

# DROUGHT WATCH

# pipelines

MARCH 2016 | NUMBER 3



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## Save the Date

### Turf Be Gone, a RightScape Workshop

Wednesday, March 9  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Irvine Ranch Water District  
Multi Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine

Learn steps on how to remove your lawn and create a drought-friendly garden.

Sign up:  
[rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events)

### Water Efficiency 101 Workshop

Wednesday, March 16  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Irvine Ranch Water District  
Multi Purpose Room  
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.  
Irvine

Learn how you can save water and money. Receive helpful tips on how to be more efficient inside and outside your home.

Sign up:  
[rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events)

## Daylight Saving Means Sprinkler Savings

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 13 at 2 a.m., at which time we set our clocks ahead to 3 a.m. Use the start of Daylight Saving as a reminder to check and/or replace the batteries in your

irrigation controllers and smoke detectors. Most irrigation controllers use a 9-volt battery to maintain the programmed schedule in the event of a power outage. If the battery is dead and there is a power outage, the irrigation controller's schedule resets to the factory default of watering 10 minutes per day, seven days per week.



## Fix Leaks, Win \$100

Enter our Fix a Leak Contest during Fix a Leak Week, March 14–20. To enter, submit photos of yourself checking for leaks through March 31 at [irwd.com/fixaleak](http://irwd.com/fixaleak). For each photo submitted, participants will receive an entry to win a \$100 gift card to The Home Depot. Each participant will also receive one coupon in the mail good for \$5 off at The Home Depot.

Use this checklist to be a Fix a Leak Contest detective:

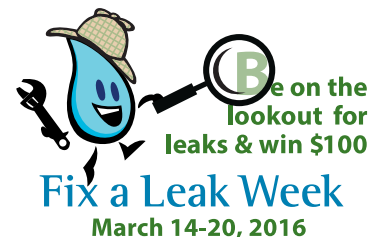
- Check for toilet flapper leaks by dropping food coloring or dye tablets into your toilet tank. Check to see if the color leaks into the bowl after 20–30 minutes.
- Check for broken sprinklers or overspray. Fix and adjust your sprinklers if you find these problems.
- Check your sprinkler controller to ensure it has been adjusted for seasonal low-water use.

Additional places where you can find leaks in your home:

- Hose bibs
- Bathtub/shower diverters
- Irrigation valves and lines
- Hot water tanks
- Faucets
- Swimming pools
- Showerheads

Be sure to adjust, repair or replace any leaky components that you find.

Fix a Leak Week is sponsored in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency WaterSense® Program. For full contest details, visit [irwd.com/fixaleak](http://irwd.com/fixaleak).



# Ask Juan



## Q: When can I start watering again?

**A:** Whether El Niño comes on strong in March and April or fizzles out, we are still recovering from four straight years of drought with the possibility of a fifth year quite likely, making it very important to continue being water efficient. During this time of year, the days remain shorter and plant watering needs continue to be reduced, so regardless of the temperature and how much rainfall we've received,

let's all keep using less water this winter. In any event, you can wait until late spring to start watering your landscape again.

Please email Juan Garcia, the IRWD Landscape Water Use Efficiency Specialist, any drought friendly gardening or irrigation questions you may have. Email: [rightscape@irwd.com](mailto:rightscape@irwd.com).

## UCCE Workshop Series

### Garden Design: From Concept to Finish

South Coast Research and Extension Center • 7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

This three-part University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Workshop Series is free and open to the public.

**Garden Design Basics**  
Saturday, April 2  
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**Efficient Irrigation**  
Saturday, April 9  
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**Putting It All Together**  
Saturday, April 23  
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

This workshop series is limited to 24 participants. Sign up required at [rightscapenow.com/events](http://rightscapenow.com/events). Participants MUST attend all three workshops.



## Time to Think About Summer Camp

The Irvine Ranch Water District San Joaquin Marsh provides the ideal setting for fun and learning.

Sea and Sage Audubon Society will once again host its popular nature camps, and Discovery Science Center is back to offer its Summer Smiles and Project Discovery camps. Programs are available for children ages 5 through 12.

Visit [seaandsageaudubon.org](http://seaandsageaudubon.org) (click "Education" then "Nature Day Camps") and [discoverycube.org/oc](http://discoverycube.org/oc) (click "Summer Camps" under the "Education" tab) for dates and registration.



## Save the Date

### The Home Depot Garden Sale Event

**Saturday, March 19**  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
6200 Irvine Blvd.  
Irvine

This event features discounts on drought-friendly plants, vendor displays and children's activities.

### Climate Change and California's Snow Pack: How Much Will We Lose?

**Thursday, March 31**  
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
UC Irvine  
Donald Bren Hall 6011

This talk will describe the diminishing odds of achieving spring snow water volume that meets or exceeds median historical levels, and the increasing likelihood of extremely low snow water amounts.

**RSVP:** [https://uci-oai.formstack.com/forms/3\\_31\\_16\\_cayan](https://uci-oai.formstack.com/forms/3_31_16_cayan)

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