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Irvine Ranch
WATER DISTRICT

Save the Date

Resident Tours

Friday, Oct. 13

Saturday, Oct. 14

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**IRWD Operations Center
and San Joaquin Marsh**

3512 Michelson Dr., Irvine

Visit IRWD facilities and the San Joaquin Marsh and learn more about the district. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Attendees must be 16 or older.

Register at irwd.com/learning/request-a-resident-tour.

Practical Composting

Saturday, Oct. 28

9 a.m. – Noon

**UC ANR South Coast
Research and
Extension Center**

7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

This workshop will review composting and vermiculture basics along with hands-on activities demonstrating practical applications to fit local landscapes in a working compost environment.

Register and get class fee info at ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=21472.

Fall Back: Waste Not, Want Not

It might still feel sweltering outside...but it's time to dial back your sprinklers.

In September, plants' water needs drop by about 30 percent even if the temperature is hotter. We have fewer hours of daylight, so evaporation decreases. Also, plants begin to go into a dormant phase, which requires less water. Some years, humidity is also higher, increasing your discomfort but decreasing plants' water needs. This rapid drop in water needs will continue into October and November.



Different plants require different amounts of water. So select the right plants for your home and keep them healthy all year long by following a watering schedule. Find your ideal watering schedule at rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/watering-schedules.

Suggested Weekly Sprinkler System Watering Schedule

	Turfgrass	Drought-Tolerant Plants	% Option*
September	4 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	70%
October	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	50%
November	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles of 4 minutes	40%

*Some irrigation controllers have a feature by which the watering times can be set by changing the percentages instead of specifically entering the days, cycles and minutes.

How Smart is Your Timer?

Did you know that there's a new generation of smart irrigation timers that make watering simple while saving you water and money? These weather-based controllers use a mobile app to give you access to your sprinkler system from anywhere. What's even smarter

about these timers is the **\$255-per-controller rebate** that IRWD provides toward their purchase. In some cases the \$255 will cover the entire cost. To learn more, visit rightscapenow.com/rebates/residential-rebates.



Congrats to Our WaterStars

Our district has a new corporate WaterStar:
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC).



IRWD's WaterStar program recognizes and rewards local water-efficient businesses. The program helps companies use less water, save on water bills and obtain financial incentives for efficiency improvement.

Equipped with high-efficiency, low-flow indoor plumbing fixtures, KMC's corporate headquarters in Foothill Ranch uses 23 percent less water than its monthly water budget. The work site is landscaped with 100 percent drip irrigation, which is significantly more efficient than conventional sprinklers. The company's average monthly irrigation water use is just 14 percent of its budgeted volume.

KMC joins previous WaterStar recipients Capital Group and Tierra Verde Industries.



To nominate a WaterStar, visit rightscapenow.com/programs/waterstar-business-recognition.

Fill Station to Close for Winter

The Recycled Water Fill Station will be closed Sept. 30, 2017, through April 30, 2018, for the winter season. It is tentatively scheduled to reopen May 1, 2018. IRWD will keep you updated on the reopening. IRWD appreciates your contribution in reducing drinking water usage by using recycled water.



Q: Juan, I recently changed the plants in my parkway area and planters to drought-tolerant plants. I converted my sprayhead sprinklers to drip for these plants. How long should I water these plants now as we head into fall?

use inline emitter tubing, drip run time could be 20–60 minutes, depending on various factors.

A: After converting to drip irrigation, you will apply water more efficiently, and at a much slower rate. Typically, drip run times will be longer, depending on the type of drip you have installed. For example, if you

For some of the most common drip systems, we have posted recommended drip irrigation schedules at rightscapenow.com/landscape-resources/watering-schedules.

Remember, plants' water needs drop significantly in September. To create a custom schedule, visit rightscaperesources.com and click on this blue "Water Calculator" symbol.



Have a question? Email askjuan@irwd.com.

Save the Date

Plan Now, Plant Now Workshop and Garden Tour

Saturday, Oct. 21

WORKSHOP:

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

IRWD

Multi-Purpose Room

15600 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine

TOUR:

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Various locations

Join landscaping expert Juan Garcia for a workshop in the morning and then take off on a self-guided garden tour, hosted by the Orange County California Native Plants Society. Pick up your tour map that day at the IRWD offices.



Register at rightscapenow.com/events.

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24-Hour Customer Service: 949-453-5300
Email: customerservice@irwd.com
Address: 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618
Website: irwd.com

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