

Planning a move?

You can start or stop service online at IRWD.com/startstop.

pipelines

AUGUST 2024



Irvine Ranch Water District

Common tidy tips

Local student artists shine in poster contest

Three cheers to all students who participated in this year's Water Awareness Poster Contest! All entries have been forwarded to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for a chance to be included in the 2025 Water Awareness Poster Calendar. Good luck, artists!

The following students from our service area were selected as winners in contests hosted by IRWD and/or the Municipal Water District of Orange County. Congratulations!

Grade K-8

- **Aeron Baek, Hara Jang, Gayeon Kang, Mingyu Kang, Seoyeong Lee** and **Sumedh Manthena** of Cypress Village Elementary
- **Jamie Park** of Deerfield Elementary
- **David Cha** of Eastshore Elementary
- **Bella Chang** and **Eileen Kim** of Greentree Elementary
- **Doyeon Kim** of Jeffrey Trail Middle School
- **Audrey Chao** of Myford Elementary
- **Caiyi Yan** of Northwood Elementary
- **Kanisha Mittal** of Oak Creek Elementary
- **Allison Rhee** of Orchard Hills School

- **Wayne Xu** of Portola Hills Elementary
- **Celine Eun, Jenny Choi** and **Akshara Deb** of Portola Springs Elementary
- **Claire Oh** of Sierra Vista Middle School
- **Elon Boushey** and **Kana LeQuang** of Vista Verde K-8 School
- **Ridhi Manhatnamath** of Westpark Elementary



Cypress Village Elementary student **Hara Jang** took the grand prize for her age category, winning an iPad from the Municipal Water District of Orange County.

Grade 9-12

- **Angelina Choi** and **Minseo Kim** of Irvine High
- **Flora Kweon** and **Yerin Lee** of Northwood High
- **Yeri Hong, Mooyong Kim** and **Jane Sarang Park** of Portola High

For more information and to view this year's contest entries, go to IRWD.com/postercontest.

IRWD is ready for fire and other emergencies

Irvine Ranch Water District is prepared for emergencies, including wildfires and the Public Safety Power Shutoffs that electric utilities can implement to guard against them.

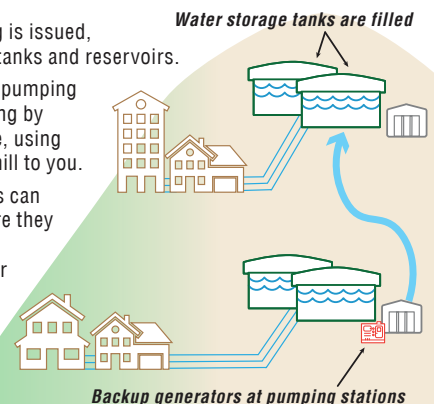
With safety and service in mind, we plan for emergencies in everything we do. Here are some steps we take to be prepared:

- **Backup power** – Our system is equipped with permanent and mobile generators.
- **Monitoring** – We watch the weather to anticipate problems.
- **Plan of action** – We top off water storage tanks, mobilize equipment and supplies to where they may be needed, and work with other agencies to plan a coordinated response.
- **Providing water to aid in firefighting** – Our recycled water reservoirs serve as reliable sources of water to help protect our community from fire.

Visit IRWD.com/psp for more information and safety tips.

WHAT IRWD DOES TO PREPARE AND RESPOND:

- When a Red Flag Warning is issued, we top off water storage tanks and reservoirs.
- Permanent generators at pumping stations keep water flowing by pumping it uphill – where, using gravity, it can flow downhill to you.
- Also, portable generators can be moved quickly to where they are needed to make sure firefighters have the water flow and pressure necessary to do their job.



Hampton Inn goes high-efficiency

Congratulations to Hampton Inn of Foothill Ranch in Lake Forest for earning IRWD WaterStar status by upgrading all guest rooms with high-efficiency fixtures—installing 1.28-gallon-per-flush toilets, 1.5-gallon-per-minute showerheads and high-efficiency faucets that double the water-savings at a flow of just 1 gallon per minute. Beautiful, water-efficient landscaping adds to the inn's savings so the hotel uses much less water than its water budget allows.



Find out more at IRWD.com/waterstar, and if you're a business in our service area—be sure to apply!



Q: I can't understand my water bill. Can you explain how it works?

A: IRWD's budget based rate structure assigns each customer a water budget, based on the number of people in the home, the square footage of outdoor landscaping, and the weather—adjusting for the seasonal water needs of plants.

Customers who stay within their water budget enjoy some of the lowest water bills in Orange County. Those who exceed their budget pay a higher rate for the water above their budget to cover the costs of more expensive water sources and water efficiency programs needed to serve them.

Your bill also includes fixed charges to cover fixed expenses of operating and maintaining IRWD's infrastructure. Visit IRWD.com/rates-charges for more.

Save the date

Watershed cleanup

Saturday, Sept. 21
9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Participate in our annual Watershed Cleanup, held in conjunction with California Coastal Cleanup Day.

Sign-up required:
IRWD.com/events

IRWD's H₂O Show & Tell

Saturday, Oct. 19
9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

A free, family-friendly touch-a-truck event featuring heavy equipment, water-related crafts, displays and activities.

Find out more at:
IRWD.com/showtell



Q: Juan, I missed last month's Dream-Design Your Yard workshop. Where can I find some of the information presented?

A: Sorry you couldn't make it. Go to IRWD.com/landscape for links to local design companies, a garden gallery,

guided plant search and more. With these resources, you can choose to update your landscape at your own pace, or seek out a designer for help. Everything you need is at your fingertips.

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

California native corner Juan's August plant: woolly sunflower

Woolly sunflower (*Eriophyllum lanatum*) is an attractive perennial that grows in compact clumps that bloom profusely with yellow flowers in spring and summer. It does well in full sun to partial shade and can be extremely resilient under the right conditions. It is a pollinator magnet and a host plant for butterflies and moths.



 **Like Us**
Irvine Ranch
Water District

 **Follow Us**
@IRWDnews

 **Watch Us**
[youtube.com/
IrvineRanchWD](https://youtube.com/IrvineRanchWD)

 **Follow Us**
@IRWDnews