

Smart timer rebate offer!

Apply for a smart timer rebate of up to \$255, which can cover the cost of the device:

IRWD.com/rebates.

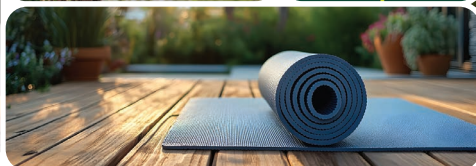
pipelines

FEBRUARY 2025



Irvine Ranch
Water District

Common deerweed



Find your yardtopia™

We all spend so much time inside, on our phones, in front of a screen. But when you have a yard or other outdoor space you love to escape to, you can recharge your own battery — no hardware required.

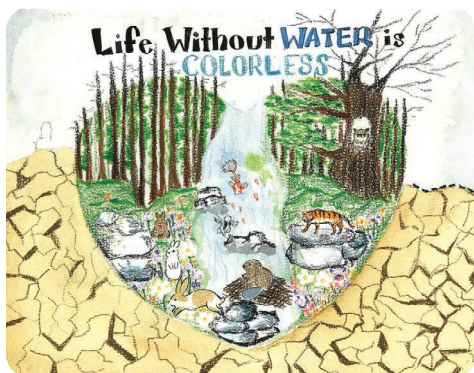
IRWD is proud to introduce the Yardtopia™ Initiative, because we believe your outdoor space should be used, and reflect your personality and preferences.

At Yardtopia.com, you'll learn simple yet sophisticated ways to plan and create your Yardtopia backyard with innovative design, gardening and landscaping tips. From inspirational images to step-by-step instructions, the intent of the Yardtopia Initiative is to beautify our service area one backyard at a time — while helping you expand your living space to your yard.

Whether you have a small patio or a large space, Yardtopia has ideas for all shapes and sizes, timelines and budgets.

Let us help you find yourself outside by creating a Yardtopia you'll use and love.

Water Awareness Poster Contest now open



Calling all young illustrators in our service area! Round up your art supplies and show off your creative chops in IRWD's annual Water Awareness Poster Contest.

Students in grades K-12 are encouraged to participate by creating a poster showcasing what this year's theme means to them: "Water Heroes: Saving Every Drop." Entries will be judged for originality, artistic ability, and adherence to the water efficiency theme and contest rules.

Finalists will have a chance to win an iPad from the Municipal Water District of Orange County, and could be selected for a spot on Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's annual water awareness calendar. Contest entries are due by Feb. 26. For contest rules and guidelines, visit IRWD.com/postercontest.

Fix a Leak Workshop is March 15

It's no use crying over spilled milk — but we *will* shed a tear over water leaks.

Household leaks waste nearly **900 billion gallons** of this precious resource each year in the U.S. That's equal to the annual water use of 11 million homes.

Fix a Leak Week in March is a nationwide initiative empowering everyone to repair even minor leaks before they become major problems.

You can learn more by attending IRWD's Fix a Leak Workshop from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 15. Sign up at [IRWD.com/events](https://www.irwd.com/events).

With the knowledge you've gained from the workshop, you can look for leaks at home, make your own repairs, and enter our Fix a Leak Sweepstakes in March for the chance to win prizes. Go to [IRWD.com/fixaleak](https://www.irwd.com/fixaleak) to learn more.



Ask Juan



Q: Juan, I need to mulch an area in my yard measuring about 800 square feet. How much mulch should I buy?

A: Mulch, mulch, beautiful mulch. There's a simple formula for that: square footage, times depth in inches, divided by 324. That calculation will give you the cubic yards of mulch you need.

In your case, 800×3 is 2,400, divided by 324 equals 7.4 cubic yards of mulch.

Right now, you can get half off bulk mulch purchases through our Mulch Madness program. Go to [IRWD.com/mulchmadness](https://www.irwd.com/mulchmadness) to learn more.

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

California native corner

Juan's February plant: Desert globemallow

Native to the southwestern states and northern Mexico, desert globemallow (*Sphaeralcea ambigua*) is a fuzzy, pale-green-leaved perennial with colorful orange cup-shaped flowers that bloom intermittently throughout the year to attract pollinators. Plant it in full sun in a variety of soils, and water it lightly in summer. Growing up to 4 feet tall, it can also make a striking potted plant.



Ask Customer Service



Q: I discovered a leak in our irrigation and had it repaired. What will that mean for my next bill?

A: Thanks for fixing that leak — and don't worry!

IRWD is happy to adjust customer bills when leaks are found and fixed, provided your water use drops back down to levels within your water budget.

You'll still need to pay for the water you used, but we'll adjust it to a much lower rate.

Contact us at the email or phone number below when your water use is back within your water budget and we'll work with you to adjust what was charged in the "inefficient" and "wasteful" tiers to the lower "base" rate.

Got a question? Email info@IRWD.com with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line, or call 949-453-5300.



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