

## Watch The Shed Show!

Our fun video series helps you make your yard beautiful and water-smart. Episode 1: pollinator gardens. Visit [IRWD.com/ShedShow](http://IRWD.com/ShedShow).

# pipelines

JUNE 2022



Irvine Ranch  
Water District

## Energy leadership keeps water rates low

When it comes to energy, IRWD does what's best for the environment and our customers.

Our Energy and Greenhouse Gas Master Plan outlines strategic measures to promote the use of renewable energy sources and other innovations, which help us keep rates low.

Renewable energy and other energy-saving projects are used throughout our service area, including solar power at our Baker Water Treatment Plant (1MW), at our Sand Canyon Headquarters (100kW), and our Zone 3 reservoir (250kW).



Installation of solar panels on IRWD's Zone 3 Reservoir

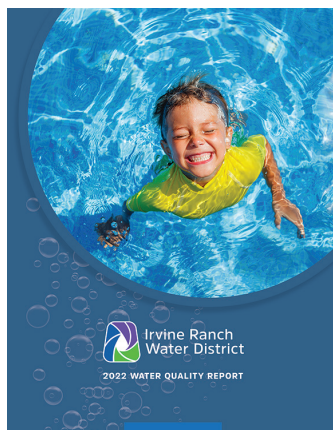
Our Biosolids and Energy Recovery Facility harnesses biogas from the solids treatment process to generate power to run the plant.

And our award-winning Energy Storage Project uses high-efficiency lithium batteries to store and power our facilities when electricity demands and costs are high. This saves money and provides an emergency source of power to support the energy grid—reducing the need for new power plants.

Finally, we track our energy use as a part of our Embedded Energy Plan to identify opportunities for future upgrades: Because efficiency in energy, like in water, can also save money.

## Drink up! 2022 Water Quality Report is here

IRWD meets all the exacting quality standards set by the state and federal government. Visit [IRWD.com/2022WQReport](http://IRWD.com/2022WQReport) to read the new annual Water Quality Report, to be released this month. To request a printed copy, email [info@IRWD.com](mailto:info@IRWD.com) with the subject line "Water Quality Report" or call 949-453-5500.



## Save the date

### Tap Water 101 Workshop

Online webinar

Wednesday, July 13 • 6 p.m.

Our Tap Water 101 Workshop is a special opportunity to meet IRWD's water quality experts and ask them questions. Learn about IRWD's testing procedures and participate in opportunities to win a water efficiency kit.

**Sign-up required:**  
[RightScape.com/events](http://RightScape.com/events)

# Save the date

## Year of Good Food

Online event

Wednesday, June 22  
Noon – 1 p.m.

Join us for a webinar presentation with UCCE OC Master Gardeners. Our speaker will cover a month-to-month guide for growing your own delicious fruits and vegetables.

**Sign-up required:**  
[RightScape.com/events](https://RightScape.com/events)

## Composting 101

Online webinar

Wednesday, July 13  
Noon – 1 p.m.

UCCE OC Master Gardeners returns to our workshop series with tips on composting, covering the basics of traditional composting and vermicomposting using worms.

**Sign-up required:**  
[RightScape.com/events](https://RightScape.com/events)

# Want to save water?

## We're here to help

We get it. Water leaks and irrigation systems can be intimidating. But don't worry, we've got you covered with helpful online resources at [IRWD.com/rightscape](https://IRWD.com/rightscape).

**DIY tips:** Check out the "How Do I" tab for online tools such as fixing leaks, checking your irrigation system, and designing a drought-friendly landscape.

**Training center:** Take a quiz and submit a request to speak

with one of our water efficiency experts for answers to your question.

**Water efficiency audit:** Click on "Contact a water efficiency specialist" under the "How Do I" tab to request a free water audit of your home.

**Rebates:** Find a variety of indoor and outdoor rebates under the "Rebates" tab.



**Q:** Juan, we are considering replacing our front lawn and are concerned about maintenance. What are your thoughts on Kurapia and Carpet of Stars as lawn alternatives?

**A:** Thanks for reaching out. Both choices are good. Carpet of Stars is a succulent that grows tight and dense. It's low-growing, but it is not suited for even light traffic. Kurapia spreads quickly and produces small clusters of flowers, and it can take foot traffic and light activities. Both are drought tolerant, Kurapia even more so, and they stay nice and green when maintained properly. Go online and do a little research to select the one that best fits your needs. Our [RightScapeResources.com](https://RightScapeResources.com) website includes a full gallery of plant choices.

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

## California native corner

### Juan's June plant: Chuparosa

Chuparosa (*Justicia californica*), also known as hummingbird bush, is a flowering shrub that does well in any desert or dry coastal landscape. It is native to the deserts of Southern California, Arizona, and northern Mexico.

When watered adequately, it can hold its small succulent leaves for a while but soon goes completely deciduous. In the spring, it produces a bountiful array of deep red tubular flowers bursting with nectar. It attracts a range of wildlife such as hummingbirds, butterflies, other small birds, and insects. It's an excellent low-maintenance plant for any native landscape. Learn more at [CalScape.org](https://CalScape.org) and [CalScape.org/planting-guide.php](https://CalScape.org/planting-guide.php). — Juan



**Q:** What can I do to control the mosquitos in my yard?

**A:** If you're using more water than you should on your landscape, you may be attracting mosquitoes. Small puddles and pooling water in flowerbeds and pots can create a breeding ground for mosquitoes, so overwatering creates the ideal conditions for them to thrive.

The best way to combat mosquitoes is to eliminate areas where they can lay eggs. Even the smallest amount of standing or stagnant water will do. Mosquito larvae need only a teaspoon of water to metamorphose into adults.

Be sure to regularly clean and change the water in birdbaths. Watch for pooling water in flowerpot saucers, and fix sprinkler leaks that result in standing water.

For more information about how you can safeguard your property and prevent mosquito breeding, visit [IRWD.com/mosquitoes](https://IRWD.com/mosquitoes).

Got a question? Email [info@IRWD.com](mailto:info@IRWD.com) with "Ask Customer Service" as the subject line.

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