

# splash



FALL 2008

## NEW Rebates Offer Customers Money Back on Water-saving Devices

Waterworks District unveiled a new rebate program in June which offers cash back for the purchase of water-saving devices that will reduce water waste both indoors and outside. Rebates range from \$50 to \$200, except for the sprinkler nozzle rebate, which is \$4 for each nozzle and the synthetic turf rebate which is .30 cents per square foot. Rebate devices include:

- Rotating sprinkler nozzles
- Weather- based sprinkler controllers (\$200 rebate!)
- High-efficiency clothes washers
- Synthetic turf
- High efficiency and dual flush toilets
- Waterless urinals for businesses



All of the items eligible for rebates can be purchased at local hardware stores and nurseries, including the Home Depot, which has partnered with the Districts on their water conservation program. For more information about synthetic turf, please contact the Water Conservation Manager at (626)300-3362. Customers can visit <http://lacwaterworks.org/> to learn more or to apply for a rebate.

## California Natives: Now is the Time to Plant

Landscaping your yard and garden with California native plants is a smart alternative for residents who want to have a beautiful garden and save water and money. The best time to plant these plants—such as California lilac, rosemary, Douglas iris, deer grass, and the many varieties of sage -- is between October and May. Using native or drought-tolerant plants not only saves water, but saves maintenance time and produces a habitat for native birds, beneficial insects and wildlife.

For more information, seeds, plants, planting tips, and great landscaping ideas, visit <http://www.theodorepayne.org/>, <http://www.bewaterwise.com/> or <http://www.laspilitas.com/>

Watch your water bill for more information about a native plant sale cohosted by the Waterworks District on December 6, 2008.

## Free Water-Use Surveys Save Water and Money

You can do even more to save water by signing up for an easy, on-site water evaluation of your home or business. These free surveys offered by the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts can help identify leaks, check sprinkler systems for problems, and provide and install free water-saving devices such as faucet aerators and low-flow shower heads.

Customers can request a water-use evaluation, and a District representative will visit the home to identify areas where water is being wasted, provide a customized outdoor watering schedule and provide information about what each you can do to save water and bring water bills down. On average, customers save 10 percent more water without any lifestyle changes by participating in this program. Making a few simple changes can reduce their water usage even more!

Call or email today to schedule a free water-use evaluation!

(888) 987-9473

[conserve@waterwiseconsulting.com](mailto:conserve@waterwiseconsulting.com)



## Drought Continues in California.

We continue to experience a drought in California due to low rainfall and below-average snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, as well as court-ordered restrictions in the amount of water pumped from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. Southern California depends on imported water from the Delta to meet a large part of our water needs, and decreased supply makes it extremely important for all of us to conserve water.

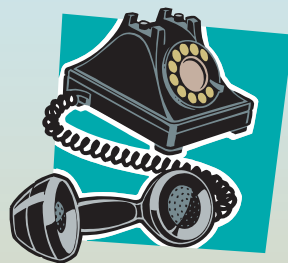
Waterworks District customers have done an excellent job of conserving water in 2008. Using water more efficiently and changing some wasteful habits now will be extremely helpful if this drought continues, as we may be faced with water shortages in the future. Making simple changes to conserve water now will make it much easier to stay within the consumption targets if and when there is a shortage.

If you haven't done so already, here are some simple and effective steps you can take to reduce water use now:

To report water leaks or nuisance water running into the street, call

**(800) 675-HELP**

Please provide an address or general location for our Waterworks crews to investigate.



## Do Your Part to Conserve

- Outdoor watering—particularly landscaping—accounts for up to 70 percent of water use. Set your sprinklers to water during the coolest part of the day to reduce evaporation, before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Reducing the amount of time you water by one or two minutes per station can also save hundreds of gallons a week.
- Check your sprinkler system. Sprinkler systems are not truly “automatic.” They need frequent monitoring and adjustment. Do a weekly check for broken or clogged sprinkler heads and replace them right away. Make sure you are watering plants and not driveways, sidewalks, or parking lots.
- In lieu of lawns and flora not suited for dry climates, plant native species or drought-tolerant plants. These plants are beautiful, are adapted to the area, and require very little water and maintenance once established.
- Use a broom (not a hose) to sweep up dirt, leaves, or grass cuttings. Instruct your maintenance or gardening staff to follow these procedures as well.

For more water saving tips, visit <http://lacwaterworks.org>. Every drop counts -- Save water and money!



**Mission: To provide reliable, high-quality water and service at a reasonable cost to all of our customers.**



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