

# pipelines



## Trash Boom Installed in San Diego Creek

Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) has re-installed a trash boom across San Diego Creek to collect floating debris and trash. The San Diego Creek is the largest watershed tributary contributing to waterborne trash entering the Newport Back Bay.

**THE SAN DIEGO CREEK TRASH BOOM PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE NEWPORT BAY FROM TRASH AND DEBRIS.**

The trash boom is stretched diagonally across the creek in the area adjacent to the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh, between Michelson and Campus drives. It's constructed of netting that captures trash floating down the creek. The trash boom achieves buoyancy with bright yellow floats, making it easy to see. When the trash boom was originally installed as a pilot project from 2004 - 2008, it collected roughly 3,025 pounds of trash per year. The breakdown of trash was: 41 percent Styrofoam; 26 percent rubber; 23 percent plastics; four percent paper and three percent each metal and glass. The trash boom is maintained by IRWD and includes regular collection and disposal of accumulated trash and debris. It's designed to operate during day-to-day normal conditions as well as during smaller, more frequent storm events.



A worker installs the trash boom in San Diego Creek.

While the trash boom will assist in preventing trash from entering Newport Bay, everyone can play a part by remembering to stash litter and debris in trash receptacles. Do not toss trash out of the window of your car, or drop it on the ground, or it will end up in the creek.



**24-Hour Service**  
**949.453.5300**

If you discover a disruption in your water service or other problem call the IRWD 24-hour emergency line and a representative will assist you.

**24-Hour Online or Mobile Access**

Visit our website: [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com)

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**Nip A Drip**

FIXING LEAKY FAUCETS  
SAVES 15 TO 20 GALLONS  
PER DAY, PER LEAK.

## For Immediate Savings Fix All Leaks Promptly

If your water bill is in the Inefficient, Excessive or Wasteful tiers, it could be evidence of a leak or over-watering. When unintended water usage is due to a leak or a malfunctioning irrigation system, after you find and fix the problem you may request a one-time leak adjustment to receive back some of the money you were previously charged in the Inefficient, Excessive and/or Wasteful billing tiers. A leak adjustment will not be given, however, until your water usage returns to allocation levels, which means that your charges will be within the Low Volume and Conservation Base Rate tiers.

In summary, save money and water by following these three steps: 1. Find and fix all leaks promptly. 2. Wait at least one billing cycle before you call IRWD customer service at 949-453-5300 to request a one-time-per-leak adjustment. This will allow time for your water bill to return to within allocation. 3. Look in next month's *Pipelines* for additional incentives for fixing leaks promptly.



## Our New Look for a New Decade

Have you noticed *Pipelines* new streamlined two-page format? These improvements were made to trim our printing costs and save trees, without a loss of information to our customers. To access continually updated IRWD information, customers can visit our web-sites, [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com) and [www.alwayswatersmart.com](http://www.alwayswatersmart.com). Customers looking for our most current community calendar updates can visit [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com) and click on "Community Events."

The mission of Irvine Ranch Water District, a public agency, is to provide reliable, high quality water and sewer service in an efficient, cost effective manner and environmentally sensitive way that provides a high level of customer satisfaction.

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## Go Green with eBill Service

"Go green" and eliminate paper altogether by signing up for electronic billing, or eBill service. It's a convenient, secure and environmentally friendly way to view and pay your water bill at anytime from your computer.

Sign up through IRWD's website, or through an authorized eBill payment provider, such as a bank, credit union or other portal that offers you the added benefit of being able to pay your bills online.

For more information, please visit IRWD's website, [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com), or call IRWD's Customer Service at (949) 453-5300.

IRWD also offers several convenient payment options. In addition to eBill service, other payment options include: credit card payment, automatic payment (have your water bill paid by direct debit from your checking account each month - there's no charge from IRWD for this service), by mail or in person.



An overview of IRWD is given the morning of each tour, along with a continental breakfast.

## Free Water Awareness Tours Scheduled

Have you ever wondered where your water comes from and what happens after it goes down the drain? To learn all about water, simply sign up for one of our free 2010 Water Awareness tours this spring. Tour dates are Saturday, April 24; Friday, April 30; Saturday, May 1; Friday, May 21 and Saturday, May 22.

These tours are open to those who live or work within IRWD's service area. This is an opportunity to learn about the water system, how wastewater is treated and converted to recycled water, as well as conservation tips. Tours begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Tours feature a bus trip to IRWD facilities and a walking tour of the IRWD San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Tours fill up rapidly and are available on a first come, first served basis. We are unable to accommodate children under 16 years of age.

Registration is available at [www.irwd.com](http://www.irwd.com). Click on "Free Programs" and "Resident Tours." Or, call (949) 453-5500.



## Quick Pay Option Update

Customers may process water bill payments over the phone or by computer anytime day or night with an electronic check, ATM debit card, or credit card displaying any of the following logos: MasterCard, Visa, Discover, PULSE, STAR, NYCE, or ACCEL.

There is a service fee of \$3.25 for these forms of payment. The full amount of the fee is passed to BillMatrix as the provider of this service. To make a payment by phone call: (866) 543-0112. To make a payment online visit: <https://payments.irwd.billmatrix.com>

Cut along dashed line and post this schedule near your irrigation controller.

### Suggested Weekly Winter Irrigation Schedule

Month	Turfgrass	Trees, Shrubs & Ground Cover	% Option***
January & February*	2 days, 2 cycles** of 2 minutes each	1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	30%
March****	3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes each	50%

The above chart suggests a weekly schedule for spray-head irrigation, assuming heavy clay soils common to most local coastal and foothill areas. Generally, these are the MAXIMUM times you will need for full sun areas. Start with this schedule and increase the times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated areas, check your irrigation system before increasing the watering time.

**Don't forget to turn off your sprinklers when it rains.** For convenience, consider installing an automatic rain shut-off device on your irrigation system.

\*In January and February, plants need approximately 70 percent less irrigated water than they require in the hot summer months.

\*\*By "cycling" the irrigation controller to turn on for the recommended number of minutes an hour apart, deeper watering and healthier root growth are gained, while runoff is reduced.

\*\*\*The % option, either a button or a dial, permits the watering run times for all electric valves managed by a controller to be increased or decreased with just one adjustment by percentage.

\*\*\*\*March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately.