



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.

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

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General Manager

Paul D. Jones II



IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

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Community Calendar

IRWD HOLIDAY & EVENTS

- Monday, May 25 - IRWD Holiday (offices closed)
- Saturday, May 16 - IRWD Resident Tours. Sign-up online at www.irwd.com.
- Saturday, May 30 at 8 and 10 a.m. - Webinar. Sign-up online at www.alwayswatersmart.com

PARTNERSHIP EVENTS

- Events are scheduled for Saturday, April 25 and May 2. Service hours are available for all volunteer tree planting activities. For more information call (949) 453-5312. Online registration available at www.shadetreepartnership.org.

OC WATER SUMMIT - Friday, May 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Grand California Hotel at Disneyland Resort

- The Orange County Water District, Municipal Water District of Orange County and the Orange County Business Council are hosting the second O.C. Water Summit to address water issues. Cost: \$95 includes continental breakfast, lunch, parking and an event program. For more information call (714) 378-3200 or visit www.ocwatersummit.com.

SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON EVENTS

- Sunday, May 10 and June 14 - Monthly bird walk at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary.
- May 15 and June 19 - General meetings.
- Sunday, May 3 & 17 and Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to noon - Spring Brunch at the Marsh. \$24 per person (adults only). Reservation are required and must be pre-paid. Questions: Helen Nicholas (949) 726-0858.
- Summer Nature Day Camps - Fledgling Camp is scheduled for June 22-26 for 7-8 year olds, Mash Bird Camp is scheduled for July 6-10 (session one) and July 13-17 (session two) for 9-12 year olds, and Advanced Bird Camp is scheduled for July 20-24 for 11 years and older (prior marsh camp experience required).
- Summer Bat Walks - For families and adults: May 22, June 26, August 7 and August 14; for adults only: May 14 and June 18.
- For more information call (949) 261-7963 or visit their website at www.seaandsageaudubon.org.

MARINES TO PARTICIPATE IN CARWASH FUNDRAISER - Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- The Irvine 2/11 Marine Adoption Committee will hold a fundraiser at the Lakeview Senior Center off Alton Parkway and Lake Road. The Irvine 2/11 Marine Adoption Committee is an Irvine based non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the men and women of the 2/11 Battalion of the United States Marine Corps. To make a difference in the lives of our military personnel and their families, the City of Irvine adopted this Marine battalion from Camp Pendleton.

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 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To learn more about the Assistance League and membership call (949) 725-9188 or visit their website at www.irvine.assistanceleague.org.

As a service to residents we feature a calendar of IRWD and community events. Events or activities of community-wide interest may be included in the community calendar. We reserve the right to edit submissions and include only those items of most interest to the public. If your group has an event you would like to include, please submit written information, including event date, time, place, contact person's name and telephone number. Mail your request to IRWD, Public Affairs Dept., P.O. Box 57000, Irvine, California 92619-7000, FAX to (949) 453-1327 or e-mail your request to velazquez@irwd.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 at IRWD. Visit www.irvinegardenclub.com or send an e-mail to Irvinegardenclub@yahoo.com.

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 website at www.uccemg.com or send an e-mail to ucmastergardeners@yahoo.com.

FAMILIES FORWARD

Families Forward celebrates 25 years of service in the community... and continues serving with special events in May.

- Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Free First Annual Community Resources Fair at Irvine Valley College, 5500 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine CA 92618.
 - Free health screenings
 - Free individual legal, financial, medical, career and housing consultations from the experts
 - Invaluable workshops from highly qualified specialists
 - Learn about the multitude of resources available to you to pull through these tough economic times
 - Fun activities for the kids...so bring your entire family
 - Food and drinks provided
- Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3 - Families Forward Community-Wide Food Drive supports families in need. Serving over 100+ families a week with groceries, this food drive will build up the Families Forward food bank for late spring and summer. Look for volunteers at local area grocery stores who will be asking shoppers to donate needed food items. You may also bring food donations to the Families Forward warehouse at 9221 Irvine Blvd, Irvine 92618 on Saturday May 2 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday May 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Help feed families who are in need of food during these challenging times. For more information please contact Families Forward at (949) 552-2727 or visit their website at www.families-forward.org. Families Forward exists to help families in need achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through housing, counseling, education and other support services.

LAKE FOREST GARDEN CLUB

- Annual Spring Boutique and Plant Sale - Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Beach and Tennis Clubhouse, 22921 Ridge Route Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630. They will have fresh flower arrangements and baskets, healthy plants, handmade crafts, collectibles and gifts ideal for Mother's Day. Great raffle prizes. Experienced gardeners will be on hand to answer questions about your garden. Proceeds from this event support their scholarship fund, a butterfly program, and other community outreach programs. Come early for best selection. For more information check out their website at www.lakeforestgardenclub.net.



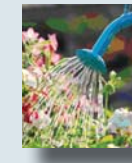
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Irvine Ranch Water District

Always Water Smart

pipelines

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Keep Your Landscape "Always Water Smart" This Spring

Now, more than ever, is the time to adopt "Always Water Smart" landscaping practices:

- April is one of the most active growth periods for turf grass and other plants. Be sure to water deeply to encourage deep root growth and avoid over-watering.
- Aerate your lawn for improved root growth.
- To get deeper water penetration, try watering for shorter periods twice or even three times in one day, at least an hour apart. Orange County has predominately heavy clay soils, which absorb water at a slower rate.
- Water your lawn only when it needs it. Check by stepping on the grass. If it springs back up when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water.
- Another way to check if it is time to water is to use a soil probe or shovel to check soil moisture levels 3 to 6 inches below the surface. With our heavy clay soils, the surface may look dry, but the clay beneath it remains moist. According to the California Association of Nurserymen, more plants are lost due to over-watering than to any other cause.
- Trees and shrubs generally require about half the water (some shrubs, even less) needed by lawns. If you're watering every day, you're providing more than most trees or shrubs need.
- Apply 2 to 3 inches of composted mulch in all shrub areas.
- Prevent runoff: Rather than repair inefficient irrigation systems, landscapers may turn sprinklers up too high. When your sprinklers are running, take a few minutes every week or so to

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Earthquakes: It's Best to be Prepared

Recent earthquakes in the California desert communities are reminders that Southern Californians should always be prepared for the next shaker.

California is earthquake country and April has been designated as Earthquake Preparedness Month to remind us of that fact. It was in the early morning hours of April 18, 1906 that residents of San Francisco and beyond were shaken from their beds by what has been estimated to be an 8.3 earthquake. Several aftershocks and fires followed, leaving a wake of devastation.

The first 72 hours following an earthquake are critical, so you should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least that long. A supply of stored water may be your most important survival item. Several gallons of stored water per person can last two weeks.

Water should be stored in carefully cleaned, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers. Commercially bottled water is one option. Containers of heavy, opaque plastic with screw-on caps are best if you bottle your own water. All stored water should be clearly labeled and the water replenished every six months.

After a quake, tap water could be polluted. Water that is boiled for five minutes will usually be safe from contamination. If boiling is not an option, strain the water through paper towels, paper coffee filters, or several layers of clean cloth to remove any sediment. Treat the water with household liquid chlorine bleach. Add eight drops of bleach per one gallon of clear water or 16 drops if the water is cloudy. Be sure to

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Fifth Member Appointed to Irvine Ranch Water District Board

The Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) Board of Directors has voted unanimously to appoint Irvine resident Steven E. LaMar to fill the unexpired term of former director Darryl Miller, who resigned in December 2008. LaMar will stand for election in 2010.

LaMar is a water policy and planning expert with more than 20 years of experience on statewide business and industry committees and has directly participated in many major water policy forums. He has served on statewide task forces and advisory committees on drought planning, desalination, the California Bay-Delta, the California Water Plan and on water reliability and conservation issues. LaMar is president and owner of LegiSight, LLC, located in Tustin, CA, and is also a principal for Spinner LaMar Associates since 1993. He has served as a water policy leader in the California Building Industry Association since 1993.

The new IRWD board member comes to his position with extensive water policy service. He was a member of the California Water Plan 2009 Advisory Committee and a member of the Delta Vision Stakeholders Coordination Group. He was Chair of the Economic Work Group for the 2006 California Landscape Task Force. He served as member of the 2005 State Water Desalination Task Force, the 2000 Governor's Advisory Drought Planning Panel and Chair of the California Building Industry Association's statewide Water Resources Subcommittee and Task Force.

LaMar holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Kansas State College and a certificate from the Environmental Management Institute, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency environmental training program administered by the University of Southern California.

The selection was made from among 41 local citizens who submitted applications for the appointment.

California Friendly Garden Contest Underway

Do you have a beautiful and colorful garden that uses very little water? Does your landscaping have state-of-the-art sprinkler systems that save water? Then your garden might be a good candidate for the Roger's Gardens California Friendly Garden Contest, co-sponsored by the Irvine Ranch Water District.

The contest launched last month and the deadline to enter is April 16. Online voting takes place April 17-May 17. Judging takes place May 22. The grand prize winner will receive \$1,500, a certificate and a garden plaque.

Winners in each of the five categories will receive \$250 and a certificate. Criteria for the entries are:

- residential properties only;
- must be located within the boundaries of Orange County;
- the garden must be at least one month old and be only front yard landscaping.

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Earthquakes: It's Best to be Prepared

include an eyedropper in your emergency kit.

Do not use granular forms of household bleach; they are poisonous. Mix water and bleach thoroughly and let stand for 30 minutes. Purify only enough water at a time to last a maximum of 48 hours.

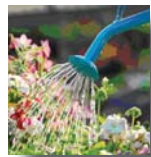
You should also learn how to shut off gas, water and electricity. To shut off the water, look for the main valve where water enters the property, usually in a concrete box near the street. Lift the cover and then use a crescent wrench to turn off the water. Some valves have a circular grip that can be turned clockwise to shut the water off and no special tools are needed. Mark the shut-off valve with fluorescent paint or tape so you

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Keep Your Landscape "Always Water Smart" This Spring

watch for runoff and check for broken sprinkler heads. Runoff carries fertilizers into the storm drain and contributes to pollution in our waterways and the ocean. Fix broken sprinklers heads and leaking irrigation systems promptly.

- April is the growing season for most plants, making it the optimal time to fertilize. Use a balanced, organic, slow-release fertilizer. Avoid applying fertilizers during the summer months. Native California plants require little or no fertilizer year round.



All entries must demonstrate a beautiful garden, California-friendly plants, irrigation efficiency, zero runoff, good maintenance, reduction of green waste and organic principles.

Smart and sustainable landscaping is the most visible feature of the California Friendly home, with outdoor spaces designed in harmony with the surrounding environment using beautiful and less-than-thirsty plants, state-of-the-art irrigation controllers and precision sprinkler heads.

If you think your garden fits this criteria, and you would like to enter the contest, log on to www.rogersgardens.com/gardencontest for information and an application.

No employees or family members of Roger's Gardens or the sponsors may participate.

New Ways for Smart Landscape Watering

Join us May 30 for our first free webinar for IRWD homeowners

Did you know that 50 percent of residential water use is used for landscape and as much as 25-30 percent of that is wasted? The truth is many people simply do not know how much water their landscape needs, or they think it needs far more than it actually does. When in doubt, people tend to over water, but when it comes to having a healthy landscape, more is not always better. In fact, over watering can cause just as much harm as under watering. Ensuring that your landscape receives just the right amount will enable you to achieve a luscious landscape that will thrive in our Southern California climate.

On Saturday, May 30, Irvine Ranch Water District will be airing its first landscape webinar. A webinar is a seminar delivered over the internet.

It is delivered in real time so viewers can submit questions and answers through their computer. Webinars offer an interactive learning experience without having to leave home. Irvine Ranch Water District is very pleased to offer this type of technology to our customers and hope that you will log on, and tune in to learning New Ways for Smart Landscape Watering.



Find out how to improve the efficiency of your irrigation system with a simple change-out to water-saving rotating nozzles for your existing spray heads.



Learn about "smart" weather-based irrigation controller technology, for hands-off water scheduling.



No need to rush out and leave the comfort of your home to attend our next landscape seminar. Begin Saturday morning, May 30, by savoring your morning coffee while viewing our stimulating interactive presentation on the latest ways to keep your landscape healthy.

Register for this Free Webinar Today

Simply log onto the webinar from your home Saturday morning, May 30, to join our water conservation and landscape experts for an informative, interactive 45-minute session that will cover:

- 5 easy steps to tune up your irrigation system
- 3 key features of your irrigation controller
- Q & A with our experts

Two Sessions to Choose From

An early bird session will start at 8 a.m. and a second session will start at 10 a.m. To register for either session, please visit AlwaysWaterSmart.com and click on the "SIGN UP NOW" button near the top of the page.

For more water-and-money-saving suggestions, visit "Residential Water Use Efficiency Tips and Tools" at AlwaysWaterSmart.com