

El Toro Water District

“Serving the Public - Respecting the Environment”

WaterViews

WATER AWARENESS IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

The cities of Lake Forest, Laguna Woods, Mission Viejo, Aliso Viejo and Laguna Hills recently joined the El Toro Water District in officially proclaiming May 2008 as California Water Awareness Month. The proclamations urged all citizens to join in supporting local water agencies and organizations in their efforts to educate and assist residents in conserving water.

According to the District's Customer Service Manager & Conservation Coordinator, Mike King, “every day is a water awareness day and water conservation must be viewed as the New Normal and Way of Life.” Water is California's most precious natural resource, and its availability in adequate supply makes habitable and economically viable large portions of Southern California that otherwise would not be so. The availability of water depends, in part, on weather conditions that no human can either predict or control. Because of the unpredictability of weather and other state-wide infrastructure and environmental constraints, the only way to ensure an adequate supply of water is to invest in and seek cost-effective and efficient systems to obtain and deliver water, to develop alternative local water sources and to enact wise water policy which supports and mandates the efficient use of a limited resource.

Water conservation is not the only answer to assuring a reliable supply of water for generations to come. However, it cost effectively compliments a diversified portfolio

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Tip #1 - Conserve water by washing full loads of laundry and by using high efficiency washing machines.

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of water resources and is in fact easy to incorporate and practice in our personal daily life.

El Toro Water District is committed to educating its customers about the importance of cost-efficient practices and water conservation indoors and outdoors. Regional and local water fixture rebate programs currently exist for High Efficiency Toilets, High Efficiency Washing Machines, Synthetic Turf, Rotating Sprinkler Nozzles and Smart Weathered Based Irrigation Timers. Please take the time to find out what you, your family and/or business can do to conserve water by checking the WaterViews "Conservation Corner" and accessing www.etwd.com, www.bewaterwise.com or by contacting our Customer Service representatives at (949) 837-0660. Remember, water saved today is water saved for the future.💧



Tip #2 - Check toilets for leaks. Fix or replace toilet with a high efficiency model.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water Quality is Priority Number One

The water delivered by El Toro Water District has and continues to meet all of the state and federal requirements for safe drinking water. This means that for more than 100 constituents that have to be monitored, none was found at levels considered unsafe by health agencies



Sometime during the month of July you will receive a copy of the District's 2008 Annual Water Quality Report (Report). This year's Report has been prepared in compliance with regulations called for in the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The goal of the report is to keep you informed about the quality of the water that is reliably delivered 24/7 to your residence and/or business.

According to the District's General Manager, Bob Hill, "There is never any wiggle room allowed when it comes to protecting public health." Advanced water treatment technologies, increased monitoring and stringent laws and guidelines have worked together to protect the quality of water we deliver to you and your family.



Depending upon regulatory requirements, water quality monitoring takes place around the clock, daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly. The District's State Certified field operators and laboratory technicians collect and analyze approximately 6,500 water samples each year. Samples are collected from 57 dedicated and approved sample sites located at reservoirs and throughout the water distribution system. Hill explains "the District is continually planning and investing in its infrastructure and water resources to ensure a high level of service and water quality is delivered to our customers."

We hope that you take the time to review the Report and to contact us with any questions. You can get more water quality related information by contacting our Customer Service representatives at (949) 837-0660 or by accessing our web site at www.etwd.com.💧

WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

Suggested Weekly Watering Schedule

Weekly Watering Schedule for Spray Head Irrigation Systems

	Turf Grass	Trees, shrubs groundcover
June	3 days 2 cycles of 5 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes
July	4 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 4 minutes
August	4 days 3 cycles of 3 minutes	2 days 3 cycles of 4 minutes

Rotating Nozzle Rebate Program

The latest innovation in sprinkler technology are nozzles that turn a standard sprinkler head into a precision device that can water your landscape better using 20% less water.

The nozzles shoot a multi-trajectory, rotating stream that applies water more slowly and uniformly than the conventional sprays and rotors.

Orange County single family residence are eligible to receive a rebate for the purchase of select rotating nozzles on or after July 10, 2007.

For a list of approved products, application and additional information, please visit www.mwdoc.com/wue.



Rotating nozzle sprinkler head.

SMARTIMER REBATE PROGRAM

Homeowners can get up to a \$540 rebate when you upgrade your outdoor sprinkler



Photo of ETWD's new Smartimer Control box in the their new California Friendly and Native Plant Garden.

system with a qualifying "smart" controller.

For more information, including a program description, your potential rebate amount,

restrictions and eligibility requirements, or to download an application, please go to www.mwdoc.com/Smartimer/. You may also call 1-866-846-3725.

SYNTHETIC TURF REBATE PROGRAM

Did you know that 50 - 60% of Orange County's water is used outdoors?

You can dramatically decrease your water usage and receive a rebate by installing synthetic turf.



Photo of ETWD's new synthetic turf.

Synthetic turf is friendly to both kids and pets. It is low maintenance - you will never have to mow or edge it - and it looks great year-round!

Orange County residents are eligible to receive a rebate toward the purchase and installation of synthetic turf. For a list of rebate-eligible synthetic turf brands, a rebate application, program guidelines, and all other program information, please visit

www.mwdoc.com/wue.

Water Education Corner



NO DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN

Unused prescription and over the-counter medications that are put in drains or flushed down the toilet pollute the environment, so please take as prescribed and dispose of unused portions properly.



UNUSED MEDICATIONS SHOULD BE:

1. Taken to a household hazardous waste collection center or event (no controlled substances allowed)

Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department has 4 centers that can assist with discarding medication; hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. located at:

6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine

32250 La Pata Ave., San Juan Capistrano

1071 N. Blue Gum St., Anaheim

17121 Nichols St., Huntington Beach

-or-

2. Put in a sturdy, securely sealed container, then in a trash can where children and animals can't reach them.



For more information, please visit www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org ♣

EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

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The Mission of the El Toro Water District is to plan and invest appropriately to provide its customers a safe, adequate and reliable supply of water, wastewater and recycled water service in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

Water Views is published quarterly to keep water users in the El Toro Water District informed about water and wastewater related issues and events. It is prepared by District staff. [Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.](#) Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at www.etwd.com. The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.

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