# News Release

**For Release:** Immediate

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## Western Customers Can Replace Turf and Get a Rebate

RIVERSIDE, CA – November 2, 2009- Western introduces a pilot Turf Replacement Program for its direct residential customers that pays up to 40 cents per-square-foot for participants who replace their lawn with approved climate-appropriate plant materials.

Western's first Turf Replacement Program is available through June 2010 or until $48,000 in funding is exhausted. Western will review the program results and determine if it will continue for the next fiscal year with possible expansion to all water users within its 527 square-mile general service region.

"We're excited to have the Turf Replacement Program join our list of Western's water use efficiency rebates," said Western General Manager John V. Rossi. "Western prides itself in looking at all the options to help our residents save water and manage costs."

Reducing or eliminating turf grass can save approximately 1,800 gallons of water per month, which translates into long-term savings.

The Turf Replacement Program rebate is not retroactive and projects must receive pre-approval from Western before commencing. Program participants have 90 days to complete the project. Turf replacement project areas must fall between 1,000 and 6,000 square feet, with the exception of parkways. The maximum rebate amount allowable is $2,400 per participant (6,000 square-feet).

Western's residential customers can learn about rules regarding the Turf Replacement Program and apply via the District's website at wmwd.com.

"The Turf Replacement Program is a pilot program, offered for a limited time, so we encourage those who are interested to apply quickly," said Board President Tom Evans, who along with his fellow board members voted to augment the overall District rebate program by a half million dollars last month. "It's about using water wisely. These incentive programs move us all toward greater water efficiency.

*Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.*

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