

# pipelines



## April is Earthquake Preparedness Month



April is Earthquake Preparedness Month in California. Devastating earthquakes in Haiti and Chile serve as reminders to Southern California residents that we, too, live in "earthquake country" and should always be prepared.

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, 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 include an eye dropper in your emergency kit. Do not use granular forms of household bleach; they are poisonous. For additional water emergency information visit [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com) and click on "Customer Service" and "Emergency Preparedness."

### Preparedness and Safety Checklist: Before and During an Earthquake

- ✓ Become aware of fire evacuation and earthquake plans for all of the buildings you occupy regularly.
- ✓ Bolt and brace water heaters, appliances and bookshelves and other tall furniture to wall studs.
- ✓ Learn how to shut off gas valves and water meters in your home.
- ✓ Keep and maintain an emergency supply kit in an easy-to-access location.
- ✓ If outside, find a clear spot and drop to the ground. Stay away from trees, buildings, power lines and streetlights.
- ✓ If in a vehicle, pull over to a clear location and stop away from power lines, bridges and ramps.
- ✓ If away from home, return only when authorities say it is safe to do so.

For more earthquake safety information, visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

There's still time to **receive up to \$150 in rebates**

for each eligible High Efficiency Toilet (HET) you purchase.

But hurry! All HET rebate applications must be received by **May 31, 2010** to take advantage of this offer.



For full details and a list of qualifying toilets visit [www.AlwaysWaterSmart.com](http://www.AlwaysWaterSmart.com).

Click on "Rebates for Residential Customers."



### 24-Hour Service

**949.453.5300**

If you discover a disruption in your water service or other problem call the IRWD 24-hour emergency line and a representative will assist you.

### 24-Hour Online or Mobile Access

Visit our website: [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com)

**facebook**

IRWD is now on Facebook.com

Join our fan page:

Irvine Ranch Water District

Follow IRWD's Twitter channels:



@IRWDemergency

@IRWDnews

@AlwaysH2OSmart

**You Tube**

IRWD's YouTube channel is:

IrvineRanchWD

## Don't Miss the Tour Bus!

It's not too late to book space on the April 30 and May 21 and 22 Water Awareness tours.

These tours are open to those who live or work within the IRWD service area boundaries.

Tours begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at approximately 1 p.m.

Included in the tours are a bus trip to IRWD facilities and a walking tour of the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. All tour participants must be 16 or older.

Registration is available at [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com). Click on "Free Programs" and "Resident Tours." Or, you may call (949) 453-5500.

## Shadetree Partnership Featured in IRWD's Online Calendar

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than planting trees! Shadetree Partnership has scheduled monthly events at its UC Irvine nursery. The next one is scheduled for Saturday, April 17 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Register at <http://www.shadetreepartnership.org/Events/> Remaining events are May 15, June 12, Aug. 8, Sept. 18, Oct. 16 and Nov. 13. Community Service hours are available.

Visit [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com) and click on "Community Events" to view the entire IRWD Community Calendar online. All online calendar and conservation information is continually updated.



### Irvine Ranch Water District

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

Douglas J. Reinhart, Pres.  
Peer A. Swan, V.P.  
Steven E. LaMar  
Mary Aileen Matheis  
John B. Withers

### General Manager

Paul D. Jones II

*Pipelines* is published by Irvine Ranch Water District  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine, California 92618  
949.453.5300

E-mail:  
[customerservice@irwd.com](mailto:customerservice@irwd.com)



Early morning drizzle didn't put a damper on the "Wild about Wetlands" festivities held at the IRWD San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in March.



A youngster learns about urban runoff with the Enviroscape during the "Wild about Wetlands" event.

## Optimizing the Plant Groupings in your Garden

Horticulturists and landscape architects agree: visualizing landscapes as a whole rather than a collection of individual plants is the surest way to create beauty and sustainability in your outdoor spaces. When selecting trees, shrubs, ground covers, perennials and annuals for your garden, look for those that naturally grow together and are well-suited to our semi-arid regional and local conditions.

For example, if the centerpiece of your front yard is a majestic coast live oak, you should look for shrubs that can tolerate a mixture of sun and shade and survive without frequent watering. At the same time, you will want to complement the tree's rounded, evergreen look by finding low-water-use plants similarly shaped and colored, such as ceanothus, Douglas iris and flannelbush. *(Excerpted from "A Year in the Southern California Heritage Garden," courtesy of the Family of Southern California Water Agencies. For more optimization ideas, visit [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com) and click on "Garden Spot".)*



**California Lilac**  
*Ceanothus arboreus*  
'Trewithen Blue'



**Flannelbush**  
*Fremontodendron californicum*

Cut along dashed line and post this schedule near your irrigation controller.

### Suggested Weekly Spring Irrigation Schedule

Month	Turfgrass	Trees, Shrubs & Ground Cover	% Option***
April*	3 days, 2 cycles** of 4 minutes each	2 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes each	70%
May	3 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes each	2 days, 3 cycles of 3 minutes each	80%

The above chart suggests a weekly schedule for spray-head irrigation, assuming heavy clay soils common to most local coastal and foothill areas. Generally, these are the MAXIMUM times you will need for full sun areas. Your landscape's particular watering times may vary. Start with this schedule and increase the times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated areas, check your irrigation system before increasing the watering time.

**Don't forget to turn off your sprinklers when it rains.** For convenience, consider installing an automatic rain shut-off device on your irrigation system.

\*March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. If rain becomes infrequent, be sure to water adequately.

\*\*By "cycling" the irrigation controller to turn on for the recommended number of minutes an hour apart, deeper watering and healthier root growth are gained, while runoff is reduced.

\*\*\*The % option, either a button or a dial, permits the watering run times for all electric valves managed by a controller to be increased or decreased with just one adjustment by percentage.

## Irvine Summer Programs

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT / IRVINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

**June 28th through July 23rd**  
Most classes are held for:  
**4 Weeks/ Mon.-Fri. /3hrs. a day**

Course offerings will feature a variety of academic enrichment and elective choices, with something to suit the needs and interests of your K-8 student. Most courses are only \$5 per hour.

All classes will be taught on Irvine Unified School District campuses by credentialed teachers. Students from all districts are welcome!

Inquire today...  
[summerprograms@iusd.org](mailto:summerprograms@iusd.org)  
(949) 936-6660

Additional information regarding course offerings, enrollment, and locations  
[www.IrvineSummerPrograms.org](http://www.IrvineSummerPrograms.org)

