

Make a New Year's Resolution to be Water Efficient

We've had years of drought and there's no way to tell if this year will be different.

If you've already adopted water efficient practices in your yard, your hard work is appreciated. If not, make a resolution to do it this year.

Join Roger and Professor Wright and take the pledge to use the Right Plants, the Right Schedule and the Right Equipment in 2015.

Our RightScape program makes it easy. Visit **www.RightScapeNow.com** for a comprehensive list of California appropriate and drought resistant plants, tips on installing the right equipment, and videos that teach you how to program those often confusing sprinkler timers.

You can also learn about all our rebates. Save water, save money, and get cash back, just by being water wise.

Let's all work together for water efficiency in 2015. Make your New Year's resolution today!



Save the Date

A Little Bit of Rain is Not Enough to End

the Drought

The Home Depot Garden Sale

Saturday, March 7 8 am-12 pm 20021 Lake Forest Drive Lake Forest

Saturday, March 21 8 am-12 pm 6200 Irvine Boulevard Irvine

- Discounts on waterefficient plants
- Vendor displays
- Activities for children
- Giveaways

WATER EFFICIENT HOSE NOZZLE

when you bring this coupon to the IRWD booth.



While supplies last

A Little Bit of Rain is Not Enough to End the Drought

Much-needed rain has fallen in the area recently, but that does not signal the end of the drought. It will take more than one storm dropping one to two inches of rain on the area to clear up almost four years of extreme drought.

Recent storms are quite literally a drop in the bucket when it comes to solving the state's water issues. Experts say that dry, thirsty soil, which had been deprived of water for so long, blotted up the rain like a sponge, not allowing enough moisture to percolate and recharge groundwater basins.

The state Department of Water Resources states that October 2013 through September 2014 has been one of the driest years in decades. California heavily depends on the Sierra snowpack for its water supply. DWR conducts snow surveys, and the first four conducted in early 2014 found a water equivalent far below average for the dates of the surveys. Rainfall is measured at eight stations in the northern part of the state where the rivers feed into the State Water Project.

Electronic readings from those Northern California stations showed that precipitation was only 60 percent of normal for late April, even though there were a few storms in February and March. The electronic readings for Central California stations show less than 50 percent of normal from October 1, 2013, to late May 2014.

So how long will it take to recover from the drought? There are no hard and fast numbers, according to DWR. An exceptionally wet year would be needed, but it looks unlikely.

The drought's impact on California reservoirs and water storage levels.

Where we should be: 59% storage capacity

Where we are now: 30% storage capacity



Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule		
Month	Grass	Trees, Shrubs & Groundcover
January	2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes
February	2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes
March	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes





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