



At Your Thanksgiving Table, Give Thanks for Water

Holiday Traditions of Water Conservation

In November, many of us have much to be thankful for—friends, family, health and a solid start for the Bolts. There’s one more thing you might want to add to that list—water. The simple fact is that water is a vital part of every Thanksgiving celebration.

It would be impossible to put together that great Thanksgiving spread without it. Arguably, it’s more important than the turkey, or the pumpkin pie (Although pumpkin pie is really tasty.)

Did you know that a typical holiday dinner for eight requires more than 42,000 gallons of water to grow and prepare the food? That much water can fill a 30 by 50-foot swimming pool.*

Think about it: on Turkey Day, you run the dishwasher more. You rinse vegetables. You clean big pots and pans. With Uncle George and Aunt Patty and their three children staying over, your bathroom toilets and showers will be used more.

So how do you save water during such a hectic, family-filled time? Easy. Integrate water-wise behavior into your daily life well beforehand. That way, when the big day comes, you’ll be well versed in knowing water-saving tricks. Here’s a few to get you started:

Tip 1: Start saving 60 gallons of water a week by brushing food scraps into the garbage can instead of rinsing them into the sink’s garbage disposal.

Tip 2: Save another 50 gallons of water by defrosting frozen foods in the refrigerator the night before they’re needed, instead of running hot water over them on the same day.

Tip 3: Save 30 gallons a week by rinsing vegetables and fruits in a sink or pan filled with water instead of running them under water. As a bonus, you can use this water on houseplants.

Tip 4: Use disposable towels to wipe grease off from pans and fat trimmings. Don’t get rid of excess grease by pouring it into the sink. It can wreak havoc on your plumbing.

Tip 5: To access more information on how to properly dispose of your cooking grease, [click here](#). For more water conservation tips, [click here](#).

There you have it — the perfect recipe (get it?) for having a water-wise Thanksgiving. Enjoy and give a little thanks for water.

**Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture*



Rinse Vegetables and Fruits In A Pan

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

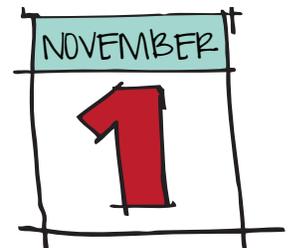
The message to “waste no water” is all throughout San Diego. Learn more about water conservation at:

FALL GARDEN & HOME FESTIVAL
Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.
The Water Conservation Garden
For more details about this event, [click here](#).

15th ANNUAL SAN DIEGO COASTKEEPER OCEAN GALA
Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011, 6:30 p.m.
Westin Gaslamp Quarter San Diego
910 Broadway Circle
For gala information, [click here](#).

SECRETS OF THE BEST LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.
The Water Conservation Garden
For information and directions, [click here](#).

DID YOU KNOW?



Water before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

It is that time of year again to adjust your watering times. As of November 1, water before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m. This schedule reduces evaporation during the cooler seasons. For a full list of permanent restrictions, [click here](#).

Local Film Expert Judges *Waste No Water* Film Contest

Another grand tradition is about to kick-off—the annual City of San Diego’s *Waste No Water* Film Contest. We caught up with Larry Zeiger, a film contest judge, to get the inside scoop on the contest and what he is looking for in the entries.



Larry Zeiger, on the right, with Cathy Anderson and Chris Robbins

Q: As a film industry professional and passionate teacher, what have been some of your highest accomplishments?

A: I was a teacher, composer, lyricist and writer at Pt. Loma High School for 33 years. I was also Director and Founder of Best Fest America Film Festival, Artistic Director and Board member for the Imperial Beach International Film Festival, and Director and Co-Author of 31 original musicals for the Gotta Sing Gotta Dance Company.

Q: What brings you back to judge this film contest each year?

A: It is always terrific to get kids of all ages involved in filmmaking, especially to raise awareness on water conservation. Plus, creating a public service announcement is a great learning exercise for all great filmmakers to attempt.

Q: What do you hope contestants gain from participating in this film contest?

A: I hope students learn about and get involved in water conservation. Also, participating in this

contest will hopefully improve their ability to work well in a group with a goal in mind, as well as produce a great film.

Q: As a judge, what are some main points you are looking for from the entries?

A: I am looking for a film that is clever, unique, different and is able to stay on message. A good entry is a film that is technically well produced, has good acting and is entertaining. Staying on message is the most important piece.

I’d also like to see students expand the conversation surrounding water conservation in their film entries. Many other issues, such as the economy, are impacted by water supplies. It would be nice to see films that make this type of connection.

Q: What is your favorite part of this film contest?

A: The Red Carpet Premiere is a first class production. Finalist films are viewed at the IMAX Theater in Balboa Park and the contest winner is announced. From the red carpet, to the Mayor of San Diego speaking at the event, to the photo opportunities with all of the film makers on the red carpet, all these details make it such an enjoyable event.

Q: As a San Diegan, how do you “waste no water”?

A: Being a part of the City of San Diego’s *Waste No Water* Film Contest has really opened my eyes to water waste and how important water conservation is in our region. I now fix leaks, take shorter showers and plant native low-water plants. I have learned that the individual efforts that we can all contribute are very beneficial.

The *Waste No Water* Film Contest is open to all 11th and 12th grade and college students in the cities of San Diego, Imperial Beach and Coronado. Deadline for entries is April 6, 2012. For contest details that will soon be online, please [click here](#).

ONLINE RESOURCES

Updated City Code Requires Leaks to be Quickly Fixed

San Diego’s City Council approved an update on a municipal code which requires leaky faucets, pipes and irrigation systems to be fixed within 72 hours of when the problem is discovered. To learn more about this code’s guidelines, [click here](#).



Water Conservation During the Holidays

During the holidays, water plays a role in everything from food preparation to the clean-up process. Appliances and fixtures such as dishwashers, clothes washers, showers and toilets are also used more often. For helpful tips on how to conserve water this holiday season, [click here](#).

Landscape Watering Calculator

Embrace the change of seasons and cooler temperatures by calculating your fall and winter watering needs. To create your water-wise schedule, [click here](#).

Website



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Check and Adjust Sprinklers

Demystify Landscape Misting

Ever wonder why your landscape looks wet but isn’t looking great? A common issue is “misting,” which is the fog-like mist usually caused by high water pressure at the sprinkler nozzle. This mist contributes to over spraying and causes excessive runoff without providing a benefit for your plants.

To eliminate misting, start with checking the optimum operating pressure rating of your sprinkler nozzle.

Then, consider the following:

- 1) Adjust flow control valve at the top of each irrigation valve.
- 2) Retrofit with a new sprinkler head or body that has a pressure control device.
- 3) Change the type of sprinkler nozzle.

For more information on eliminating mist and other irrigation system tips, [click here](#).