

Get The Dirt on gardening

Check out IRWD's quarterly gardening newsletter, *The Dirt*, for tips on a beautiful yard!

IRWD.com/thedirt

pipelines

MAY 2023



Irvine Ranch
Water District

Save the date

Shed Show Road Show

Walk-up event

Saturday, June 3
8 a.m. – noon

Get help with a mail-in rebate to cover the cost of a smart timer, and chat with IRWD landscape guru Juan Garcia about ways to make your landscape more beautiful and water-friendly. Stop by the Lake Forest Home Depot, 20021 Lake Forest Drive, and say hello!

IRWD.com/roadshow

A Year of Good Food

Workshop

Wednesday, June 14
6 – 7:30 p.m.

Learn how to grow your own delicious fruits and vegetables all year long. Join us for a presentation by UCCE Master Gardeners of OC for tips and a month-to-month guide.

Sign-up required:
IRWD.com/events

Get your irrigation fixed and save!

Our Landscape Tuneup Program covers half the cost of repairs

Has your sprinkler system seen better days? We can help!

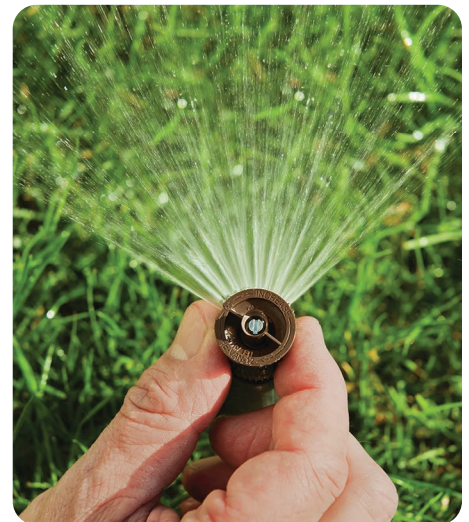
IRWD's Landscape Tuneup Program provides expert assistance and covers half the cost of qualified repairs—saving you time, water and money.

Need a line repaired? A valve replaced? Sprinklers raised or adjusted? We'll cover half the cost! We'll also split the cost for qualified components including high-efficiency nozzles, drip irrigation and more.

Both residential and commercial customers can apply. To be eligible, you must be an IRWD customer with no delinquencies on IRWD bills in the past 12 months, and have a functional in-ground irrigation system already in place.

IRWD has teamed up with Conserv Inc. to offer these repair services to qualified residential and commercial customers. With this kind of help, why wait? Sign up today!

For more information or to apply for the program, visit IRWD.com/landscapetuneup.



Emergency? Sign up for IRWD Alert



To better reach you in an emergency, Irvine Ranch Water District has created IRWD Alert—a new notification service with enhanced communications tools to reach our community in critical situations.

This service allows us to send real-time alerts by email, voicemail, and SMS/text notification, providing you and your neighbors with important information during

an emergency, including what to do and where to find more information.

Contact information associated with existing IRWD accounts has already been uploaded to the platform, but we encourage customers and members of the community to sign up and create their own personal accounts—adding multiple phone numbers and emails so we can reach you and your loved ones, wherever you are.

This service replaces IRWD's former CodeRED notification service. For more information, or to sign up, visit IRWD.com/alert.

Congrats, 2023 Fix a Leak winners

Even the smallest drip, if left alone, can quickly add up and result in significant water waste and higher water bills. A leaky toilet, for instance, can waste up to 50 gallons per day.

In March, IRWD encouraged customers to track down and repair leaks in their home for the chance to win one of eight \$100 Home Depot gift cards in our Fix a Leak Sweepstakes.

Congratulations to this year's winners from Irvine, Tustin and Lake Forest: **Harsha Vardhan Airpula, Evelyn Choi, Ken Dunn, Edmund Lee, Zijuan Liu, Steven Longacre, Melissa McNeil,** and **Mohammed Shukukani.**

Need help fixing a leak? Check out our helpful video library at [IRWD.com/fixleaks](https://www.irwd.com/fixleaks).



Photo of sweepstakes winner Harsha Vardhan Airpula.



Q: IRWD is doing a construction project in my neighborhood. How can I learn more and get updates on what's going on?

A: With a combined 3,700 miles of water, sewer, and recycled water pipeline—plus all the treatment plants, wells, pumps, reservoir tanks and other infrastructure needed for operations—IRWD is continually maintaining and upgrading its delivery systems.

To keep customers informed, we distribute notices, post construction updates on our website, and are available to answer calls regarding any of our projects.

Go to [IRWD.com/constructionprojects](https://www.irwd.com/constructionprojects) for more information, or call 949-453-5500.

Got a question? Email info@irwd.com with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line.

Ask Juan



Q: Hi Juan! Do you have any recommendations for small- to medium-sized trees for my property?

A: Good question! If you want to use native plants, some great options include the Western redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*), which blooms with striking pink and magenta flowers in spring; or toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), a showy evergreen producing small white flowers that give way to clusters of bright red berries in fall and winter. I also like the non-native Eastern or

"forest pansy" redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), producing brilliant scarlet-purple blossoms in early spring, followed by new foliage that matures to a striking maroon, bringing great color to the landscape. Go to [IRWD.com/plantlist](https://www.irwd.com/plantlist) to search for more trees and other specimens.

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 [RightScope.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan](https://www.RightScope.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan).

California native corner Juan's May plant: black sage

Black sage (*Salvia mellifera*) is the perfect habitat plant for any landscape. An open and spreading shrub, it grows rapidly and is very drought tolerant. It's also a pollinator magnet and excellent food source for birds. Pleasantly aromatic, it can be used as cut flowers for the home. Learn more at [CalScape.org](https://www.CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](https://www.CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan



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