



## Save water and money with the new Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program

EMWD has launched its new Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program for residential customers. The program, made possible through a \$50,000 grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation, gives customers the opportunity to receive rebates up to \$185 per household for a controller, rain sensor and high-efficiency sprinkler heads.

The rebate program is part of EMWD's ongoing effort to encourage residential customers to reduce their outdoor water use, which can account for more than 60 percent of total household water consumption.

The system improvements offered in the Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program can reduce irrigation water consumption for one household by approximately 30 percent. Customers requesting a rebate must be direct EMWD residential customers for at least two years in the same residence.

EMWD is hosting two workshops for customers to learn more about the rebate program, view product demonstrations and get hands-on training for "do-it-yourself" installations.

### Residential Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program Workshops:

**Saturday, April 22, 2006**

**and**

**Saturday, June 24, 2006**

Both workshops will be held in EMWD's Board Room at 2270 Trumble Road in Perris from 9 am to noon. Participants only

need to attend one workshop. The

residential workshops are open to all EMWD residential customers, whether or not they intend to participate in the rebate program.

To RSVP, call (951) 928-3777, ext. 4226. Seating is limited.

For more

information about the rebate program or to sign up for a workshop online, visit **[www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org)** or call (951) 928-3777, ext. 4531. Rebates are limited to the first 275 qualified applicants.



## Laboratory makes “A+” grade

EMWD’s laboratory continues to be at the “top of the class.” Through continuous hard work and dedication, EMWD’s laboratory passed the most recent audit by the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) with excellence. The November 30 audit was a routine audit that ELAP conducts every two years to renew the lab’s state certification. Without certification, the lab cannot conduct testing which is critical to water quality monitoring.

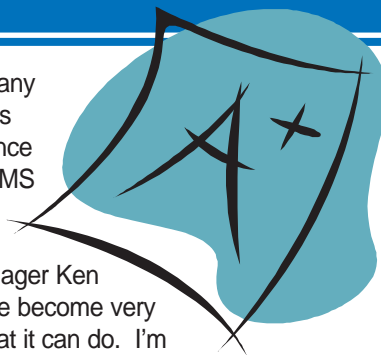
After a full day of detailed review of laboratory procedures, the auditor gave the lab a verbal “A+” score. The audit noted that the lab was organized, clean and dedicated to safety.

This audit was particularly important because it included the final approval for operation of the new Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS) instrument that analyzes metals in potable water and wastewater. EMWD reports below 1.0 part

per billion for many metals using this instrument. “Since buying the ICP-MS last year for \$165,000,” said

Laboratory Manager Ken Marshall, “We’ve become very familiar with what it can do. I’m confident this investment in even higher water quality will pay for itself within a few years. For one thing, we will be able to perform more of this very specialized testing in-house.”

ELAP provides evaluation and accreditation of environmental testing laboratories to ensure the quality of analytical data used for regulatory purposes to meet the requirements of the State’s food, drinking water, wastewater, shellfish and hazardous waste programs.



## Spring into the water-wise scene

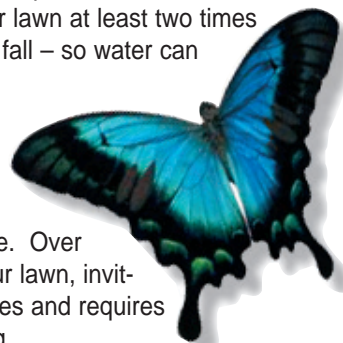
### *Landscape and gardening tips*

- Make your garden California Friendly by incorporating native plants and water efficient irrigation systems. Take a free, self-guided, online gardening class at [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com) for a wealth of resources to help you get started.
- Plant trees to lower air and soil temperatures and reduce moisture loss.
- When planting your spring garden, group plants with similar water needs to avoid over watering. Thirstier plants should be planted sparingly in shady areas or containers.
- Have questions about native landscaping? Tap into the Native Knowledge Hotline by calling (909) 624-0838 from 9 am to noon on Wednesdays, Fridays or Saturdays.



### *Irrigation and maintenance tips*

- Water your lawn when the top two inches of soil have dried out. Use a screwdriver to probe your soil and measure the moisture depth.
- Aerate (puncture) your lawn at least two times per year – spring and fall – so water can easily soak in.
- Irrigate between midnight and 6 am. Watering your lawn appropriately saves money, water and time. Over watering weakens your lawn, inviting weeds and diseases and requires more frequent mowing.
- Learn how to read your water meter and check for leaks at [www.emwd.org/water\\_service](http://www.emwd.org/water_service).





MARCH 2006

## EMWD reports...

Visit us on the Internet at  
[www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org)

Published every other month by  
Eastern Municipal Water District  
2270 Trumble Rd., P.O. Box 8300,  
Perris, CA 92572-8300.

EMWD reports...is designed to keep  
EMWD's customers and the public  
informed of matters affecting them.

Forward your comments to the EMWD  
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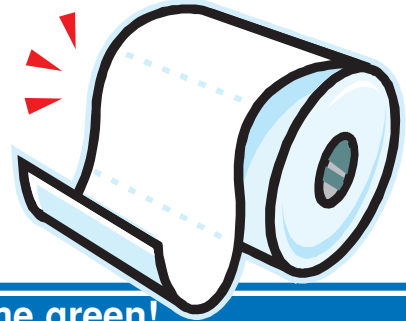
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or 1-800-698-0400

## Did you know?

1 part per billion = 1 sheet  
of toilet paper in a roll  
stretching from New York  
City to London.



## Win some green!

EMWD would like to give you a chance to win some green...\$25 worth of green...from your local nursery or home improvement store in our monthly drawing! Several \$25 gift cards have already been awarded to EMWD customers throughout our service area just for filling out our online survey! Log onto [www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org) today and complete our online Customer Satisfaction Survey located on our home page.

## Where the money goes

Ever wondered what the "water commodity" charge on your bill is for? Here is a quick breakdown showing where the money goes:

