

California-Friendly Landscape Workshops

Please join us for one of our FREE landscape workshops to learn the California-Friendly way to a beautiful landscape that uses less water and saves you money.

You'll learn:

- How to pick the right plants
- How to manage your sprinkler system for efficient irrigation
- The proper way to fertilize and maintain your water-wise garden

Saturday, March 6 & 27 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
MNWD Operations Facility
26161 Gordon Rd., Laguna Hills

Wednesday, March 17 & 31 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
MNWD Headquarters
25700 La Paz Rd., Laguna Niguel

COST: Free

These workshops include refreshments. Space is limited and reservations fill quickly. For more information or to RSVP, please call (949) 831-2500.

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For meeting dates and agendas, visit www.MNWD.com.

WaterLines is a monthly publication to keep water users in the Moulton Niguel Water District informed about water related issues and events. Please send any comments or suggestions to MNWD, 27500 La Paz Road, Laguna Niguel, CA, 92677, or call us at (949) 831-2500. www.MNWD.com.

Making Conservation a Way of Life

MNWD's Mandatory Conservation Rules

- Reduce water use by 20 percent
- Irrigation of lawns, landscapes and other vegetation is limited to three days per week (see watering schedule below)
- Watering is limited to a maximum of eight minutes per day, per station
- To reduce loss to evaporation, watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Excessive watering resulting in runoff is prohibited
- No hosing down hard or paved surfaces
- A bucket or hose with a shut-off nozzle must be used when washing vehicles



California Poppies

To learn more about this and other attractive California-Friendly plants, visit www.MNWD.com

Level 2 "Water Alert" Irrigation Schedule

Residential

Aliso Viejo and Mission Viejo
Monday and Thursday, and Saturday or Sunday

Dana Point, Laguna Hills and Laguna Niguel
Tuesday and Friday, and Saturday or Sunday

Commercial

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

MNWD's Water Conservation Program prohibits watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Recycled water users are exempt from this schedule.

**Conserve Today: Save Water. Save Money.
Protect the Environment.**

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Winter Rains Prove Water Shortage is More than Just Drought

The difference between a drought and a statewide water shortage may seem like only semantics to many people, but as recent rainstorms have proven, California remains in a water crisis in wet and dry years alike – no matter how you put it.



Even in wet years, court rulings and environmental regulations limit the amount of water that can be delivered to Southern California.

The term "drought" refers only to weather conditions, defined by scientists as a prolonged period of below-average precipitation. The recent rains have helped MNWD's two primary sources of water, the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Upper Colorado River Basin, which have suffered from several years of drought. Key reservoirs are slowly beginning to refill from all-time lows, but still remain at a fraction of their full capacities. Closer to home, the rains have been a welcome relief following

three years of below-normal rainfall, but unfortunately, MNWD doesn't receive any of our water supply from local sources.

So despite the rain, our water problems persist, because separate from the drought, California is also in the midst of a statewide water shortage. Even if Mother Nature bestows the state enough water to meet everyone's needs, court rulings, environmental regulations and an outdated delivery system limit the movement of that water from where it falls to where it's needed.

Conservation Remains Important

California will remain in a persistent water emergency until complex solutions can be reached that meet the co-equal goals of providing a more reliable water supply while improving the ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta – the hub of our state's water delivery system.

These solutions will continue to be the subject of much debate. But in the meantime, MNWD customers must be as efficient as possible - rain or shine - to protect our region's water resources.

Water Conservation Update

Since July 1, MNWD customers have conserved

9.8%

compared to this time last year.

We are **required** to conserve

20%

Are you doing all that you can?

Conservation Tip

Upgrade your bathrooms with water-efficient showerheads. They're inexpensive, easy to install and can save up to 750 gallons per month.

For more easy water-saving tips, visit www.MNWD.com or call (949) 831-2500.

MNWD Putting Bond Funds to Work for our Customers

It didn't take long for MNWD customers to begin benefitting from the District's recent strong credit rating. With a new AA+ rating in hand, MNWD quickly sold \$60 million in low-interest "Build America" stimulus bonds, and new water-reliability projects are moving forward as a result.

Baker Water Treatment Plant: Design work is underway on this 28.1 million-gallon-per-day facility that will allow south Orange County water providers, including MNWD, to treat our own water when Metropolitan's Diemer Plant is shut down (see story to the right).
Anticipated Completion Date: Summer 2012

Irvine Ranch Water District Interconnection: Design work is continuing to expand a system of interconnections linking South County water providers to alternative groundwater sources in central and north Orange County, for added supply reliability during emergencies.
Anticipated Completion Date: Winter 2012

Upper Chiquita Reservoir: Construction continues on this reservoir that will store 266 million gallons of water for emergency use by a number of South County water providers.
Anticipated Completion Date: Winter 2011



Upper Chiquita Reservoir

Become Water-Wise on the Web

Using less water is now easier than ever! Moulton Niguel Water District recently enhanced our Web site to help customers get the news and information they need to be water-wise.

- Learn tips to save money by saving water
- Sign up for a California-Friendly landscape workshop
- Learn how conservation protects the environment
- Save time and money with online bill pay
- View progress towards our 20% water conservation goal
- Encourage your children to learn about water in our fun and interactive Kids Zone

Visit the new
www.MNWD.com today!

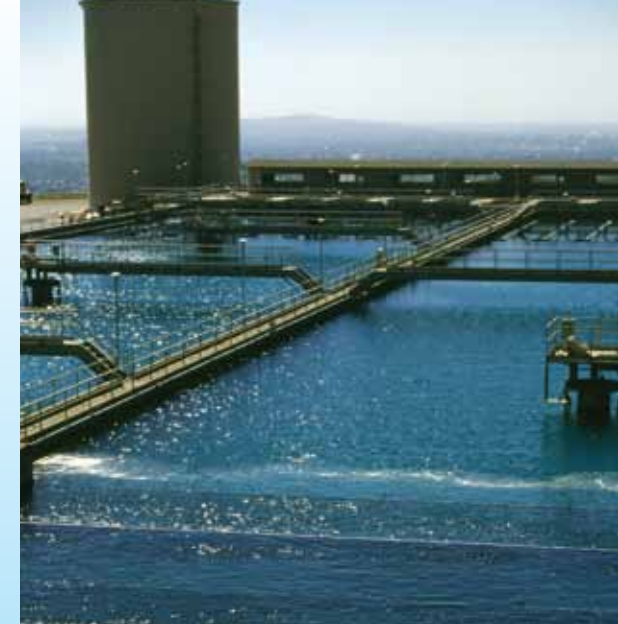


Thank You!

Added conservation protected supplies during treatment plant shutdown

MNWD asked our customers to greatly reduce their water use during the last week in January to ensure a sufficient supply during the planned shutdown of the Diemer Water Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda, which provides all of our District's water. Our customers did an outstanding job, cutting their use 40 percent over previous weeks and helping to ensure we could continue meeting local needs.

We greatly appreciate the extra steps you took to use less water, and encourage you to keep them up! Conservation is easy, and it's important everyone does their part. For more tips, visit www.MNWD.com.



MNWD customers reduced their water use by 40 percent during the Diemer Plant shutdown, proving how easy conservation can be.

March's California-Friendly Plant of the Month:

Wild Lilac



The sweet smell of lilacs is not out of reach for your California-Friendly garden. Many wild lilacs are native to our region and thrive with only the water provided by Mother Nature, even during summer. There are several varieties of wild lilacs for you to select for your garden, ranging from low, spreading ground covers and shrubs to small trees.

The wild lilac has become one of the most popular native plants due to its natural beauty and drought tolerance. This purple plant requires very little water, and in fact, most lilacs die from too much water, not too little. Lilacs do not like drip irrigation or any extra watering, and do well without fertilizer. Lilacs also enjoy full sun and well-drained soil, and naturally excel on slopes. This California-Friendly plant will stay green all year round, and will have showy sprays of butterfly-attracting blooms of light blue and deep purple in the spring, which will fill your garden with a fresh fragrance.

Wild Lilac *Ceanothus*

Season:	Spring
Size:	1 ½ ft.- 20 ft.
Color:	Blue or purple
Water:	None
Sun:	Full sun