

In This Issue:

Enjoy Fall Wildlife at
IRWD Marsh

Time to Plant
Workshop

Control Your Controller
Workshop

Ask Juan

pipelines

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Save the Date

My Garden, My Watershed

Wednesday, Oct. 16
6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

IRWD
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Learn the steps to create a water-efficient garden that is watershed-conscious. We will discuss creating healthy soils, rainwater capture and reuse, California native plants, efficient irrigation, and more.

Practical Composting

Saturday, Oct. 26
9 a.m. – noon

UC ANR South Coast Research and Extension Center
7601 Irvine Blvd., Irvine

Composting and vermiculture basics with hands-on activities demonstrating practical applications for small spaces.

Sign-up required:
RightScopeNow.com/events

Businesses and You Can Be Sewer Savvy

Everything flushed or sent down the drain in IRWD's service area flows into a 1,100-mile network of sewer pipelines that wind their way to local treatment plants.

This wide-ranging system benefits from the cooperation of all of our customers to keep the pipelines flowing smoothly. To recognize businesses that are doing their part, IRWD has launched a Sewer Savvy certification program. That means restaurants are following the proper steps in the kitchen and maintaining grease collectors as they should. Property managers are educating their tenants about what can and cannot go down the drain. Plumbers are alerting IRWD to potential tree roots in laterals that could be



pushed into the main and cause blockage. (Your "lateral" is the sewer pipe that runs from your house to the main sewage collection line beneath the street.)

Our first six Sewer Savvy honorees are: Thai Café, Caspian Restaurant, Heyer Plumbing, Justin Time Plumbing, Barker & Sons Plumbing, and Property Manager Emily Morris of the Irvine Company's Parklands Apartment Homes. For more information, visit IRWD.com/services/sewer-savvy.

IRWD workers clear tree roots that had pushed into a sewer main.

Do Your Part at Home

Show your savvy at home by keeping these products out of your drains and toilets:

- Fats, oils and grease
- Food scraps
- Diapers
- Feminine products and applicators
- Cotton balls and swabs
- Cleaning wipes (all kinds, even those labeled "flushable")
- Dental floss
- Medications

Have Old Meds? Please Don't Flush Them

In observance of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Oct. 26, IRWD reminds you to dispose of medications properly. Flushed drugs can harm wildlife and pollute the ecosystem. It is best to take those expired or unneeded meds to a collection site, many of which are open year-round. Local sites include:

- **Garfield Beach CVS**, 1020 Irvine Ave., Newport Beach
- **Kaiser Permanente Pharmacy**, 6650 Alton Parkway, Irvine
- **Walgreens**, 13052 Newport Ave., Tustin

To find a collection site near you, visit takebackday.dea.gov.



Enjoy Fall Wildlife at IRWD Marsh

The IRWD San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary is one of our community's best-kept secrets. With more than 300 acres of coastal freshwater wetlands, this natural habitat gives visitors the opportunity to commune with plants and wildlife. And you're always invited.

Enjoy a walk along the 12 miles of trails, or take a photo of some of the 200+ bird species that reside at the marsh. This sanctuary is the jewel of IRWD's Natural Treatment System—a network of man-made wetlands throughout our community that naturally remove contaminants from urban runoff, preventing them from reaching Upper Newport Bay.



Courtesy of Sea & Sage Audubon Society

The Marsh also serves as a classroom for students. Discovery Cube Orange County offers hands-on activities and field trips so students can learn the science of water. IRWD also works with the Sea & Sage Audubon Society to provide a variety of wildlife education programs and tours.

Plan Your Visit

- San Joaquin Marsh is at 5 Riparian View in Irvine. For a map and more information, visit IRWD.com/san-joaquin-marsh.
- Come any day. It's open dawn to dusk seven days a week.
- Enjoy the wetlands on foot. No bikes, scooters or horses.
- This is a wildlife refuge and place for quiet reflection. No dogs permitted.



Q: I'm considering changing up my landscape into something more water-friendly. Is this the right time?

A: Another summer gone and fall is here. Fall is the best time to start planning your landscaping projects. You can start off small or go big. Begin by creating a plant list of the things you want to include. Also prepare areas that will be relandscaped. With the rainy season on the horizon, this is a perfect time to plan, prep and plant. Taking advantage of the rain, plants will slowly start to root in as winter approaches. Come to us for more assistance: Join us for our November workshop, "Time to Plant." Also, learn about available rebates at RightScapeNow.com/rebates.

Got landscape questions? Email AskJuan@IRWD.com or ask on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with [#irwdcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/irwdcommunity). See past answers at RightScapeNow.com/landscape-resources/ask-juan.

Save the Date

Time to Plant

Wednesday, Nov. 13
6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Learn how to select climate-appropriate plants, when and how to plant them, and how to care for your landscape.

Control Your Controller

Wednesday, Dec. 4
6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

IRWD
Multi-Purpose Room
15600 Sand Canyon Ave.
Irvine

Basic sprinkler timer programming concepts and landscape techniques will help you save water and money. Explore popular weather-based sprinkler controllers on the market, discuss their pros and cons, and receive hands-on training.

Sign-up required:
RightScapeNow.com/events

Suggested Weekly Sprinkler System Watering Schedule

| | Turfgrass | Drought-Tolerant Plants | % Option* |
|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| October | 3 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes | 2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes | 50% |
| November | 2 days, 2 cycles of 3 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles of 4 minutes | 40% |
| December | 2 days, 2 cycles of 2 minutes | 1 day, 2 cycles of 3 minutes | 30% |

*Some irrigation controllers can be set by changing the percentage instead of entering specific days, cycles and minutes.

Find drip schedules at RightScapeNow.com/landscape-resources/watering-schedules.

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