



EMWD reports...

SEPTEMBER 2006

Get ready for autumn
with water-saving tips!



When you turn back your clocks this fall, you should remember to turn back your sprinkler system and watering habits too. Shorter daylight hours and cooler weather mean lawns and gardens throughout EMWD's service area will need less water. *Please do your part:*

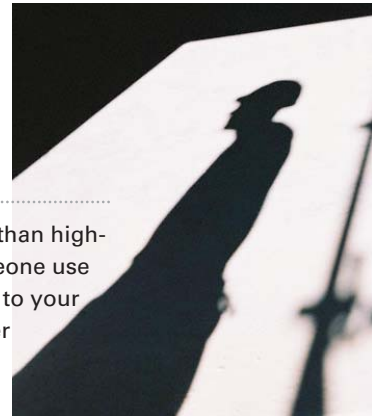
Prolong plant life by not over watering. Homeowners, gardeners, and landscape contractors are encouraged to use less water and save money by adjusting residential and commercial irrigation systems.

Every three weeks, cut back watering time by 10 percent until winter rains arrive.

Conduct your own soil moisture test by taking a soil sample and rolling or squeezing it into a ball in your hand. If it won't form into a ball, it's probably too dry. If it forms a ball, rub it with your thumb, if it doesn't crumble, it contains enough moisture to supply water to vegetation (sandy soil is the exception, it always crumbles).

Be safe, check for ID

Safe Water Service means more than high-quality water at your tap. Should someone use a water quality concern to gain access to your home or threaten to turn off your water service unless you give him or her a payment, be aware and remember...



- ◆ EMWD employees do not need to enter your home to test water quality. Water samples are collected daily from outdoor sample stations throughout EMWD's service area.
- ◆ EMWD employees do not collect payments at your home. All customers subject to service disconnection for non-payment must pay at an EMWD payment center or call the Customer Service department to pay over the phone. For a list of authorized payment centers, log on to www.emwd.org.
- ◆ Anytime someone represents him or herself as an EMWD employee, ask to see an EMWD-issued identification card. All EMWD employees carry photo identification badges and drive EMWD-marked vehicles. To confirm that someone is an EMWD employee, call (951) 928-3777, ext.4376.
- ◆ Never open your door to anyone you do not recognize or who cannot produce verifiable identification. If you feel threatened or suspicious about someone who has come to your home, call the police. It is always better to be safe than sorry.

To confirm that someone is an EMWD employee,
call (951) 928-3777, ext.4376.



Pictures may be worth a thousand words...but **YOUR** words could be worth **\$25...**



EMWD is offering you the chance to get paid for your opinion. You could win \$25 from your local nursery or home improvement store just for filling out our **online survey!** Several \$25 gift cards have already been awarded to EMWD customers throughout the service area. Simply log onto **www.emwd.org** and complete the *Customer Satisfaction Survey* located on our home page, and your words too, could be worth \$25.



Komen Race for the Cure

The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure 5K Run, 5K and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk.

Sunday, October 15 beginning at **8:15 AM**. For more information go to www.iekomen.org or call **951-304-9500**.

Conservation low-down



What's a WBIC?

It's the latest innovation in irrigation. The WBIC—Weather-Based Irrigation Controller—also known as the “smart sprinkler controller,” is a device that gives your plants the right amount of water based on the time of year, the climate, and weather conditions.

Once installed and programmed, the WBIC run-times are automatically adjusted with the change of seasons. According to one recent study, residential users saved on average, 40 gallons of water per household per day. Those using WBICs for watering large, commercial landscapes, such as parks, school campuses and industrial complexes, are realizing an even greater savings - up to 10 times greater! Of course, to realize the best savings, irrigation systems must be well designed and well maintained.

EMWD wants to make a good thing even better. If you are a direct customer of EMWD and have a 6-station (or less) existing irrigation controller, have we got a deal for you! If you attend our free, one-day workshop and bring your old controller with you to the workshop, EMWD will exchange it for a new WBIC controller, valued at over \$300. This workshop will be held one day only – November 18, 2006 beginning 8:30 am. Please note: The controller exchange will only take place at the workshop - controllers will not be available at any other time. Advance reservations are required, so pick up that phone and call 951-928-3777, ext. 4531 to make your reservation today.

If you are unable to attend the workshop on November 18, 2006 you may still be eligible for rebates. Log on to http://www.emwd.org/conservation/residential_rebates.html or call 951-928-3777, extension 4517 for details and to request a rebate application. Additionally, some manufacturers offer discounts to customers for participating in EMWD's WBIC rebate program. Contact the manufacturer directly to inquire about available discounts. Manufacturers' links and additional information can be found at www.bewaterwise.com/rebates02.html.

So, what are you waiting for? Call EMWD at (951) 928-3777, extension 4517 or send an e-mail to conservation@emwd.org to request your rebate application today.

EMWD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Energy efficiency AT EMWD

EMWD is always seeking alternative energy sources such as natural gas, biogas and solar power to improve energy efficiency, reduce costs, and help protect the environment.

EMWD helps to lessen power interruptions and electrical emergencies in California by reducing its power demand during peak periods. Because as much as 12 percent of the energy EMWD uses for its daily operations is self-generated, demand for electricity is reduced by about two megawatts. Two megawatts is enough electricity to power a typical California home for four months.



Grants give us incentives

To fund many of its energy saving efforts, EMWD actively searches for funding offered through various grant and incentive programs. For example, EMWD applies for grants offered by Southern California Edison's "Savings-by-Design" program. Under this program, EMWD was awarded \$210,000 in grants for upgrading an existing natural gas generator at its Perris Valley Recycled Water Reclamation Facility (RWRF). The upgrade provides enough energy for the plant to now operate independently from the electrical grid. It also received another \$75,000 in June 2006 for an expansion EMWD completed at its San Jacinto RWRF.

In addition to Edison's Savings-by-Design program, EMWD has been awarded money through other programs. Since 2001, EMWD has received grants totaling over \$740,000 from The California Energy Commission. More funds from Southern California Gas Company's "Self-Generation Incentive Program" were also awarded to EMWD.

These are just a few examples that show EMWD's commitment to continually seek out and implement innovative ways to save energy and cut costs.

Eastern Municipal Water District

California Friendly 2006 Landscape Workshops

Saturdays 8:30 am to Noon

SEPTEMBER 23

Landscape Sprinkler Systems

OCTOBER 7

California Friendly™ Landscape Plants

OCTOBER 21

Landscape Soils, Watering, and Fertilizers

RSVP at
951-928-3777,
ext. 4531

For more information and a location map, visit EMWD on the web at:
www.emwd.org

Weather Based Irrigation Controllers (WBIC)

ONE DAY ONLY

Nov. 18, 2006, 8:30 am

Sign up for and attend this free workshop, bring your old controller and exchange it for a WBIC "Smart Controller." This device with a retail value of over \$300 is yours absolutely free. Advanced reservations are required, so call 951-928-3777, ext. 4531 to make your reservations today.

SEPTEMBER 9

Composting & Green Waste Recycling

(Composting bins for sale after workshop for \$9 and \$35 – checks only please)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit us on the Internet at
www.emwd.org

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

Forward your comments to the
EMWD Community Involvement
Department at the mailing
address above.

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**EMWD main number within
Southern California**
(800) 426-3693 (Toll Free)

Elsewhere
(951) 928-3777

Automated Billing Information
Call main number, then press 8

Job Inquiries
Call main number, then press 3

Community Involvement, Education
Call main number, then x4226

Water Quality
Call main number, then x6337

Systems Outages, Trouble Calls
Call main number then x6265
or 1-800-698-0400

Got rebates? WE DO!



EMWD offers rebates for residential and business customers. Check out our many rebate programs by calling (951) 928-3777, ext. 4226 or logging on to our web site at www.emwd.org/conservation.index.html. Here are a few of the rebates that could mean more bucks in your pocket:

EMWD Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program

Take advantage of EMWD's new Landscape Irrigation Rebate Program—up to \$185 per household for a controller, rain sensor and high-efficiency sprinkler heads! There are a limited number of rebates to be issued, so call 951-928-2777, ext. 4517, and then press the number 4.

High Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program: up to \$500

Ultra Low-Flush Toilet Rebate Program (1.6 gallon -per-flush): \$60

High Efficiency Toilet Upgrade/New Construction: \$30

High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate Program: \$285

Note: Toilets and washing machines must be on the qualified list to be eligible for the rebate.

Call our special hotline phone number (951) 928-3777, ext. 4517 anytime 24-hours-a-day to request an application for all of the rebate programs or submit an application request via email to conservation@emwd.org.

Did YOU know?

During peak summer periods, EMWD uses over 20 megawatts of power to provide water and wastewater services to its customers. 20 megawatts is enough to power 10,000 homes at a given time. Fortunately, EMWD generates about 12 percent of its maximum daily load, which helps to reduce dependence on the major electricity grid. That capability came in handy when customers used 178 million gallons—a new one-day peak demand—in mid-July.

Running only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher saves 300 to 800 gallons of water per month.

Shortening your showers, even by just a minute or two, can save up to 700 gallons of water per month.

Fixing leaky faucets, plumbing joints and your sprinkler system can save 20 gallons of water PER DAY for every leak stopped.