

Irvine Ranch Water District Pipelines

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Harvard Avenue Trunk Sewer Pipeline Project



IRWD is expanding the existing Harvard Avenue Trunk Sewer pipeline located near Harvard and Main in Irvine. By extending the service line, IRWD will collect and transfer the wastewater to nearby Michelson Water Reclamation Plant for treatment and recycled water production.



IRWD is constructing a junction structure as a part of the Harvard Avenue Trunk Sewer project. Recycled water is used for landscape irrigation on golf courses, parks, school, grounds, green belts and street medians. Construction is on schedule for completion this summer.

Celebrate Water in May

Last year was the driest year in recorded history in Southern California. While we have had a few significant days of rain this year, it's still not enough to declare the drought over. In fact, our area is basically a desert, so it's imperative that we keep an eye on how much water we use and how we use it.

In California, May is Water Awareness Month. It's important for residents to know where their water comes from and that it needs to be used wisely in both wet years and dry.

Approximately 65 percent of Irvine Ranch Water District's (IRWD) water supply comes from local groundwater wells. These wells range in depth from 400 to 2,000 feet and extract high quality water from the Orange County Groundwater Basin. This basin is a resource shared by all of the cities and water districts in north and central Orange County.

Because Lake Forest is outside the groundwater basin boundaries, only about five percent of that area's overall water supply comes from underground through three wells within the city of Lake Forest.

Approximately 35 percent of IRWD's drinking water is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This imported water comes from the Colorado River and Northern California. Colorado River water must travel 250 miles to reach Orange County, while water from Northern California must travel more than 400 miles.

continued on page two...



Changes Coming July 1 to High Efficiency Clothes Washers (HECW) Rebate Eligibility List

Effective July 1, 2008, HECWs purchased on or after July 1, 2008 must have a water factor of 5.0 or less to be eligible for a \$275 or \$300 rebate. To view the list of eligible washers, please visit irwd.com.

IRWD in the Community



IRWD sponsored a booth at the Children's Drinking Water Festival. Students from all over Orange County learned about groundwater by building edible aquifers of ice cream, sodas and sprinkles.



IRWD participated in an Earth Day event which took place at the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center on the Upper Newport Bay.

continued from page one...

Celebrate Water in May

Water Awareness Month is celebrating its 21st year. IRWD offers free conservation devices on a one-time basis for customers. Stop by the headquarters office at 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue during business hours to pick up these devices. Information is available about water-saving toilets and rebate programs for toilets and water-saving clothes washers.

If you want to landscape your yard while saving water and lowering your water bill, we have videos from Sunset Magazine available for loan to our customers. Rebates for SmarTimer irrigation controllers are also available.

Water Saving Tips

Here are a few handy tips to help you save water:

- Turn off water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Use a brush and a bowl of water instead of running water over fruits and vegetables.
- Use a broom or rake rather than a hose to remove leaves and debris from the driveway, walk, patio and pool decks. This saves water and prevents urban runoff.
- Cover your swimming pool to slow down evaporation.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running it at the tap until it cools.

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Weekly Watering Schedule for SPRAY HEAD IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

MAY

Turf grass:

3 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes each

Trees, shrubs, groundcover:

2 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes

Percent option: 80%**

JUNE

Turf grass:

2-4 days, 2-3 cycles* of 3-4 minutes each

Trees, shrubs, groundcover:

2 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes

Percent option: 100%**

* 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. Spring is the most active growth period for turf grass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately.

** 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.



Rotating Nozzles for Pop-Up Spray Heads

Did you know that 50 to 70% of all the water used in urban areas is used outdoors? Much of this water is wasted as it sprays onto sidewalks and driveways and runs into storm drains. One way to help stop this waste is by replacing inefficient conventional irrigation spray heads with the latest water-saving nozzles. Rotating nozzles work more efficiently by emitting multi-trajectory rotating streams of water onto your landscape.



Spray streams are more accurately directed away from pavement.



Some models provide for quick and easy arc adjustment.

Studies show that, in comparison to conventional spray heads, rotating nozzles use 30% less water. They do this by applying water more slowly and uniformly, and are easily adjusted for more precise, custom watering of landscape areas that are difficult to water efficiently.

Upgrading your spray heads to rotating nozzles also provides better wind resistance, less misting and reduced runoff, all of which save money by increasing water-use efficiency. Reducing runoff from your sprinklers also supports the health of the environment by cutting down the amount of water that enters storm drains and transports fertilizers, pesticides, automotive fluids, trash and animal waste into our surface streams and local beaches.

Take Advantage of Our \$4 per Nozzle Rebate

Irvine Ranch Water District is offering a **\$4 per nozzle rebate** to encourage customers to make this irrigation upgrade. To qualify for the rebate, all spray heads on each selected valve/station/zone must be replaced with rotating nozzles and the irrigation clock must be adjusted. Only rotating nozzles purchased on or after July 10, 2007 from the list of approved products will be considered for a rebate. Visit our web site at www.irwd.com to view program details, find out which makes and models of rotating nozzles qualify for this rebate, and print a rebate application. Residential customers who live in single-family homes can confirm eligibility for rebate funding by calling 1-800-954-4344.



Install rotating nozzles on all spray heads operated by the same valve.

Rebates for rotating nozzles installed in commercial landscape sites such as apartment/condominium common areas, businesses or streetscapes are available through www.mwdsaveabuck.com and by calling 1-877-728-2282.

Community Calendar

Irvine Ranch Water District will be closed for the following holidays:

- Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day) and Friday, July 4 (Independence Day)

SHADETREE PARTNERSHIP EVENTS

- Community service hours are available for all volunteer tree planting activities. For more information call (949) 453-5670. Online registration available at www.shadetreepartnership.org.

SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON EVENTS

- Sea and Sage Brunch** (Sundays, May 25 & June 15) The public is invited to a gourmet outdoor brunch and leisurely stroll through the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. The brunch starts at 10 a.m. and ends at noon. This program is for adults only and requires a \$20 per person pre-paid reservation. A 48-hour cancellation notice is required for refund. Call Helen Nicholas at (949) 726-0858 if you have questions. For registration information visit their Web site at www.seaandsageaudubon.org.
- Bat Walks** - Sea and Sage Audubon Society invites you and your friends to experience a BAT WALK at night in the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. The bat walks are scheduled on Friday evenings May 16, June 20, and August 22, and Thursday evenings May 22 and August 7. Two adults-only walks are scheduled for Thursday evenings June 5 and August 28. All walks will begin at approximately 7 p.m. Cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 for children seven (minimum age) to 12. Call (949) 726-0858 for questions or visit www.seaandsageaudubon.org.
- Summer Education Program. Fledgling Camp** for 6-8 year olds scheduled for June 23-27; **Marsh Bird Camp** for 9-12 year olds scheduled for July 7-11 or July 14-18; and **Advanced Bird Camp** for 11 year olds and above scheduled for July 21-25 and July 28 through August 2. Call (949) 261.7963.
- Become a member** of the National Audubon Society and the Sea and Sage Audubon Chapter. For more information visit their Web site at www.seaandsageaudubon.org or call (949) 261-7963.

CITY OF IRVINE EVENT

- Irvine Studio Arts Festival on Saturday, June 7** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Irvine Fine Arts Center, 14321 Yale Avenue in Irvine. For more information about this free event, visit www.irvinefinearts.org or call (949) 724-6880.
- Friday, July 4 - Irvine Police Association's 24th Annual Concert on the Green & Fireworks Show** at Irvine High School Football Stadium. Gates open at 3 p.m. Children's activities include field games, arts and crafts; bounce house, face painting and more. Pyro musical and fireworks show at 9 p.m. with historical narration. Adult tickets (14 and older) \$12, senior/child tickets (+60/13 and under) \$7. Under two free. Tickets available in advance or may be purchased at Irvine High School Football Stadium on July 4. Family tickets are available in advance only (two adults/ four children) for \$40. For tickets and further information call Vince Palazzolo at (949) 724-0488.

FAMILIES FORWARD

- There are a growing number of families facing financial difficulties in south Orange County. Families Forward exists to help families in need achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through housing, counseling, education and other support services. Bring donations to Families Forward, 9221 Irvine Blvd. in Irvine, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information - call (949) 552-2727 or visit www.families-forward.org.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF IRVINE

- Assistance League of Irvine Thrift and Gift Shop - 17801 Main Street, Suite H (Sky Park South), Irvine, (949) 955-3437. Donations welcome during normal business hours: Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To learn more about Assistance League and membership call (949) 725-9188 or visit their Web site at www.irvine.assistanceleague.org. Assistance League of Irvine is a nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to providing programs and services that will enrich and improve the quality of life in Irvine.

MASTER GARDENERS OF ORANGE COUNTY

- The University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Orange County are a dedicated group of trained volunteers that provide assistance and share information about gardening in and around the Orange County area. For more information call their hotline at (714) 708-1646, visit their Web site at www.uccemg.com or send an e-mail to ucmastergardeners@yahoo.com.

IRVINE GARDEN CLUB

- Come and join the Irvine Garden Club for regular speakers on local gardening topics and to exchange growing tips and ideas. Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. (except Jan./July/Sept.). The meetings are held in the offices of the Irvine Ranch Water District. Visit their Web site at www.irvinegardenclub.com or send an E-mail to Irvinegardenclub@Yahoo.com.

CASA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is seeking volunteers to serve as advocates and mentors for abused children. An information session will be held on Wednesday, June 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday, July 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Irvine Heritage Park Library, 14361 Yale Ave. R.S.V.P. (714) 619-5155.



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

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IRWD
P.O. Box 57000
Irvine, CA 92619-7000

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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