

pipelines



APRIL 2015 | NUMBER 4

10 Ways to Be a Superhero and Save the Earth

On April 22, 2015, the world will celebrate the 45th anniversary of Earth Day. So much is happening to make the Earth a better place to live.

Everyone celebrates Earth Day differently. Roger, IRWD's spokesdog for RightScape™ and water efficiency, has some advice for water users: Do one more thing to cut your water use. One more thing can have a huge benefit to your household, neighborhood, community, state, country and Earth. And it's so easy!

Think about your one more thing to save water: Adjust your water timers and water before 8 a.m. Replace leaky sprinklers or lines. Make sure you're watering your landscape, not sidewalks and driveways. Change out a few thirsty plants with drought tolerant plants. Get a spray nozzle for your hose. Install drip lines.

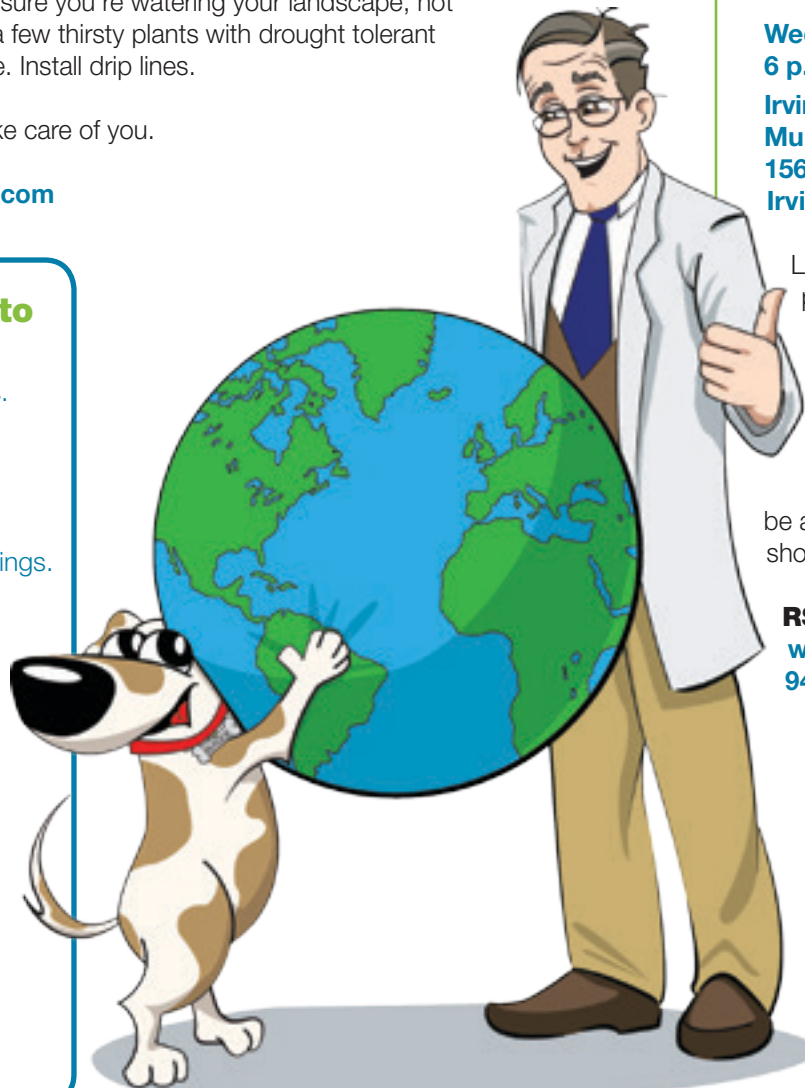
Take care of the Earth and Earth will take care of you.

Learn more at www.RightScapeNow.com

Roger's Top Ten Ways to Be a Superhero

1. Check your sprinklers for leaks.
2. Water before 8 a.m. to reduce overspray caused by wind.
3. Plant water-efficient plants.
4. Replace your lawn.
5. Check your sprinkler timer settings.
6. Buy a weather-based irrigation controller.
7. Watch your sprinklers for overspray.
8. Use a rain barrel to water your plants.
9. Install a drip-irrigation system.
10. Take advantage of IRWD rebates to save water and money.

For more information on how you can get cash back for water-efficient device purchases, visit www.irwd.com/rebates.



In This Issue:

- RightScape™
- Earth Day Workshop
- IRWD Helps Clean Up Urban Runoff
- More IRWD Resident Tours

Save the Date

RightScape™ Earth Day Workshop

Wednesday, April 22
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Irvine Ranch Water District
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Learn about the right plants, the right equipment, and the right schedule for your landscape.

A light dinner will be provided, and there will be an unsupervised movie showing for children.

RSVP:

www.irwd.com/events
949-453-5581

How IRWD Helps Clean Up Urban Runoff

Irvine Ranch Water District recycles water that goes down the drains and into sewers for reuse in the community, but what happens to the water that flows through gutters and into storm drains?

That water is called urban runoff and ends up in the storm drain. Inefficient watering of landscape, washing vehicles, or hosing down of sidewalks are contributors. Urban runoff carries with it fertilizers, oils, trash, pet waste, and other contaminants, contributing to ocean pollution when it travels through waterways like the San Diego Creek.

In 1997, IRWD constructed the San Joaquin Marsh, which takes water from San Diego Creek and cycles it through a system of ponds that use plants and soils to naturally clean urban runoff

before it flows to the ecologically-sensitive Upper Newport Bay. When the cleaner water returns to the creek, it contains up to 70 percent less nitrates and both sediment and phosphorus have also been reduced.

IRWD has taken the success of the San Joaquin Marsh and expanded the concept to a watershed-wide system of wetlands called the Natural Treatment System (NTS). Of the 45 targeted sites, 23 have been built. The NTS sites are anywhere from a quarter-acre to four acres in size and can be viewed from adjacent public areas, such as parks, bike trails and greenbelts.

To find out more, visit www.irwd.com and search "Natural Treatment System."

More Resident Tours Offered



Due to popular demand, a third resident tour has been added in the Spring. Free tours are offered to those who work or live within the IRWD service boundaries.

The new tour will be held, **Saturday, June 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Itinerary includes:

- Walking tour of the expanded Michelson Water Recycling Plant
- Bus trip to the San Joaquin Reservoir
- Walking tour of the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary

Visitors will gain valuable information about the water system, sewage treatment, recycled water use and water conservation tips. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Register online at www.irwd.com/learning/tours.

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Month	Grass	Trees, Shrubs & Groundcover
April	3 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes
May	3 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes
June	3 days, 3 cycles of 5 minutes	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes

f Like Us
Irvine Ranch
Water District

t Follow Us
@IRWDNews

Watch Us
[www.youtube.com/
IrvineRanchWD](http://www.youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD)

24-Hour Customer Service: 949-453-5300

Email: customerservice@irwd.com

Address: 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618

Website: www.irwd.com

Board of Directors:

Steven E. LaMar – President, Mary Aileen Matheis – Vice President, Douglas J. Reinhart, Peer A. Swan, John B. Withers

General Manager: Paul Cook, PE