



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Fix a Leak Week and Irvine Ranch Water District Take Aim at Common Household Waste

Household leaks account for, on average, 11,000 gallons of water wasted in the home every year, which is enough to fill a backyard swimming pool. To remind customers to fix leaks promptly, Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) is observing March 16 to 20, 2009 as the first annual Fix a Leak Week.

Fixing leaks is a great way to conserve water and to save money. Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day. Common household water waste comes from leaking toilet flappers, dripping showerheads, dripping faucets and other leaking valves. Fixing these easily correctable types of leaks can save homeowners more than 10 percent on their water bill.

The District also offers, year round, the following free devices to help alleviate or prevent indoor leaks: low-flow bathroom faucet aerators (limit four per household), low-flow kitchen faucet aerators (limit one per household) and low-flow showerheads (limit three per household). IRWD residents can pick up these devices at the District's 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue headquarters in Irvine.

"Finding and fixing leaks are critical," said IRWD Conservation Manager, Fiona Sanchez. "Not only does it help our customers save money, but more importantly, it helps conserve water.

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IRWD is proud to support WaterSense Fix a Leak Week.”

IRWD customers who suspect they have leaks are encouraged to call Customer Service at 949-453-5300 for tips on locating and fixing leaks. Customers with excessive unaccounted for water usage can also request on-site help provided by IRWD’s conservation staff.

Observed nationally, Fix a Leak Week is the creation of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency’s WaterSense® program. The mission of WaterSense, a voluntary public-private partnership, is to protect the future of our water supply by promoting and enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services. Currently, there are more than 250 WaterSense-labeled toilets, 700 labeled faucets and faucet accessories, and more than 600 certified irrigation partners. WaterSense-labeled products must achieve independent, third-party testing and certification to prove they meet the EPA’s rigorous criteria for efficiency and performance. Look for the WaterSense logo (shown below) when purchasing plumbing fixtures and irrigation timers.

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IRWD serves a population of 330,000 in Irvine, Tustin Ranch, Portola Hills, Foothill Ranch, Santa Ana Heights, Orange Park Acres and portions of Lake Forest, Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, Orange and unincorporated Orange County.



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