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JANUARY 2017 | NUMBER 1



Irvine Ranch
WATER DISTRICT

Save the Date

California Friendly® Landscape Training Class

Saturday, February 4
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

IRWD Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine



Become a Waterwise Gardener. Learn six ways to make your garden California Friendly:

- Using a Holistic Approach to Gardening
- Building a Living Soil Sponge
- Rethinking Elements of Your Site
- Right Plant, Right Place
- Using Rainwater as a Resource
- Managing Irrigation

Sign-ups required:
rightscapenow.com/events

Happy New Yard

Did you know that January is a prime time to establish a new landscape in Southern California? This year, save water and money by transforming your yard—or a portion of it—from water-guzzling turfgrass to attractive, drought friendly landscaping.

Not up for a big makeover project? No problem. Start small by replacing hard-to-water turfgrass in curbside and driveway strip areas. It's easy to convert existing sprayheads to drip irrigation in these areas, too.

Ready for the next step? Consider replacing the remainder of your front yard turfgrass with water-efficient, climate-appropriate landscaping. With 40% of your landscape being drought friendly you should be able to stay within your monthly water budget. Your beautiful new front yard may even inspire your neighbors to do the same.

View our online demo with graphic-rich tips for replacing turfgrass with drought friendly plants, trees and other water-efficient landscape features at RightScapeNow.com/demo.

What makes a landscape drought friendly?



Low-water use plants – Drought-friendly and/or California native varieties



Drip irrigation – Puts water where it's needed most at the roots of plants



Permeable hardscape – Lets water percolate on-site, reducing runoff



Mulch, both organic or inorganic – Helps retain soil moisture and suppress weed growth

40% OF TURF REPLACED
with drought friendly landscaping

Replace remainder of front yard
Click on plant names for details

Permeable Path
Sedges

Congratulations! With 40% of your landscape now drought friendly you should be able to stay within your monthly water budget.

Your beautiful new front yard may even inspire your neighbors to do the same.

IRWD.COM | Contact Us | Language

HOW DO I? TRAINING CENTER EVENTS & CLASSES REBATES LANDSCAPE DROUGHT TURF REMOVAL PROGRAMS

Home Landscape Interactive Turf Removal Demo

Click to see incremental transformation from turf to drought friendly landscape

Start 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

The interactive turf replacement demo illustrates the incremental transformation of a residential yard from all grass to 100% drought friendly landscaping, along with several helpful tips along the way.

Spring 2017 Resident Tours Announced

Curious about where your drinking water comes from and what happens to it after it disappears down the drain? Want to know more about your water district? Get answers to these questions, and more, during one of our free resident tours.



Learn about the journey your drinking water takes, the water recycling process, water conservation and environmental stewardship. Tours include the opportunity to meet other residents while enjoying walking tours of the Michelson Water Recycling Plant and the San Joaquin Marsh and taking a quick bus trip to the San Joaquin Reservoir. The day is capped with lunch and a discussion about water conservation.

Dates for spring tours are **Friday, April 28**, **Saturday, April 29** and **Saturday, May 6**. Participants must be 16 years of age or older. Sign up by visiting irwd.com/learning/request-a-resident-tour.

Money-Saving Landscaping Tips

Establishing a new drought friendly landscape area doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. Here are some simple ways to cut expenses without compromising the end result:

- **Buy small plants.** Not only are they less expensive, but they acclimate better as they grow. Don't forget to provide ample space between new plants so when they achieve full size they won't be overcrowded.
- **Purchase plants at a Southern California wholesale nursery** that's open to the public. Buying the plants online and then picking them up may also reduce delivery costs.
- **Recycle leaf litter** by using it as mulch, either ground up or left whole.
- **Lay down newspaper** (use black ink newsprint only) **as a weed barrier** before applying mulch to the soil.
- **Convert existing sprayheads** to either drip or microspray irrigation, but don't mix drip and microspray emitters on the same valve.

Ask Juan



Q: Juan, I can't decide whether to plant non-native drought friendly or California native plants. What's the advantage of each?

A: Both are excellent choices, but each type requires different care throughout the year. Non-native drought friendly plants require a little more water throughout spring and summer and provide an attractive landscape. Generally, California native plants are most active during the cooler months while requiring little or no water during the hottest months of the year.

As always, do a little research before selecting and establishing new plants. Group non-native plants with similar water needs together in the same hydrozone for efficient watering. Likewise, California native plants should be planted in separate groupings to accommodate their unique water needs.

Guarda la Fecha

Clase de Jardinería – California Friendly® Landscape Training

Enseñado en español

Miércoles el 22 de febrero
6 p.m. a 9 p.m.

IRWD
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Conviértase en jardinero consiente al consumo de agua. Aprenda seis maneras de hacer su jardín "California Friendly." La clase incluye información sobre:

- Métodos de jardinería sostenibles
- Construye una esponja de tierra viviente
- Repensar elementos del sitio
- Las plantas adecuadas para el lugar adecuado
- El uso del agua de lluvia como un recurso
- La gestión del riego

Registración requerida:
rightscapenow.com/events

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