

RESOURCES, TOOLS & REBATES



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FACT SHEET

The City of San Diego has a number of efforts underway to respond to the drought and provide long-term tools and resources for residents and businesses. Tips on water use, resources and other tools to help San Diegans reduce water consumption can be found online at WasteNoWater.org.

Free Residential and Commercial Water Surveys

Leaks and over irrigation can cause significant waste. The City offers water conservation services to help customers achieve savings. Free-of-charge water surveys are available to City of San Diego's water customers. As part of this program, a water conservation representative will tour a property to identify leaks and water-saving opportunities.

Participants can receive water-saving equipment and information, including low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, and other free items. The representative will also evaluate landscapes and irrigation systems. Since this program emphasizes customer education, it is important the tenant/occupant be present at the time of the survey. Surveys include:

- Residential Interior and Exterior Surveys
- Multi-family Interior and Exterior Surveys
- Commercial Landscape Surveys
- Water-Wise Business Survey Program

For more information, visit WasteNoWater.org call (619) 570-1999, or email: watersurvey@sandiego.gov.

Free California-Friendly Landscape Classes

The City of San Diego, together with the San Diego County Water Authority and its member agencies, is partnering with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to offer free training classes on WaterSmart landscaping. The classes introduce a holistic approach to landscape design and maintenance that emphasizes water-use efficiency.

The three-hour seminars are fast-paced and informative. They offer solutions to common landscape problems. Participants will learn to think about landscapes from the soil up. In addition, they will learn how to design landscapes that are sustainable in the San Diego climate. Class topics will include how to make the best use of the region's limited rainfall, irrigate efficiently and choose the best plants for each yard. For a schedule and information on all of the free WaterSmart landscaping classes in the county, please visit: bit.do/CAfriendly. Check WasteNoWater.org for information on other types of educational classes available.

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Rebates from the City of San Diego

Rebates to help you save water are available from the City of San Diego, provided funding is available.

For more information on the available rebates listed below, visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/rebates/index.shtml>.

Rain Barrel Rebate	Rebates for barrels that catch and store rain water. For residential customers only.
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Rebates from Other Agencies – Available Now

SoCal Water\$mart Rebates	High-efficiency toilets, washers, weather based irrigation controllers (WBIC - Smart Controllers), grass replacement, rotating sprinkler nozzles, rain barrels and other devices. Visit socalwatersmart.com .
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Graywater Information

Using graywater is an excellent way to recycle and conserve water, and can help residents to reduce potable water consumption. According to the state of California, a standard home generates approximately 160 gallons of graywater per day, or nearly 60,000 gallons per year. A family of four could reuse 22,000 gallons a year by tapping the rinse water from its washing machine. In 2013, the City streamlined its permitting process for “simple” and “complex” graywater system installation, in an effort to encourage homeowners to conserve water and save money. For more information on installing graywater systems within the city, contact the Development Services Department at (619) 446-5000 or visit: <http://bit.do/graywater>.

“Waste No Water” Smartphone Free App

The City’s “Waste No Water” application for iPhone and Android devices allows San Diegans to easily report sightings of water waste. The free app allows users to report water waste immediately by photographing the problem on their phone and providing the address immediately through the app’s GPS locator. The information is then sent to the City’s Water Conservation Program and assigned to staff for resolution. The app also allows customers to check the status of their complaint, request a free water survey of their residence or business to help optimize water use, connect with “Waste No Water” social media accounts, and access online information on the City’s water use restrictions, rebate programs and other helpful resources. Go to the app store on your iPhone or Android device and search for “Waste No Water” to download the free app.



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Water Conservation Garden

The City-funded Water Conservation Garden, located on the campus of Cuyamaca Community College in El Cajon, has nearly 5 acres of displays that showcase water conservation through a series of beautifully themed gardens, such as a native plant garden and a vegetable garden, as well as how-to displays such as mulch and irrigation exhibits. Admission is free, and the Garden can be viewed on a self-guided tour, or through one of its programs. The City is a participant in a joint powers authority that developed the garden and continues to help support its operations annually. For more information, visit TheGarden.org.

Community Involvement

To engage residents, and in particular the youth of San Diego, the City has developed several annual programs to encourage water conservation education by developing interactive events and helping students become ambassadors for wise water use.

Community Event Participation

City staff attends community events throughout the year, including a presence at community festivals, speaking engagements about water and conservation, and school-related activities to maintain an ongoing presence and education about the importance of wise water use.

Children's Poster Contest

The annual Children's Water Conservation Poster Contest is held each spring, and is open to any student in grades 1-6 in the cities of San Diego, Coronado and Imperial Beach. With California in an ongoing drought, helping the next generation become stewards of water is more important than ever. Posters can highlight tips such as watering in the morning or evening, planting drought-tolerant plants, taking five-minute showers and catching rain water to use in the garden. For more information, visit WasteNoWater.org.

Film Contest

The City's annual Waste No Water Student Film Contest is held each spring. It challenges eligible high school and college students to create 30-second public service announcements that emphasize the importance of responsible water use. For more information, visit WasteNoWater.org.

California-Friendly Landscape Contest

Every spring, the City participates in this regional program to encourage San Diego residents to showcase their examples of the use of "California-Friendly" plants in their landscapes. There are two winners for the City, both of whom receive an award and have their yards featured in promotions for drought-tolerant landscapes. For more information, visit WasteNoWater.org.

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