



# pipelines

JANUARY 2023



Irvine Ranch  
Water District



## Save the date

### Be a Garden Investigator

In-person workshop

**Wednesday, Jan. 18  
6 – 7:30 p.m.**

Use your powers of observation and trusted internet resources to solve garden problems. Presented in partnership with UCCE Master Gardeners of Orange County. Light refreshments will be served.

**Sign-up required:**  
[RightScape.com/  
events](https://RightScape.com/events)

### Turf Rebate 101

In-person workshop

**Wednesday, Feb. 15  
6 – 7:30 p.m.**

Learn the steps, requirements, and some helpful tips to be successful when applying for IRWD's Turf Removal Rebate Program. Also, learn from your neighbors about their great experiences with the program. Light refreshments will be served.

**Sign-up required:**  
[RightScape.com/  
events](https://RightScape.com/events)

## Tips to shrink your water footprint



Water supports every aspect of life. Do you know how much you really use?

Just like a carbon footprint measures an individual's direct and indirect impact on climate change, your water footprint reflects the total amount of water used to help you through your day. It factors in what you use at home and the water used to produce the food, goods, and services you consume.

Reducing your water footprint is a cost-effective way to extend water resources while promoting sustainability. Here are some easy ways to get started.

- **Avoid daylight and wind when you water** to reduce waste from evaporation.
- **Adjust sprinklers** so they're not spraying the sidewalk or driveway and turn them off when it rains.
- **Visit [watercalculator.org](https://watercalculator.org)** to measure your water footprint.

For water-saving tips and more, visit [IRWD.com/drought](https://IRWD.com/drought).

## Meeting rooms open for reservations!

IRWD is accepting 2023 applications to reserve the Duck Club and Community Meeting Room—two facilities available free to residents and nonprofit organizations in our service area.

The Community Meeting Room near our Sand Canyon headquarters is available for meetings and club organizations. The Duck Club at the San Joaquin Marsh Campus can be reserved for meetings and private events.

For more information, and to submit your application please visit [IRWD.com/MeetingRooms](https://IRWD.com/MeetingRooms).



# Live events are in full swing for 2023

IRWD is ramping up in-person activities with a calendar full of workshops, community tours and special engagements in the coming year. Hosting face-to-face experiences, workshops and events is a valuable way for YOU, our customers and community, to interact directly with IRWD staff and partners. It's also an opportunity for you to learn, get access to resources and obtain insight on important topics such as water efficiency, landscaping and resilience.



IRWD's events have been mostly online since 2020. But after two years of pandemic-related separation, recommended best practices are being followed for safe in-person gatherings.

Receive emails about upcoming events by signing up for our gardening newsletter, *The Dirt*, at [IRWD.com/TheDirt](https://www.irwd.com/TheDirt), or check our calendar and reserve your spot at [IRWD.com/events](https://www.irwd.com/events).



**Q:** Juan, we are thinking of replacing our front lawn and are considering using Dwarf Carpet of Stars. What do you recommend?

**A:** Hello! I've seen a few yards planted with Dwarf Carpet of Stars and like the look and feel of it. It does make an excellent ground cover. I would also recommend kurapia. It spreads quickly and thrives with watering only once a week during summer. There are other lawn alternatives such as dymondia,

creeping thyme, white clover, and yarrow. Take time to review these and use what is best for your needs. For further help, please refer to IRWD's [RightScapeResources.com](https://www.irwd.com/RightScapeResources.com) website for other selections and ideas.

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

## California native corner

### Juan's January plant: golden yarrow

Golden yarrow (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum*) is a flowering perennial that grows in clumps, topped with clusters of bright golden blossoms. It blooms in winter, spring and summer and makes an excellent lawn alternative. It is very drought tolerant and is the perfect pollinator plant for any garden, attracting butterflies, bees, and caterpillars. Learn more at [CalScape.org](https://www.CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](https://www.CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan



**Q:** Why does my bill fluctuate from month to month?

**A:** IRWD's budget-based rate structure encourages customers to use water wisely. Based on the number of people in the home, the square footage of outdoor landscaping, and the weather, your monthly budget is lower in the fall and winter, and higher in summer to adjust to the seasonal water needs of plants.

Customers who stay within their water budget enjoy some of the lowest water bills in Orange County. Those who exceed their budget pay a higher rate to cover the costs of the more expensive water sources and water efficiency programs needed to serve them.

Your bill also includes fixed water and sewer charges to cover operating and maintenance costs, and infrastructure replacement costs to provide those services. Fixed charges are based on a 30-day billing cycle so your bill may vary slightly depending on the number of days in your cycle. Visit [IRWD.com/rates-charges](https://www.irwd.com/rates-charges) for more information.

Got a question? Email [info@IRWD.com](mailto:info@IRWD.com) with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line.