



Water Views

July 2011

"A District of Distinction"
Serving the Public - Respecting the Environment

ETWD Calls for Water Use Efficiency, Despite the "End of the Drought"

Even though weather conditions have improved significantly, the El Toro Water District is urging customers to continue to practice water use efficiency and employ water management measures that limit their usage to their ***property specific efficient indoor (Tier I) and outdoor (Tier II) water budgets.***

"A Water Budget Based Tiered Conservation Rate is an increasing Tiered Rate Structure in which the Tier definition is different for each customer based on an efficient level of water use by that customer."

The Tiered Conservation Rate Structure acknowledges that not all water uses are equal in their benefits to the community. The first priority for water use is for health, safety and sanitary purposes. As a reminder, efficient indoor water budgets are calculated based on the number of residents in the home and an average use per day/person times the number of days in a billing period. Efficient outdoor water budgets are calculated based on the size of the property's estimated irrigated area, real time weather data and the number of days in a billing period.

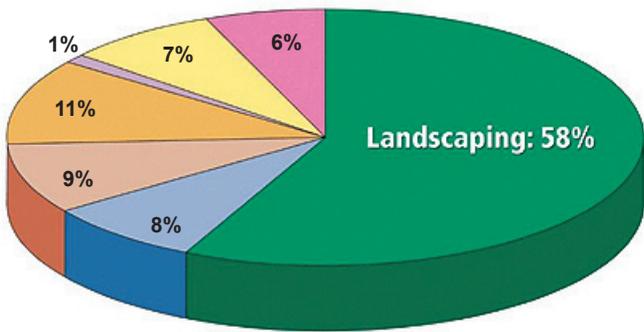
Customers managing their usage within their efficient indoor and outdoor budgets will pay a lower cost than customers exceeding their budgets. "Our customers have been very responsive to our calls for water use reductions and embraced the transition to the Tiered Conservation Rate Structure", says Bob Hill, General Manager. "I am happy to report that year-to-date over 90% of our residential and dedicated irrigation customers are managing their usage within the efficient Tier I and II." If you find yourself slipping into the more expensive inefficient Tier III and the excessive Tier IV rates, you can access water use efficiency tips at www.etwd.com and www.bewaterwise.com. You may also contact our Customer Service Representatives directly at (949) 837-0660 to verify that your calculated property specific efficient indoor and outdoor water budgets accurately reflect the number of residents within the home, irrigated area and to address any water related special circumstances. "Our goal is to continue to provide the cleanest and safest water at the most economical price" says Hill.

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Termination of ETWD Level 1 Water Supply Shortage Alert

In response to the Governor's declaration that the statewide drought is over and the District's wholesale water provider's termination of water allocations to the ETWD, the Board of Directors recently terminated implementation of the District's Level I Water Supply Shortage Alert that was declared in May 2009. **Termination of the Alert, removed the fall/winter and summer restrictions on the number of days per week a customer could water outdoors.** While the restriction on outdoor watering days per week has been lifted, the necessity for customers to abide by the District's adopted Permanent Mandatory Water Conservation Measures (Measures) remains in effect and compliance with same can actually assist you in managing your water use efficiently. For more detail on those Measures please refer to www.etwd.com under the What's New! section, then click on Water Conservation Information to find the "Water Conservation & Water Supply Shortage Ordinance 2010-1."



- Showers & Baths: 8%
- Toilets: 11%
- Leaks: 7%
- Clothes Washers: 9%
- Dishwashers: 1%
- Faucets: 6%

How Residential Water is Used in Orange County

Do you know that outdoor watering of lawns and gardens makes up approximately 60% of home water use. By voluntarily cutting your outdoor watering by 1 or 2 days a week, you can dramatically reduce your overall water use.

Visit www.bewaterwise.com or www.etwd.com for water saving tips and ideas for your home and business.

2011 Water Quality Report



Since 1990, California public water agencies have been providing an annual Water Quality Report to their customers. This year's report covers calendar year 2010 drinking water testing and reporting. *El Toro Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supply and, as in years past, the water delivered to your home or business meets the water quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies.* The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) are the agencies responsible for establishing and enforcing drinking water quality standards.

The report is intended to provide you with information about what you need to know about your water and how it may affect you. For more information about this report, or your water quality in general, please contact Mike King, Customer Service Manager, at (949) 837-7050, Ext. 203. As always, you may also contact our Customer Service Office at (949) 837-0060.

Upgrade and Save!

Reduce Your Water Use With Water Efficient Devices

Orange County water providers are offering rebates on water-saving devices that can help you reduce your water bill. Rebates are currently being offered on high efficiency clotheswashers, smart irrigation controllers, and rotating sprinkler nozzles. Get your rebate now to reduce your water cost and help preserve our water resources!

Rotating Nozzle Rebate Program

You can reduce water waste and eliminate water runoff by replacing traditional sprinkler heads with rotating sprinkler nozzles. Rotating nozzles water more uniformly and efficiently than traditional sprinkler heads, reducing your outdoor water use by up to 30%.



High Efficiency Clothes Washer Program

High efficiency clothes washers use 55% less water than standard clothes washers.



Smart Controller Rebate Program

Replace your basic irrigation timer with a "smart" irrigation controller. Smart controllers use information about your plants, soil, slope, and weather conditions to give your landscape the right amount of water. This helps reduce the amount of water runoff that flows off your property and eventually enters the ocean.



For current rebate levels or to apply now, please visit:

www.socalwatersmart.com or call (888) 376-3314.

California-Friendly Plant of the Month

Island Bush-Snapdragon

Galvezia

A Habitat for Hummingbirds

The hummingbirds start to show up during the transition period between spring and summer and love the tubular shaped flowers.

With its bright red flowers and bright green foliage, Galvezia speciosa (Island Bush - Snapdragon) is one of the happiest plants in the landscape.

Galvezia is a native of the California's Channel islands. It is a wood perennial that mounds up to about three feet in height and spreads to about five feet. On a slope, it will sprawl out and stay lower. Galvezia is also suited for pots or hanging baskets. It grows fast and takes any kind of pruning (for shaping) and will not require much maintenance. It blooms spring, summer and fall.

All Galvezia varieties will thrive in most garden situations in Southern California.

Source: Tree of Life Nursery, San Juan Capistrano



Galvezia speciosa **Island Bush- Snapdragon**

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Season:	Spring, Summer, Fall
Size:	3 ft. high, 5 ft. wide
Color:	Bright green foliage with red flowers.
Water:	Occasional Watering
Sun:	Full sun or partial shade

Are You Ready?



The vast majority of Orange County residents and businesses have made few, if any, preparations for a major emergency. More than 82% of residents in the U.S. and Orange County are aware that emergency preparedness is important to handle disasters. What about you? Are you ready?

The ReadyOC emergency preparedness campaign is challenging OC to achieve at least 100,000 Promises to Prepare in 2011. This goal represents about 3% of the region's total population and underscores the urgent need for more OCers to take action now to get prepared.

You can take the first step today by making a promise to get an emergency kit, make a plan or volunteer. Just go to ReadyOC.org, click on Promise to Prepare and follow the prompts. It's fast, easy and you can see your promise being counted in real time...right on the site! And when you promise, you can choose to be automatically entered for a chance to win an emergency supply kit or other prize.



Emergency preparedness resources and tools are available at ReadyOC.org to make this promise to prepare simple and quick. To download a free family emergency plan template and emergency plan checklist, visit ReadyOC.org today.

The El Toro Water District is a California Water District governed by an elected Board of Directors.



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 and is prepared by District staff.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

Please call Customer Service at (949) 837-0660 or visit our website at www.etwd.com.

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