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pipelines

SEPTEMBER 2019 | NUMBER 9



Irvine Ranch
WATER DISTRICT

Save the Date

Tap Water 101

Thursday, Sept. 19
6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

IRWD
Operations Center
3512 Michelson Dr.
Irvine

Learn how IRWD treats and tests your water to ensure it is clean, tasty and high-quality. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Sign-up required:
IRWD.com/water-report

My Garden, My Watershed

Wednesday, Oct. 16
6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

IRWD
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Learn the steps to create a water-efficient garden that is watershed-conscious. We will discuss creating healthy soils, rainwater capture and reuse, California native plants, efficient irrigation, and more.

Sign-up required:
RightScapeNow.com/events

Making the Most of a Good Thing

Irvine Ranch Water District customers see many benefits of recycled water in our community. It's used to water our lush parks and medians, for business and industrial uses—even for fighting wildfires. It makes up a quarter of IRWD's water supply, which reduces our dependence on expensive imported water and makes our community more self-sufficient. And *that* helps keep your water rates low. In short, recycled water is an affordable and drought-proof source of water for many uses, just not for drinking.

Here's a look at how IRWD is making the most of a good thing—recycled water.

HOW DOES THE RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM WORK?

We have one of the most robust and technologically advanced recycled water systems in the nation.

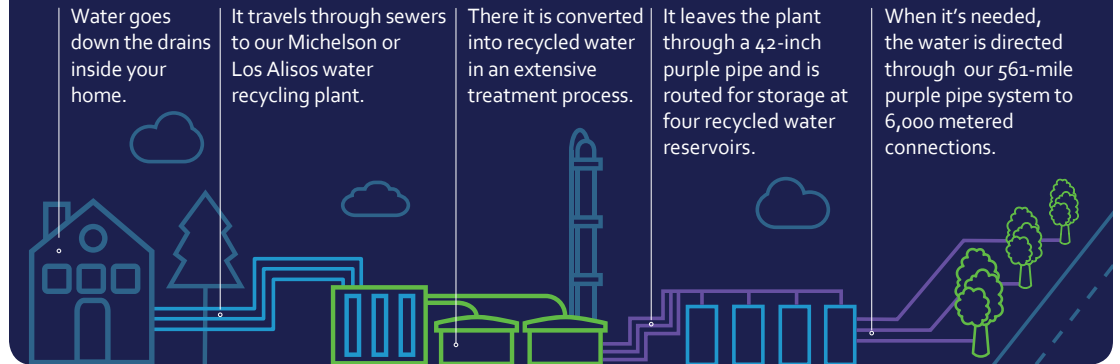
Water goes down the drains inside your home.

It travels through sewers to our Michelson or Los Alisos water recycling plant.

There it is converted into recycled water in an extensive treatment process.

It leaves the plant through a 42-inch purple pipe and is routed for storage at four recycled water reservoirs.

When it's needed, the water is directed through our 561-mile purple pipe system to 6,000 metered connections.



How is recycled water stored? Recycled water is produced every day, rain or shine. So we collect it in four seasonal storage reservoirs. However, we don't have enough capacity for all the water we recycle. In the cool, wet winter months, the reservoirs fill up, and we run out of room. Then in the summer, when communities start watering again, we don't have enough recycled water—and we need to buy expensive imported water to make up the difference.



How is IRWD planning for the future?

To be sure recycled water is available when the community needs it, IRWD is

proposing to expand the existing Syphon Reservoir. For more information and a video explaining the proposed project, see SyphonReservoirProject.com.

Want to see recycled water being made?

Several times a year, IRWD offers Resident Tours so customers can learn about recycled water and its uses. Two tours are happening in October. Spaces fill quickly, so please make your reservation soon.

Sign Up for a Resident Tour!

When: Oct. 11 or 12, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Where: Michelson Water Recycling Plant
3512 Michelson Dr., Irvine

RSVP required:

IRWD.com/learning/request-a-resident-tour

Days are Shorter, So Water Less

Ask Juan



Q: Juan, even though we've had a mild summer, I'm still concerned about my overall water use going into September. Does my landscape require as much water as it did these past couple of months?

A: Thanks for your question. In September,

it is important to start reducing your watering. It's a time of transition, as the days are getting shorter and the plants are adapting. Plants will start to use less and less water—as much as 30% less as we move into the fall. For more tips, attend upcoming workshops or events like the Urban Living Expo. Find information at RightScapeNow.com/events.

IRWD also offers rebates (including a turf rebate) to help you use water efficiently outside. Visit RightScapeNow.com/rebates.

Got landscape questions? Email AskJuan@IRWD.com or ask on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with [#irwdcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/irwdcommunity). See past answers at RightScapeNow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan.



Save the Date

Urban Living Expo

Saturday, Sept. 28
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

UC ANR South Coast Research and Extension Center
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

Get information you need to create a water-efficient landscape. Expo features free workshops, industry experts, vendors, landscape displays, and hands-on activities.

Practical Composting

Saturday, Oct. 26
9 a.m. – noon

UC ANR South Coast Research and Extension Center
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

Learn composting and vermiculture basics with hands-on activities demonstrating practical applications for small spaces.

Sign-up required:
RightScapeNow.com/events

Suggested Weekly Sprinkler System Watering Schedule

	Turfgrass	Drought-Tolerant Plants	% Option*
September	4 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	70%
October	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	50%
November	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	40%

*Some irrigation controllers can be set by changing the percentage instead of entering specific days, cycles and minutes.

Find drip schedules at RightScapeNow.com/landscape-resources/watering-schedules.


Program Puts Efficiency on the Menu

Hey, foodies! Is your favorite restaurant water-efficient? You'll know when you see this logo in the window.


Irvine Ranch Water District has launched WaterStar Restaurant, a certification for restaurants that improve their water efficiency. We're inviting restaurants to get involved. The application process includes consultation with an IRWD water efficiency expert and a site visit to assess how efficiently the restaurant is using water—in the kitchen, and for other needs such as restrooms, cooling, heating and landscaping. Restaurants that qualify as WaterStars receive a variety of benefits, including access to special rebates on water-efficient fixtures. And like all IRWD customers who save water, they also save on their water bill.



WaterStar Restaurant is an extension of IRWD's WaterStar Business program, which already has certified 15 businesses. Collectively, they are saving more than 250 million gallons of water per year for our community. For more information, visit RightScapeNow.com/waterstar.

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