mean cactus and rock, unless you like that sort of thing. Our Mediterranean climate allows us to plant everything from California natives to non-native water-friendly plants throughout the year. If you want a lawn, consider low-water-use grass types instead of your typical, cool-season tall fescue, which is a high-water-use grass. Warm-season grass options include buffalo grass or hybrid Bermuda. To learn more, attend IRWD's Spring into Gardening workshop on March 7.

Got a question? Email askjuan@irwd.com or ask on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with [#irwdcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/irwdcommunity). See past answers at rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan.

Save the Date

Practical Composting for Small Spaces Workshop

Saturday, March 17
9 a.m. – Noon

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

This workshop will review composting and vermiculture basics along with hands-on activities demonstrating practical applications to fit local landscapes in a working compost environment. Participants will learn how to make and take home a worm bin ready to be placed in any garden.

Space is limited.

Registration and payment are required:

ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?survey_number=22759

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