

## Biggest turf rebate, ever!

Right now, you can get \$5 for every square foot removed. Visit [IRWD.com/turf-rebate](http://IRWD.com/turf-rebate) for details!

# pipelines

AUGUST 2022



Irvine Ranch  
Water District

## Save the date

### The New Year Starts Now

Online event

**Wednesday, Sept. 21**  
Noon – 1 p.m.

Join IRWD's Juan Garcia to learn everything you need to know to prep your garden for an explosion of life and color next spring. Topics include plant selection, watering, and more.

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

### Recycled Water 101

Online webinar

**Wednesday, Sept. 22**  
Noon – 1 p.m.

Take a virtual tour of IRWD's Michelson Water Recycling Plant. Learn about the treatment process and the many beneficial uses of recycled water in our community. Hint: It's drought-proof!

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

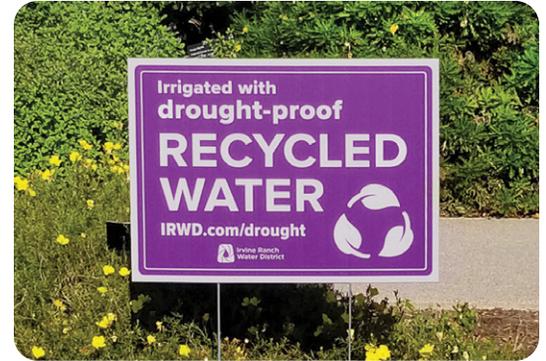
## Seeing green? Thank our purple pipes!

**Recycled water is exempt from state ban on commercial watering of turf.**

IRWD has invested heavily in projects to create a diverse and reliable supply of water to serve our customers—and that's never been more visible than now, when local commercial landscapes are staying green because they are irrigated with drought-proof recycled water.

Signs of this resilience are popping up throughout our service area: purple placards proudly identifying properties irrigated with recycled water, which is delivered in pipeline of the same color.

The state recently banned the use of drinking water to irrigate nonfunctional turf



grass at commercial, industrial, and institutional properties throughout California. The good news is almost all public and commercial landscape in our service area is irrigated with recycled water. (The ban does not apply to lawns on residential property or turf used for human recreation.) For more information, visit [IRWD.com/commercial-landscape-restrictions](http://IRWD.com/commercial-landscape-restrictions).

Because of our resilience, IRWD's water supply is in good shape. But we still urge everyone to use water wisely.

For water-saving tips and information about the drought, visit [IRWD.com/drought](http://IRWD.com/drought).

### Drought tips

Even small tasks can bring about big water savings. Check out the tips below, or visit [IRWD.com/drought](http://IRWD.com/drought) for details!



Fix outdoor sprinkler leaks, overspray, and runoff immediately.



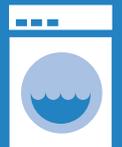
Repair toilets! A leaky toilet can waste up to 50 gallons per day.



Turn off water when brushing teeth or shaving. Saves 8 gallons per day.



Cut your shower from 10 minutes to 5. Saves 18 gallons per shower.



Run dishwasher and washing machine only when full. Saves up to 25 gallons per day.

# Priming the pump for future water pros



Local high school students take part in an IRWD Water Academy tour.

Not a lot of people grow up thinking they want to become water professionals—but it's a rewarding career with opportunities for just about any field. Irvine Ranch Water District is active in many local and industry programs to help expose young people to careers in our industry.

As a part of this outreach, we recently partnered with Santiago Canyon College to host a group of high school students at our Michelson Water Recycling Plant, where they

learned about the many benefits of working in a career that offers steady employment and opportunities to grow in your career.

Water is essential to any community, and it takes a skilled team of professionals with a broad range of specialties to make sure your water is there when you need it.

For more information, or to request a speaker or tour, visit [IRWD.com/request-speaker-tour](https://www.irwd.com/request-speaker-tour).



**Q:** Hi Juan. When is the best time to water my landscape, at night or in the morning? Also, should I water all at once?

**A:** It's best to water your landscape in the early morning hours before the sun comes up. Evaporation rates are at their lowest, and water on the foliage will dry quickly to avoid disease problems associated with moisture from nighttime irrigation. It is best to water in cycles

with short run times. For instance, water at 5 a.m. for three minutes, then at 6 a.m. for another three minutes to allow water to soak deep into the soil to encourage healthy root systems. And don't forget to mulch, as this helps the soil with water retention. Visit [IRWD.com/watering-schedule](https://www.irwd.com/watering-schedule) for suggested watering times and watch your landscape to make modifications as needed.

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

## California native corner

### Juan's August plant: lemonade berry

Lemonade berry (*Rhus integrifolia*) is a fire-resistant native evergreen shrub or small tree found throughout area hillsides. The leaves are dark green and leathery, with a slight fragrance. It produces clusters of small, dense, whiteish-pink flowers that turn into tart red berries.

These berries are an important source of food for birds and small mammals, and the plant's long limbs provide excellent shelter.

Lemonade berry makes a great hedge and is also excellent on slopes for erosion control.

Learn more at [CalScape.org](https://www.CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](https://www.CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan



**Q:** Does IRWD have plans to resume water shutoffs and penalties, now that the state's moratorium has ended?

**A:** At the start of the pandemic, the District put a temporary hold on the discontinuation of service for non-payment, and suspended late fees and interest for customers unable to pay their bill.

While COVID-19 is still with us, many aspect of life have returned to normal. As a result, IRWD is resuming its regular discontinuation of service. This means that late fees and interest will be charged on past due balances beginning Sept. 1, and that discontinuation of service for delinquent accounts will begin Oct. 1.

IRWD is encouraging customers with past due balances to sign up for a payment arrangement to avoid late fees, interest and discontinuation of service. Visit [IRWD.com/services/request-a-payment-arrangement](https://www.irwd.com/services/request-a-payment-arrangement) to apply.

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

**24-Hour customer service:** 949-453-5300

**Email:** [CustomerService@IRWD.com](mailto:CustomerService@IRWD.com)

**Address:** 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618

**Website:** [IRWD.com](https://www.IRWD.com)

 **Like us**  
Irvine Ranch Water District

 **Follow us**  
[@IRWDNews](https://twitter.com/IRWDNews)

 **Watch us**  
[youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD](https://youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD)

 **Follow us**  
[@irwdnews](https://www.instagram.com/irwdnews)