

Winning WaterSmart Landscape Reduces Water Use

In San Diego County, over half of residential water use is attributable to outdoor watering; homeowners can significantly reduce their water use by replacing a thirsty lawn with water wise landscaping. By browsing the Internet or visiting a local nursery, one can research the many varieties of water wise plants that are available and thrive in the San Diego region's semi-arid climate. However, seeing that plant in a residential garden setting may be the best way to judge if that plant will work in your landscape.

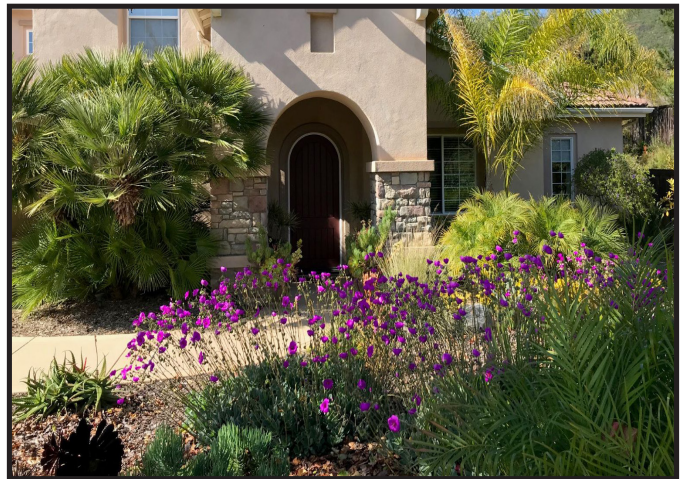
Water-wise gardens are located throughout local communities; the challenge is making people aware of them. Vista Irrigation District and twelve other local agencies held WaterSmart landscape contests this year with the goal of showcasing beautiful residential water-wise landscapes throughout the region. Vista Irrigation District was fortunate to receive a number of quality entries, and its contest winner, Deborah Brandt, showed how attractive water-wise landscaping can be when coupled with other landscape components.

Ms. Brandt replaced her water and maintenance intensive lawn with WaterSmart landscaping to save money and water and reduce the amount of time she spent on yard work. By including contrasting elements, such as a cactus, river rock and wood chips, against a backdrop of dramatic magenta, purple and striking orange, Ms. Brandt transformed a basic lawn into a dazzling array of textures and colors. Ms. Brandt chose low maintenance plant varieties, such as agaves, yuccas, Sea Lavender, Calandrinia Grandiflora, and Sticks on Fire (also called Firestick), that grow easily and require little care or trimming, providing her landscape "year round colorful contrast of form, shape and color."

Ms. Brandt admits she has really enjoyed receiving so many compliments on her yard transformation from friends and neighbors. By showcasing her water-wise landscape, Ms. Brandt is providing other homeowners with great ideas about how to make their yards attractive and use less water. For more information about the contest and to see more examples of WaterSmart landscaping, visit www.landscapecontest.com.



Front Yard - BEFORE



Front Yard - AFTER



Front Yard - AFTER



ARE YOU PREPARED?

As we have all seen, disasters can take many forms, including earthquakes, wildfires and storms, and can disrupt normal daily activities for extended periods. Any of these events or a smaller scale emergency, such as a water line break, can leave your home or business without water. With that in mind, below are some tips on being prepared before and after an emergency.

BEFORE an Emergency:

- Be prepared to be self-sufficient for 72+ hours. County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services recommends that you have enough water for a *minimum* of three days.
- Store at least three gallons of water per family member (one gallon per day) and additional water for pets. The water should be in sealed, unbreakable containers and be stored in a cool, dark place. It is recommended that you date the containers and replace them every six months.
- Learn how to operate shut-off valves to water lines and water heater. Keep tools handy.

AFTER an Emergency:

- Check local news or contact Vista Irrigation District to find out if your tap water is safe before you use it.
- Check pipes for leaks or breaks.
- If your water supply is shut off, you can get clean water out of your water heater and by melting ice cubes.
- Don't use pool/spa water as drinking water.

More emergency and disaster preparedness resources are available at:

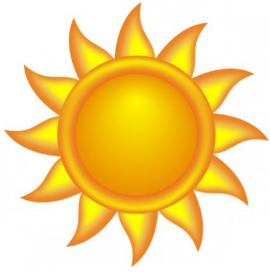
Preparedness: www.readysandiego.org

Emergency news: www.sdcountyemergency.com

Recovery: www.sdcountyrecovery.com

Essential community services information: Dial 211





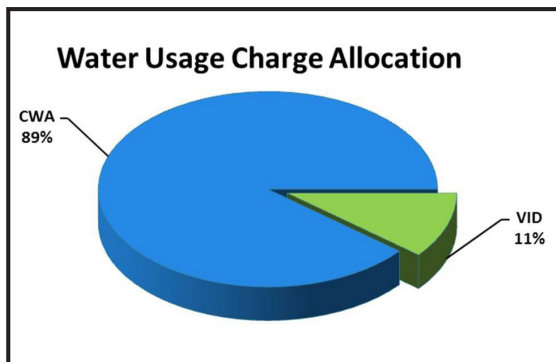
Keep your trees healthy through hot, dry months with these tips!

- **Prepare for heat:** Water trees a few days ahead of extreme heat.
- **Add organics:** Spread compost and mulch around trees to decrease evaporation and reduce soil temperature.
- **Water deeply:** Irrigate mature trees one foot deep once or twice a month.
- **Spread it out:** Irrigate to the edge of the tree canopy and moisten soil a foot deep.

For more information on how to “Help Your Trees Weather the Weather” check out <http://sdrufc.com/treewatering/> or call Brent Reyes, our Water Conservation Specialist at (760) 597-3107.



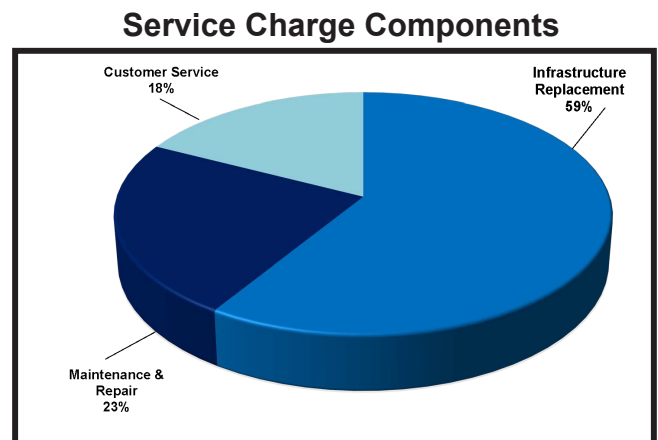
Explanation of Water Rates and Charges



Approximately 11% of the revenue generated by water usage charges is utilized by Vista Irrigation District (VID) to cover operating and maintenance expenses. The remaining 89% is used to pay the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) for water purchases.

The CWA is responsible for supplying water to 24 member agencies within San Diego County. Not simply a water provider, the Water Authority is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of regional storage, delivery and treatment infrastructure necessary to ensure the reliable delivery of water to local water agencies like VID.

Vista Irrigation District's service charge, which represents a small portion of a typical customer's bill, helps pay VID's fixed costs, which exist regardless of the amount of water pumped and delivered. Fixed costs continue without regard to the amount of water that a customer uses in a particular month and are sometimes called “readiness-to-serve” charges because they are incurred as part of keeping the water system ready to deliver water to any customer at a moment's notice. The largest component of the service charge recovers the cost of replacing VID's aging water system infrastructure.






Please Update Your *Emergency Contact Information* With Us

Please take a moment and provide us with a telephone number (or telephone numbers) where you can be reached in case of an emergency. Having updated information allows us to contact you quicker during a situation that affects your water supply. You can update your emergency contact number(s) by calling Customer Service at (760) 597-3120 or by e-mailing info@vidwater.org. When providing updated telephone number(s) via e-mail, please include your name and address or account number. Feel free to give us your work, home and cell phone numbers. Thank you for helping us keep you informed.

2019 water quality report now available on-line

Each year, Vista Irrigation District (District) produces a Consumer Confidence Report, also known as the water quality report, which provides a snapshot of the quality of water the District delivered to homes and businesses. The report features information about your water, such as where it comes from, what it contains and how it compares to federal and state standards. You can read the 2019 Consumer Confidence Report on line at www.vidwater.org/water-quality or call us at (760) 597-3100 and request a copy be mailed to you.

2019  **VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Vista Irrigation District tests the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

WHAT'S THIS REPORT ABOUT?
Vista Irrigation District (District) is pleased to present its annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as the Water Quality Report. The District takes all steps necessary to safeguard your water supply, conducting more than 12,000 tests for over 75 drinking water constituents. This report provides a snapshot of the quality of water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best customers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information presented in this report, please contact Dean Fink, Water Distribution Supervisor at (760) 597-3140. This report is also available on our website under the publications tab at www.vidwater.org.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?
Vista Irrigation District (District) uses four sources for your drinking water. The first one is local water, which originates from the watershed and well fields located near Lake Hemet. The District owns the 43,000-acre Warner Ranch which encompasses the lake and monitors activities that could contaminate it. Water from Lake Hemet is transferred to Lake Wohlford via a canal originally constructed in the 1930s. Once the water reaches the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant (EWTP), it is treated and disinfected to protect you against microbial contaminants. The second water source is the Colorado River. The third source is from Northern California. The latter two, called imported water, are delivered to San Diego County and ultimately to the District via the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority). Imported water may be treated at EWTP, Water Authority's Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant in San Marcos, Occidental's Robert A. Weisse Filtration Plant, or MWD's Skinner Treatment Plant in Riverside County. The fourth source is desalinated seawater from the Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant.

Estimated California Water Infrastructure Map
1. Local Water Source - Lake Hemet
2. Imported Water Source - Colorado River Aqueduct
3. Imported Water Source - Occidental Water Treatment Plant
4. Desalination Source - Carlsbad Desalination Plant

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad del agua. Comuníquese con Vista Irrigation District para obtener una copia de este reporte en español. Teléfono: (760) 597-3100



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FAX (760) 598-8757
www.vidwater.org

District's office hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Vista Irrigation District
Board of Directors:

- Div. 1 Marty Miller
- Div. 2 Richard L. Vásquez
- Div. 3 Paul E. Dorey
- Div. 4 Patrick H. Sanchez
- Div. 5 Jo MacKenzie

General Manager:
Brett Hodgkiss

District board meetings are normally held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 8:30 a.m. at VID's facilities located at 1391 Engineer Street in Vista.

Vista Irrigation District is a public agency, proudly serving the City of Vista and portions of San Marcos, Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego County.