



The newsletter of IRWD

April 2013 | Number 4

Michelson Water Recycling Plant construction continues:



Installation of electrical wiring for the new headworks mechanical screen.



New storm water pump station piping during installation.



Workers installing the spent backwash tank-pump discharge pipes.

management of wastewater services for IRWD customers. The project is expected to save IRWD customers an average of \$10 million annually over the next 20 years.

Irvine Unified School District

IUSD has used recycled water for decades to irrigate 270 acres of elementary, middle and high school playing fields. More than 600 acre-feet of recycled water is used each year by IUSD, which conserves about 200 million gallons of drinking water.

IUSD has expanded its use of recycled water to new school buildings:

- **Woodbridge High School:** The music and fitness building at the high school was completed in 2011 with its toilets, urinals and trap primers using recycled water.
- **Jeffrey Trail Middle School:** The school, constructed in 2012, is the first new public school in IRWD's service area to use recycled water for all toilets, urinals and trap primers.

For more about IRWD's innovative approach to providing recycled water, a reliable resource, visit www.irwd.com and click on Water & Sewer and Recycled Water.

How IRWD Helps the Earth



In celebration of Earth Day, IRWD demonstrates its commitment to protecting our environment through effective water and resource management with the following innovative recycled water projects:

Michelson Water Recycling Plant

A trailblazer in the recycled water industry, IRWD expects to complete its largest-ever construction project, the expansion of the Michelson Water Recycling Plant, in 2013. The expansion increases the plant's processing capacity from 18 million gallons of wastewater per day to 28 mgd and strengthens IRWD's water supply portfolio. Increasing recycled water extends IRWD drinking water supplies, reduces reliance on costly imported water supplies, and increases water supply reliability. With almost 5,000 connections and 450 miles of pipeline, IRWD's recycled water program is one of the most extensive in the country. In 2012, IRWD began serving its 50th dual-plumbed commercial building. Tours of the completed facility are expected later this year.

Coming Up: Biosolids and Energy Recovery Project

IRWD is preparing to modify the Michelson Water Recycling Plant to include a biosolids handling component that would integrate a new state-of-the-art residuals-handling system. The future project will allow IRWD to make efficient and sustainable use of locally generated renewable resources by allowing for beneficial use of biosolids and biogases produced during the wastewater treatment/recycling process. This project aligns with green and sustainable business practices while at the same time providing a mechanism for effective cost



The music and fitness building at Woodbridge High in Irvine Unified School District uses recycled water.



This is IUSD's first new public school to use recycled water indoors.

You're Invited !

Come join us at the **23rd Annual Upper Newport Bay Earth Day** celebration on, Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center at 2301 University Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Bring the whole family to enjoy environmental exhibits, face painting, a scavenger hunt, puppet show and live music. Presented by Newport Bay Conservancy.

Join the Irvine Public Schools Foundation at Strawberry Farms Golf Club on Monday, May 13th and golf for a good cause! Registration is now open for **IPSF's 3rd Annual Tee It Up for Education Golf Tournament** sponsored by Union Bank. Why not invite a few friends or colleagues to make it a foursome and enjoy a day on the course, followed by a wonderful cocktail reception and delicious dinner? To register online or obtain more information, visit www.ipsf.net and click on Golf Tournament.

Did You Know?

Ever since the great San Francisco Earthquake took place 107 years ago on April 16, 1906, April has been designated as California Earthquake Preparedness Month. The first 72 hours following an earthquake are crucial, so customers should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least that time frame after an earthquake. It is important to keep a supply of stored water, as this may be your most vital survival item. Equally important is the ability to receive updated emergency information. IRWD customers may sign up for our CodeRED Emergency Alert System at www.irwd.com, and click on Emergency & CodeRED in the Customer Care bar on the left side of the home page.

Composting Basics: Part 1 - Materials

Composting is an environmentally sound way to provide nutrients to garden soil which, in turn, enhances the health and growth of garden plants. Compost is the biologically active material that results from decomposition of organic matter under controlled conditions.

Three good reasons to compost:

1. To reduce green waste and landfill use
2. To recycle valuable green waste into a useful garden asset
3. To restore soil health



Composting utilizes the following materials: greens, browns, air and water.

Greens include grass clippings, yard trimmings, green leaves, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags and horse, cow, chicken or rabbit manure. Greens contain nitrogen that increases the breakdown of organic material.

Browns include dried leaves, woody plant material, chopped/ground branches and twigs, straw, hay, shredded newspaper or cardboard and sawdust. Browns contain carbon that increases the surface area and makes decomposition easier.

Water creates a favorable environment for the microorganisms that break down organic material. The compost pile should be as moist as a wrung-out sponge

Air provides the environment necessary for microorganisms to live and multiply. Turning the compost inhibits the growth of odor-causing bacteria and speeds up creation of the finished product.

Do not use meat, fish, poultry, bones, dairy products, grease, lard, weed seeds, Bermuda grass, nut sedge, dog and cat manure, charcoal or Duraflame ashes or treated wood products.

Next month: Composting Basics: Part 2 – Methods and Harvesting

Customer Service Information

IRWD Website Link & Social Media Channels »

24 Hour Customer Access

(949) 453-5300
email: customerservice@irwd.com

Irvine Ranch Water District

15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, California 92618

Visit us: www.irwd.com

Join our fan page:
Irvine Ranch Water District

@IRWDnews
@AlwaysH2OSmart
@IRWDemergency

View our YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD



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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IRWD Pipelines Newsletter

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