

## Need help with your sprinklers?

Apply today to have IRWD pay up to 50% for irrigation system repairs.

[IRWD.com/landscapetuneup](http://IRWD.com/landscapetuneup)

# pipelines

MARCH 2023



Irvine Ranch  
Water District

## Save the date

### Plant Ahead at Plantenders

In-person workshop

**Saturday, April 1  
9 – 10:30 a.m.**

Spend the morning at Plantenders Nursery with IRWD's Shed Show host, Juan Garcia. Learn about a variety of climate-appropriate plants for your landscape and how to care for them. Afterward, Plantenders invites you to *Plant Ahead* by doing a little shopping—with a special 10% discount.

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

### Community Tour

In-person tour

**Saturday, May 6  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Learn about the water recycling process, and see how IRWD encourages water efficiency and environmental stewardship. The tour requires 3 miles of walking.

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

## Fix a Leak Sweepstakes is on!

Track down water leaks and enter IRWD's Fix a Leak Sweepstakes this month for the opportunity to win a \$100 Home Depot gift card.

Winners will be selected daily during Fix a Leak Week, March 20–26, and a final drawing will be held at the end of the month from entries submitted throughout March.

Entering is simple: Just visit [IRWD.com/fixaleak](http://IRWD.com/fixaleak) and submit a photo of yourself checking for leaks around your home. Here are some ways you can be a Fix a Leak Sweepstakes detective:

- Identify toilet leaks by putting food coloring into the tank. If the color leaks into the bowl, you need a new flapper.
- Fix and adjust broken sprinklers or overspray in your yard.
- Spot a broken sprinkler in the community? Send us a photo at [IRWD.com/reportleaks](http://IRWD.com/reportleaks) so we can follow up.
- Attend IRWD's **Don't Spring a Leak Workshop** on March 11.

Fix a Leak Week is sponsored in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency WaterSense Program.



## Stock up on mulch and save



Go crazy with mulch this season—and get 50% off your purchase—thanks to IRWD's Mulch Madness incentive program in partnership with Tierra Verde Industries at the Great Park in Irvine.

Now and throughout the year, IRWD is throwing a bounce pass to customers with this special discount to encourage everyone to mulch up their yards for greater water savings and healthier soil.

Visit [IRWD.com/mulchmadness](http://IRWD.com/mulchmadness) for details.

# IRWD meeting room guidelines

IRWD's public meeting rooms are a popular draw for our customers, who are welcome to use the Duck Club and Community Meeting Room facilities for free—provided they follow guidelines specific to each location.

Certain restrictions apply, including room capacity, setup, noise, and frequency of use. Fundraising, sales, and events that violate District policy are also prohibited.

To learn more about our meeting rooms, or to submit an application, please visit [IRWD.com/meetingrooms](http://IRWD.com/meetingrooms).



**Q:** I found a leak in my toilet, and fixed it. Can I get a break on my bill?

**A:** A higher water bill is frequently a sign that you have a leak. They may seem insignificant but, over time, leaks can add up to hundreds of gallons of water.

IRWD is happy to adjust your bill when leaks are found and repaired, provided your water use goes back to levels within your water allocation. You'll still need to pay for the water you used, but at a much lower rate.

If next month's bill shows you're back within your water budget, contact Customer Service, explain your situation, and we'll re-bill what was charged in the "inefficient" and "wasteful" tiers at the lower "base" rate.

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

## Ask Juan



**Q:** Hi Juan! Do you have any recommendations for fragrant plants I can plant in my garden?

**A:** Gardenias are amazingly fragrant and do well in full sun and partial shade, and fragrant sweet box is excellent for shady areas. Better yet, consider these California native plants: The shade-loving Catalina perfume makes an excellent shrub for any garden, with aromatic foliage and tiny clove-like scented flowers. The mock orange produces delicious citrus-scented

flowers, while the foliage of the coyote mint gives off a mint-like fragrance.

Don't forget about the many sweet-smelling sages, including hummingbird sage and white sage, used among indigenous peoples for their fragrant, medicinal and spiritual attributes. Happy planting!

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](http://RightScape.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan).

### California native corner

#### Juan's March plant: creeping snowberry

Creeping snowberry (*Symphoricarpos mollis*) makes an excellent low-growing and spreading accent shrub. A member of the honeysuckle family, it does well in arid areas and grows best near the coast, tolerating full sun to shady areas. The pink flower clusters appear in the spring, followed by white globe-shaped berries in summer. Learn more at [CalScape.org](http://CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](http://CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan



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