

## Holiday closures

IRWD offices will be closed Nov. 28 and 29, but services available online at [IRWD.com](https://www.irwd.com).

# pipelines

NOVEMBER 2024



Irvine Ranch  
Water District



Little John dwarf bottlebrush

## Tips for a clog-free holiday

Are you looking forward to feasts of rich foods this holiday season? Protect your pipes and keep your celebrations clog-free by disposing of fats, oils and grease in the trash — *not down the drain*.

Collectively referred to as “FOG,” fats, oils and grease cause pipe clogs and sewage spills. Here’s how you can prevent a stopped-up sink from spoiling your festivities.

- Place leftover fats, oils, grease, gravies and heavy sauces into containers with lids, such as jars, and put them into a trash receptacle for pickup on trash day.
- Wipe greasy pans with paper towels before washing. Place the towels into the trash.
- Do not put potato peelings, coffee grounds, eggshells and other food scraps down the garbage disposal. Put them in the correct waste bin.

Visit [IRWD.com/fog](https://www.irwd.com/fog) for more information.

## Create a yard you want to live in!

**New Shed Show episode will help you get started**



Turning your backyard into the space you’ve always dreamed of is easier than you think.

In our new fourth episode of The Shed Show, IRWD’s Juan Garcia will guide you through some simple steps to transform your landscape into a wonderful water-friendly retreat that you’ll love spending time in.

Go to [IRWD.com/shedshow](https://www.irwd.com/shedshow) to watch the full 7-minute show, or click on short segments by topic:

**Tip 1: Imagine life outside.** Get quick design tips to transform your backyard into a personal paradise with features that fit your lifestyle.

**Tip 2: Expand your living space.** Create your home’s best-looking room, on any budget. You can start small and level up later.

**Tip 3: More time for your yard.** If your backyard were just your style, wouldn’t you want to spend more time in it? Discover family-friendly features for kids, pets and adults.

**Tip 4: The pathway to success.** Pull it all together with a few stepping stones or a walkway to create visual cohesion. Explore pavers, gravel, decks and other options.

**Tip 5: Grow your own outdoor kitchen.** Adding an herb garden, veggies, or fruit tree is easier than you think. Consider raised beds, container gardening, and more.

Remember, even small changes can make a big difference. Check out the videos, and get started today!





# Hyatt Regency earns WaterStar status

Hyatt Regency Irvine recently completed a \$55 million transformation to guest rooms, suites and the pool area that included low-flow toilets, showerheads and motion-sensor faucets throughout the facility.

Water-efficient spray valves and high-efficiency dishwashers save water in the food preparation area — along with air-cooled ice machines, self-contained steamers and air-cooled refrigeration cooling. Cooling towers for air conditioning are highly efficient, with six cycles of concentration.

Hyatt Regency Irvine also upgraded its landscape, removing lawn and replacing it with beautiful water-efficient plants. Congratulations, Hyatt Regency! Go to [IRWD.com/waterstar](https://www.irwd.com/waterstar) to learn more.



**Q:** Why is my bill higher than last month? I used the same amount of water.

**A:** Your water budget changes with the season to reflect the amount of irrigation needed for your landscape. In fall, our plants enter a period of dormancy. The days are shorter and their metabolism slows down so they need less water.

A smart irrigation timer will adjust your schedule automatically, but those with a manual timer will have to make note of the water needs of your plants and make those adjustments by hand — pretty much on a monthly basis.

In November, run two 3-minute cycles for grass three days per week; and two 4-minute cycles once a week for water efficient plants.

Go to [IRWD.com/wateringguide](https://www.irwd.com/wateringguide) for a complete schedule, and check out our smart timer rebate at [IRWD.com/rebates](https://www.irwd.com/rebates).

## Ask Juan



**Q:** Hi Juan! I want to replace my lawn with a water-efficient landscape. Does IRWD still offer a rebate?

**A:** IRWD's turf replacement rebate is currently \$3 per square foot, and you can get an extra \$1,000 rebate for design assistance and a \$100 tree rebate if you complete the program.

Other incentives include up to \$255 for a smart irrigation timer, \$1 per square foot for drip irrigation, \$4 for every rotating spray nozzle you install, and 50% off all qualified

bulk mulch purchases! Go to [IRWD.com/rebates](https://www.irwd.com/rebates) for more information.

Got landscape questions? Email [AskJuan@IRWD.com](mailto:AskJuan@IRWD.com) or ask on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) or Instagram with [#irwdcommunity](https://www.instagram.com/irwdcommunity).

### California native corner Juan's November plant: California fuchsia

California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*) is a delightful plant, native to the foothills and coastal regions of the state. It produces clusters of bright scarlet trumpet flowers in summer and well into fall — allowing late season feeders, such as hummingbirds, to feast on their nectar. California fuchsia can tolerate almost any soil, from sandy to clay. Once it stops blooming, I recommend you prune this plant down to the ground in mid-winter. Do not worry, it will spring up beautifully the following year.



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