



Water  
Conservation &  
How to make your  
HOA Landscape  
Sustainable

# Pop Quiz



What percentage of the water on earth is readily available freshwater?



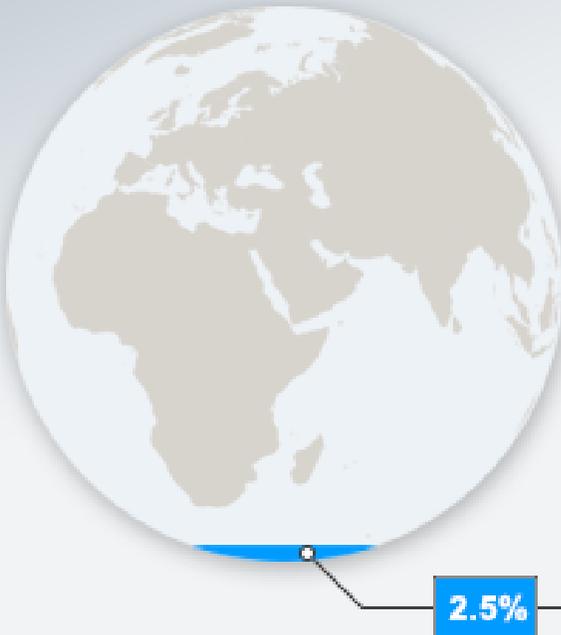
What percentage of OC's domestic water is imported?

Question: What percentage of water on Earth is readily available freshwater?  
Answer: ONLY 1%!

## Freshwater makes up a very small fraction of the Earth's water



Percentage of the Earth's surface covered in water



Freshwater (most of it is locked up in ice and in the ground)

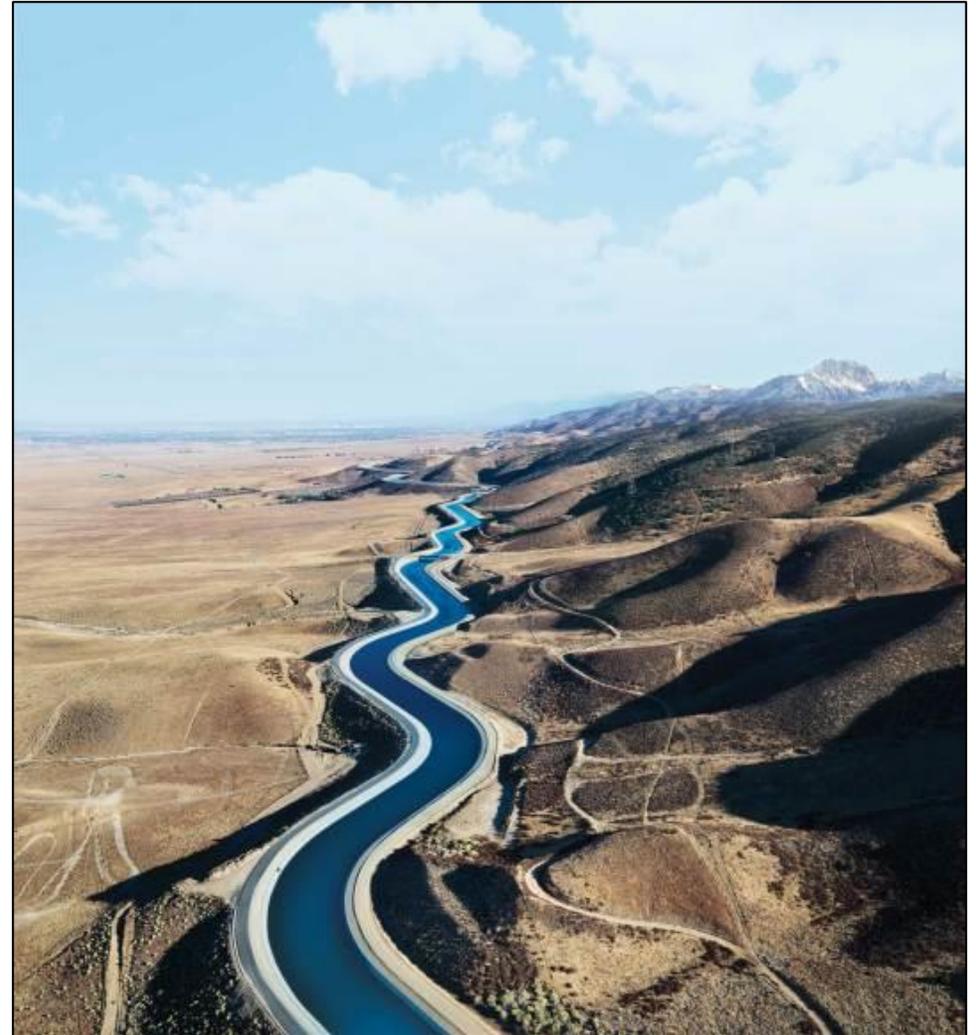


Readily available freshwater

Question: What percentage of South Orange County's water is imported?

Answer:

“South Orange County residents depend in large part on imported and recycled water, as the major groundwater basin is beneath the northern part of the county.” Bob Muir MWD



# Presentation Overview



Case Study



Strategies for Adaptation in an  
HOA landscape

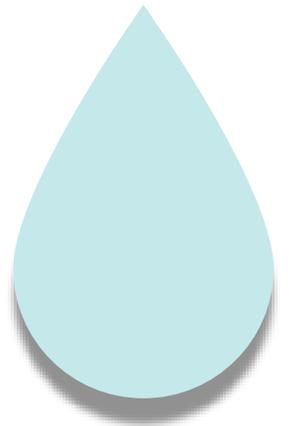


Incentives and tools available

Objective: To identify solutions for water savings at Colinas de Capistrano.

# Irrigation Solutions and Observations

Based on the field assessment, Monarch identified the top five strategies for increasing the efficiency of the irrigation system throughout the community. These key solutions are specific to the conditions at Colinas de Capistrano.



Objective: To identify solutions for water savings at Colinas de Capistrano.

1. Repair Broken Equipment
2. Remedy Blocked Heads
3. Controllers
4. Turf Reduction
5. Mixed Equipment





# Prioritize

## Water Meter Report Cards

### Water Meter Report Card

Landscape Sq. Footage Source: MNWD \$2.10 per billing unit. Usage based on average water use from January 2017-January 2019 Account: 60952 / Meter 536243 Report History: Initial Water Usage Report.			
Association:	Colinas de Capistrano HOA	Water District:	MNWD
Landscape Area (sf):	99,996	Prepared by:	Monarch Environmental, Inc.
Acres:	2	Date Prepared:	06.28.2019
LTM HCF Units:	1,119	Signature:	Matt Davenport
<b>HOA Water Usage Grade:</b>		<b>Water Usage Classifications Table</b>	
<b>B+</b>		Grade	Ideal Water Usage
8 gals/sq.ft.		<b>A</b>	<= 12 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>B</b>	13-19 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>C</b>	20-25 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>D</b>	26-31+ gals/sq.ft/year
Based upon conversion of water consumption in hcf units to 748 gallons and classification table above.			
<b>Current Water Costs and Savings Potential</b>			
<b>Annual Total Costs</b>		<b>Water Costs Classifications Table</b>	
<b>\$2,683</b>		Grade	Ideal Water Usage
Costs Per Acre		<b>A</b>	\$853 Dollars/Acre
<b>\$1,169</b>		<b>B</b>	\$1,024 Dollars/Acre
Estimated Savings*		<b>C</b>	\$1,194 Dollars/Acre
<b>\$725</b>		<b>D</b>	\$1,280 Dollars/Acre
*Based upon achieving ideal water efficiency with an HOA water usage Grade "A" when compared to the actual Annual Total Cost. MNWD is a tiered rate system and there are fixed costs associated with each water meter. Decreasing water usage may not result in net reduced water costs due to anticipated rate increases. However, reductions in water use will result in avoided future costs.			



### Water Meter Report Card

Landscape Sq. Footage Source: MNWD \$2.10 per billing unit. Usage based on average water use from January 2017-January 2019 Account: 60998 / Meter 536690 Report History: Initial Water Usage Report.			
Association:	Colinas de Capistrano HOA	Water District:	MNWD
Landscape Area (sf):	136,770	Prepared by:	Monarch Environmental, Inc.
Acres:	3	Date Prepared:	06.28.2019
LTM HCF Units:	1,982	Signature:	Matt Davenport
<b>HOA Water Usage Grade:</b>		<b>Water Usage Classifications Table</b>	
<b>C</b>		Grade	Ideal Water Usage
11 gals/sq.ft.		<b>A</b>	<= 12 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>B</b>	13-19 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>C</b>	20-25 gals/sq.ft/year
		<b>D</b>	26-31+ gals/sq.ft/year
Based upon conversion of water consumption in hcf units to 748 gallons and classification table above.			
<b>Current Water Costs and Savings Potential</b>			
<b>Annual Total Costs</b>		<b>Water Costs Classifications Table</b>	
<b>\$5,082</b>		Grade	Ideal Water Usage
Costs Per Acre		<b>A</b>	\$853 Dollars/Acre
<b>\$1,619</b>		<b>B</b>	\$1,024 Dollars/Acre
Estimated Savings*		<b>C</b>	\$1,194 Dollars/Acre
<b>\$2,404</b>		<b>D</b>	\$1,280 Dollars/Acre
*Based upon achieving ideal water efficiency with an HOA water usage Grade "A" when compared to the actual Annual Total Cost. MNWD is a tiered rate system and there are fixed costs associated with each water meter. Decreasing water usage may not result in net reduced water costs due to anticipated rate increases. However, reductions in water use will result in avoided future costs.			



# Overall Savings Potential and Prioritization Schedule

Monarch has analyzed 3 years of water use data from MNWD and put together a prioritization schedule indicating the order in which the HOA can implement our solutions community wide.

MONARCH ENVIRONMENTAL PLAY BOOK © 2019

## Savings Potential and Prioritization Schedule (Entire HOA Landscape - Long Term)

Priority	Meter Account #	Controller Number	Irrigated Area (square feet)	Controller Number	*Estimated Annual Savings
1	60998	2	136770	2	\$2,404.00
2	61062	16	117379	16	\$2,360.00
3	61079	19	115340	19	\$2,270.00
4	61084	13	46621	13	\$1,624.00
5	61059	15	19535	15	\$1,441.00
6	60967	7	25600	7	\$1,285.00
7	61083	12	50891	12	\$1,272.00
8	61080	18	34500	18	\$1,248.00
9	60969	11	19874	11	\$1,234.00
10	60968	8	86897	8	\$1,125.00
11	60952	4	99996	4	\$725.00
12	60954	10	213601	10	(\$4.00)
13	60999	1	114581	1	(\$166.00)
14	61095	14	144453	14	(\$710.00)
15	60970	11	183457	11	(\$768.00)
16	60953	5	256930	5	(\$1,156.00)
17	60973	3	320100	3	(\$2,904.00)
18	61078	17	539701	17	(\$4,521.00)

\*Available savings based on water meter report cards

# Recommendations, Analysis and Opportunities



## Irrigation Tune Up

Proposal #: **6951300**

Scope: (Controller #5 and #8) This proposal includes modifications and adjustments to the existing irrigation on the controllers that were inspected in the field with Monarch. Scope includes head replacement, addressing mixed equipment zones, replacing riser assemblies and angling heads as needed to increase efficiency and reduce runoff.

Amount: **\$5,785.45**

Rebate: **\$840.00**

Net Cost: **\$4,945.45**

**NOTE: Monarch recommends at least one controller be inspected per month and a proposal with a similar scope be implemented until all HOA controllers are up to a decent level of efficiency. Use the water meter report cards and address the lowest grades first.**

## Turf Removal

Proposal #: **50516**

Scope: (Bella Loma) Remove unnecessary turf along the bottom of the slope and plant attractive, California friendly plant material (species TBD). This includes modification of the irrigation system to increase efficiency.

Amount: **\$7,287.50**

Turf Removal Rebate: **\$6,696.00**

Nozzle Rebate: **\$450.00**

Net Cost: **\$141.50**

Scope: Turf Removal and planting enhancement at the corner of Loma Linda and Paseo de Colinas. Scope includes the addition of a swale that is required for rebate approval.

Amount: **\$8,175.00**

Turf Removal Rebate: **\$2,724.00**

Nozzle Rebate: **\$180.00**

Net Cost: **\$5,451.00\***

\*Note: Monarch recommends the rebate application be submitted with a smaller scale swale to qualify for the rebate and reduce labor/equipment costs.

## Controller Upgrade

Proposal #: **29576**

Scope: Replace all master association controllers with WeatherTrak LC smart timers.

Amount: **\$51,097.11**

Estimated Rebate: **\$24,300.00**

Net Cost: **\$26,797.11**

**Return on investment for controllers with 10% annual water savings: 4.6 Years**

# Strategies for Adaptation

**LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS**: Analyze the landscape and consider...

- Value
- Function
- Labor
- Fire risk
- Water

**ACTION**: What is required to adapt your landscape?

- **A TUNE UP**: Improve management practices, repair/replace faulty equipment, remove failing plant material
- **A TRANSFORMATION**: Capital Investment, renovation, enhancements

Correct &  
Connect



# Landscape Analysis- Water

- ▶ Water Use Report Card
  - ▶ Each Meter Avg. Actual Costs (how much you spent)
  - ▶ Each Meter Avg. Usage (how much water was used)
- ▶ Identify the meters with the highest potential for savings (Actual - ETWU) and map them out
- ▶ Prioritize the meters/landscape areas
- ▶ Develop an action plan and budget
  - ▶ TUNE UP
  - ▶ TRANSFORMATION
- ▶ Implement
- ▶ Measure Success and Repeat



# Water use report card

## Water Usage Report Common Interest Development

### SUMMARY

Landscape Sq. Footage Source: MNWD  
 \$2.10 per billing unit. Usage based on average water use from January 2017-January 2019  
 Account: 61064 / Meter 1592752  
 Report History: Initial Water Usage Report.

Association:	Typical HOA	Water District:	MNWD
Landscape Area (sf):	120,621	Prepared by:	Monarch Environmental, Inc.
Acres:	2.8	Date Prepared:	06.12.2019
LTM HCF Units:	3,946	Signature:	Matt Davenport

HOA Water Usage Grade:	
<b>C</b>	
24 gals/sq.ft.	

Water Usage Classifications Table	
Grade	Ideal Water Usage
<b>A</b>	<= 12 gals/sq.ft/year
<b>B</b>	13-19 gals/sq.ft/year
<b>C</b>	20-25 gals/sq.ft/year
<b>D</b>	26-31+ gals/sq.ft/year

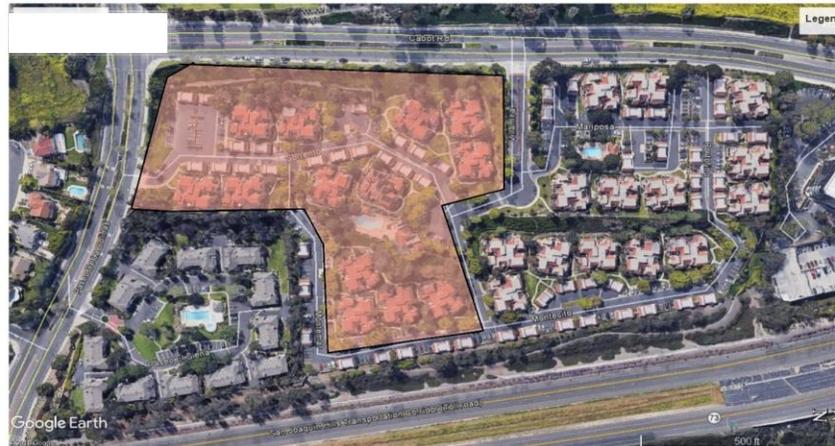
Based upon conversion of water consumption in hcf units to 748 gallons and classification table above.

Current Water Costs and Savings Potential	
Annual Total Costs	Water Costs Classifications Table
<b>\$12,165</b>	
Costs Per Acre	
<b>\$4,393</b>	
Estimated Savings*	
<b>\$7,441</b>	

Grade	Ideal Water Usage
<b>A</b>	\$1,706 Dollars/Acre
<b>B</b>	\$2,047 Dollars/Acre
<b>C</b>	\$2,388 Dollars/Acre
<b>D</b>	\$2,559 Dollars/Acre

\*Based upon achieving ideal water efficiency with an HOA water usage Grade "A" when compared to the actual Annual Total Cost. MNWD is a tiered rate system and there are fixed costs associated with each water meter. Decreasing water usage may not result in net reduced water costs due to anticipated rate increases. However, reductions in water use will result in avoided future costs.



# Tune-up

Action: Repair of broken equipment

Impact: HIGH





# Landscape Analysis - Labor

- ▶ Does the current maintenance specification fit the needs of the HOA?
- ▶ Are expectations clear between board and contractor?
- ▶ Identify landscapes that add value to HOA
- ▶ Identify areas that require the most labor
- ▶ Form vs. Function



# Tune-up - Labor

- ▶ Develop a specification that meets the needs of the community
- ▶ Performance based contract
- ▶ Rotation Schedule
- ▶ MGMT processes (prevent whack a mole)
- ▶ Overlapping vendor responsibility
- ▶ Irrigation terms



# Landscape Analysis - Fire

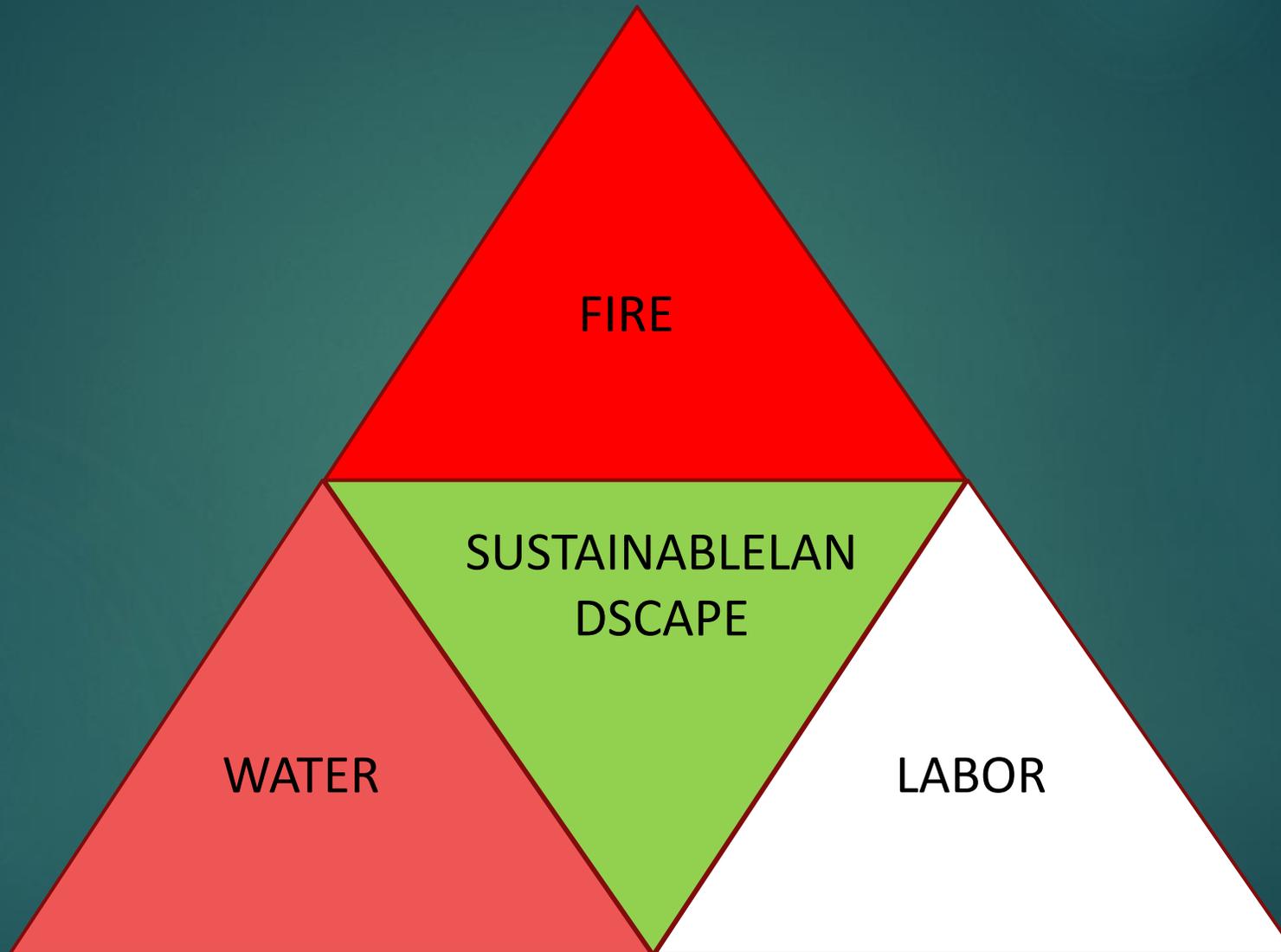
- ▶ Are we in a fire risk zone?
- ▶ Defensible space vs. fuel modification
- ▶ Contact the OCFA
- ▶ Understand the OCFA maintenance guidelines



# Tune-up - Fire

- ▶ Have an approved working plan
- ▶ Dead and dying material removal
- ▶ Invasive species management
- ▶ Maintenance practices on areas adjacent to open space and interior common areas
- ▶ Tree care, reforestation





# INTERCONNECTED



LOW WATER USE



APPROPRIATELY SPACED



CORRECT CHOICE FOR THE REGION



PROPERLY IRRIGATED



SUSTAINABLY MAINTAINED

# SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE



FORM VS  
FUNCTION



FORM



FUNCTION



STRIKE A  
BALANCE

# Transformation Process

- ▶ Assemble A Team!
- ▶ Understand the Need
- ▶ Prioritize the Opportunities
- ▶ Create a Vision
- ▶ Create a Budget
- ▶ Create an Action Plan
- ▶ Implement
- ▶ Measure Success
- ▶ Repeat



# Water Management

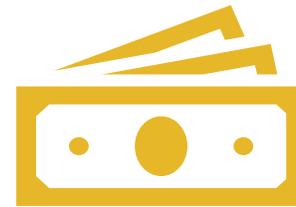


# Incentives and Tools Available



## Irrigation Audit/Assessments

Sometimes provided by your local water district!



## MWDOC Rebates!

Turf removal \$3/SF  
Drip conversion .40/SF  
Smart Controllers \$35/station

# Quiz

- ▶ What percentage of South Orange County's water is imported?

# Quiz

- ▶ Name one rebate offered by MNWD to help HOAs adapt their landscapes?