

Rain in the forecast?

Turn off your sprinklers until rain has passed and topsoil is dry.

pipelines

JANUARY 2025



Irvine Ranch
Water District



Hairy yerba santa

Save the date

Pollinator gardens

Saturday, Feb. 8
10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Learn how to create a haven for butterflies with beautiful climate-appropriate plants.

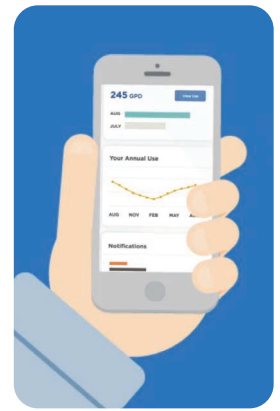
Sign-up required:
[IRWD.com/events](https://www.irwd.com/events)

A tool to track water use in 2025

Kick off the year with a better grasp on where you use water and the best ways to save, using IRWD's WaterInsight portal.

A quick and easy-to-use platform for desktop or mobile, this free service tracks your water use, estimates where you use it most, and provides customized suggestions on ways to cut back.

It also sends alerts when you've got a leak or your water use is running high — protecting your home from potential water damage and saving you from wasteful situations, like when you've forgotten to reset your timer or your housemate is taking very long showers, *again*. Sign up today at [IRWD.com/WaterInsight](https://www.irwd.com/WaterInsight).



Water filtration that doubles as a nature preserve

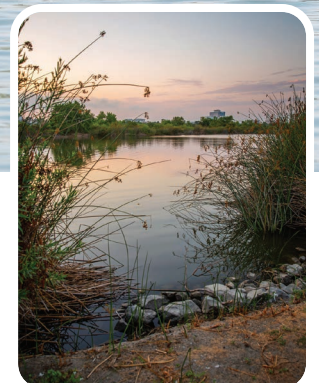
Nature is the world's most efficient water treatment system, filtering rainfall and snowmelt through the soil, and removing contaminants in downstream wetlands with plants and sunlight.

Since the 1990s, IRWD has been using a natural treatment system to clean urban runoff and protect aquatic life in the Upper Newport Bay and the ocean.

Water runoff from our lawns and streets carries fertilizers, pesticides and other contaminants into local waterways. IRWD treats that water in a network of ponds at the Marsh to clean the water naturally — with 44 other sites scattered throughout our service area to do the same on a smaller scale.

The side benefit is how these systems come to life. Check it out for yourself!

The Marsh is home to more than 300 species of birds, with more than 12 miles of trails on 320 acres of natural beauty. It is free to the public and open from dawn to dusk every day at Campus Drive and Riparian View in Irvine. Visit [IRWD.com/marsh](https://www.irwd.com/marsh) for more information.



Get 50% off irrigation system repairs

As much as half the water used outdoors is lost, in part, from runoff caused by inefficient irrigation systems, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. For perspective, just one household with faulty sprinklers can waste 25,000 gallons of water a year — that's 208,500 pounds of water!

Sprinklers are needed less in the winter, making this an ideal time to apply for IRWD's Sprinkler Repair Program to get your system fixed.

Here's how it works:

- Apply at [IRWD.com/sprinklerrepair](https://www.irwd.com/sprinklerrepair).
- Once approved, schedule a site evaluation and pay a \$137.50 evaluation fee.
- Get your repairs done, and you'll pay for only 50% of the cost — we'll cover the rest.

This program is available to IRWD customers with no delinquencies on their water bill in the past 12 months.



Q: I pledged to cut back on waste in 2025. How do I stop getting my water bill in the mail?

A: It's easy! Go to [IRWD.com/billpay](https://www.irwd.com/billpay) to sign up for electronic billing in our bill payment portal. Then, be sure to check the "paperless" option to stop receiving a bill in the mail.

You'll still receive monthly statements by email, and you'll have round-the-clock access to past statements in our secure, online portal.

Congratulations on doing your part to lessen our collective impact on not only forest ecosystems and biodiversity, but on the energy and water used in the production, shipping and processing of paper.

Got a question? Email info@irwd.com with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line, or call 949-453-5300.

Ask Juan



Q: What's the best time to prune my fruit trees?

A: For deciduous fruits, shoot for January and February. They are still bare at this time, and you can see their structure to better control their size and shape. For citrus, late winter and early spring are best, trimming them right before their first flush of new growth. This new growth is where the tree will flower and set fruit. Learn more at homeorchard.ucanr.edu.

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

California native corner

Juan's January plant: Hillside gooseberry

This large and easy-to-grow shrub produces elegant pink, purple or yellow fuchsia-like blooms that attract hummingbirds and several butterfly species, including the tailed copper, hoary comma and oreas comma. It's also an important plant for local birds, who feast on its berries. Plant it in a location where it has room to grow and its spiny branches won't be a problem.



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