

Irvine Ranch Water District Pipelines

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Members of IRWD's Water Quality and Engineering departments participated in the Irvine Unified School District's Ask-A-Scientist Night in October. From top left to right; Alex Murphy, Jim Hyde and Mike Hoolihan assist students with their science project ideas. Next spring, IRWD will judge the water-related science fair entries and provide awards to the best projects.



Dialysis Patients, Fish Owners and Others with Special Needs Should Notify the Water District

Dialysis patients, fish owners and businesses whose production processes involve water need to be aware of the routine disinfection used by Irvine Ranch Water District and how that disinfection may change from time to time.

IRWD normally uses chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, to make the water safe to drink. Chloramines are preferable because they are a more stable and long-lasting disinfectant, produce fewer byproducts and they don't cause taste and odor problems like chlorine alone. From time to time, however, water districts must temporarily switch to chlorine alone for system maintenance. IRWD maintains a database of those with special needs to notify them when a change in water disinfection is planned.

Dialysis patients need to remove chloramines from the water because it comes into direct contact with the bloodstream during treatment. Dialysis treatment centers use special filtration systems to remove disinfectants from the water. If you undergo home dialysis treatment you also need to take such steps. You should talk to your health care provider for specific information about the types of recommended water treatment to make it suitable for dialysis. Both IRWD and the Metropolitan Water District maintain a chloramine target level of 2.5 milligrams per liter.

Likewise, fish owners need to take steps to remove chloramines from the water because fish take in water through their gill systems, bringing it into direct contact with the blood. Some businesses whose production involves water must also make adjustments when disinfection changes.

If you fit into one of these categories and would like to be added to the notification list, please contact IRWD at (949) 453-5321 or smithm@irwd. Provide your name, service address, phone and e-mail.

The drain is not a dump!
Help keep fats, oils and grease
out of the sewers



Put fats, oils and grease
where they belong.



Got a clog? Call IRWD before you or a plumber clear it

As the ad above points out, fats, oils and grease don't belong in the sewer. Another common problem in sewer lines occurs when tree roots obstruct the flow.

While IRWD maintains the community-wide sewer system, the sewer pipes within your own home and on your property out to the sewer main in the street are the responsibility of the property owner. If you find that your home's sewer pipes become clogged with grease or roots, it will require either do-it-yourself maintenance or assistance from a plumber to clear the blockage.

Before attempting to unblock clogged sewer lines, however, IRWD asks that property owners call us at (949) 453-5300 so that we can be aware of the location where this work is taking place. Often times, grease or a root ball is cleared from a home's pipe system, only to move out into the street and cause a clog in IRWD's sewer system. Such a clog can result in a sewage spill from a manhole.

So help IRWD protect the environment by notifying us before you clear a clogged sewer line.



Know Your H₂O

Irvine Ranch Water District has had a water education program in place for over 30 years. FREE programs are available to scouting or other community youth organizations as well as to any public, private or home school within the IRWD service area:

- Classroom water education programs for grades K-12.
- Field trips to the Michelson Water Reclamation Plant (grade 5 and above) or the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary (grade 3 and above).
- Two-week free loan of a variety of water education videos.

For further information call (949) 453-5321.

Heiertz Name President of Engineering Society

Greg Heiertz, director of Engineering and Planning at Irvine Ranch Water District, was recently elected president of the Orange County chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

The Orange County branch is one of the largest branches nationally and the most active, with a membership of 1,800.

"I'm very pleased and honored," he said. "It's a very prominent professional organization that does quite a bit of good work."



The organization *Greg Heiertz* promotes the civil engineering profession through educational outreach in the high schools and middle schools; works to improve visibility of engineering programs in the community and is active in monitoring and commenting on legislation that affects the industry.

Heiertz has been involved in ASCE for 27 years. He was asked to join the board three years ago.

Water Conservation Tips

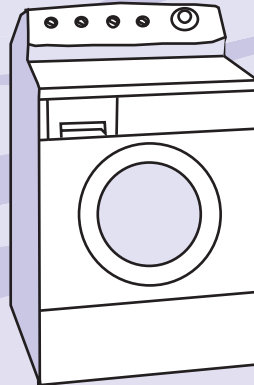


- Too much water can stress plants and leave them susceptible to disease. According to the California Association of Nurserymen, more plants are lost due to over-watering than to any other cause. If you think you need to water, check the moisture of the soil 3-6" below the surface. With our heavy clay soils, the surface may look dry, but the clay remains moist beneath the surface.
- Avoid fertilizing your lawn this month. Fertilizers applied during this time of year are more likely to get washed away by rain, contributing to pollution in the waterways. Cool seasons lawns can be fertilized in the spring and fall; warm season lawns can be fertilized in late spring and summer.
- Cut back roses.
- Bare root season for fruit trees and roses. Water to keep the plants moist, but not wet. Water deeply, not frequently. Build a mound 3-4" high around the planting hole and hand water the new plants directly in the early morning.

Take advantage of this limited-time offer now !!!

\$100 REBATE

...on select water-efficient washing machines.



For a list of qualifying washers or a rebate application, visit www.mwdoc.com/efficiency.html or call 1-800-954-4344.

How water-efficient washing machines save you money over time:

1. Qualified washers use 35 to 50 percent less water and 50 percent less energy per load.
2. By using only 18 to 25 gallons of water per load, you can save 6,000 or more gallons of water per year.
3. The washer design causes less wear and tear and fewer wrinkles on your clothing.
4. Better water extraction means less dry time and more energy savings.

This program is sponsored by these agencies and your local water agency:



Check with your local energy providers for additional rebates on high-efficiency washing machines.

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule for the Months of December and January

WEEKLY WATERING SCHEDULE FOR SPRAY HEAD IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

	Turf grass	Trees, shrubs, groundcover	Percent Option
December &			
January	2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	30%**

Turn water off when it rains and let soil dry before turning water on again.

*By "cycling" your irrigation timer to turn on for the suggested number of minutes an hour apart, you reduce runoff and gain deeper watering and healthier root growth. Start with this weekly 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 time.

**Some irrigation controllers have a feature by which the watering time can be set by changing the percentage instead of specifically entering the days, cycles and minutes.

If you don't have the instructions for your controller, check the manufacturer's website. Many controller manufacturers provide online access to the owner's manual.

Three Directors Re-elected

Directors Mary Aileen Matheis, Darryl G. Miller and John B. Withers have each won re-election to four-year terms on the Irvine Ranch Water District Board of Directors in the Nov. 2 general election.

Matheis has been on the board since 1988. She served as Board President in 2001. She is an attorney specializing in real estate law and estate planning. Matheis is IRWD's representative to the Southern California Water Committee, is a founding board member of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and president of Shadetree Partnership.

Miller has been a member of the board since 1984. He held the office of President of the Board from 1995 to 2000. He is a hydrologist with more than 25 years experience.

Withers has served on the IRWD board since 1989. He became the board's president in 2004. Withers is an associate with California Strategies. He has served on the Local Agency Formation Commission since 1995 and also serves as the chairman of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Community Calendar

Irvine Ranch Water District offices will be closed on the following holidays:

- Friday, December 24, 2004 - Christmas holiday
- Friday, December 31, 2004 - New Year's Eve holiday
- Monday, January 3, 2005 - New Year's Day holiday

FAMILIES FORWARD

The number of homeless and near-homeless families continues to increase in Orange County. Families Forward exists to help families in need achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through housing, counseling, education and other support services. Community members can support these programs and services with the donation of gift cards from local businesses to provide haircuts, groceries, clothing and gasoline for our client families. Gift cards and vouchers may be sent to Families Forward, 9221 Irvine Blvd., Irvine 92618; or dropped off at the same address Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call (949) 552-2727 if you have questions. Information about Families Forward may be obtained at www.families-forward.org.

*As a service to residents we feature a calendar of community events in "Pipelines." Events or activities of community-wide interest can be included in the calendar on a space available basis. We reserve the right to print those items of most interest to the public. If your group has an event you would like to include, please submit written information **at least two months** prior to your event. Please include date, time, place, contact person's name and telephone number. Mail your request to: Public Affairs Department, IRWD, P.O. Box 57000, Irvine, CA 92619-7000, fax your request to (949) 453-0527, or e-mail your request to velazque@irwd.com.*

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

John B. Withers, President
Mary Aileen Matheis, V.P.
Darryl G. Miller
Douglas J. Reinhart
Peer A. Swan

General Manager

Paul D. Jones II

Pipelines

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For comments, suggestions or questions, call (949) 453-5500.

24 Hour Service (949) 453-5300

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

Visit the IRWD Web site:

www.irwd.com

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