



“Waste No Water” is an ethic for a sustainable future. This newsletter connects you to the issues and people who are part of creating that sustainable future with you. Thank you for being a San Diegan who *wastes no water* and for being part of the sustainability we’re creating together.

When Fall Comes, Change is Upon Us

In San Diego, it’s hard to notice when summer ends and fall begins. But little by little, changes happen. The days get shorter and the temperature begins to drop. Sometimes we even find leaves that change color, too.

With this cooler season, you might be inclined to relax the water-saving habits you practiced in the summer. That’s why fall is an important time of year to renew your commitment to a sustainable, water-efficient lifestyle.

When it comes to water use, the key to sustainability is thinking ahead and planning ways to preserve this precious resource. Start by reviewing your watering schedule. In San Diego, more than 50 percent of the water most households use goes to maintaining landscaping and lawns, so your outdoor water use for irrigation is key.

With the end of Daylight Savings Time, we “fell back” one hour. You’ll want to make sure you’re watering within the right times to stay in compliance with the City’s permanent water restrictions. From November to May, outside watering is allowed before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Ready for a bigger change? Invest in a new irrigation system. Check out the City’s Smart Controller Rebates. You can get up to \$400 for upgrading an existing non-weather based irrigation controller to a Smart Controller. You can also save up to \$480 when you replace your inefficient overhead spray sprinkler system and use the City’s Micro-Irrigation Rebate Program to convert to micro-spray, drip, or in-line emitters.

For additional information on these programs, [click here](#), e-mail waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov or call (619) 533-4126.



IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Change up your routine and check out these fall events:

HOME COMPOSTING WORKSHOP
Saturday, November 16th: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

The Water Conservation Garden
2122 Cuyamaca College Drive W., El Cajon

Learn the basics of composting, how to compost with worms, and how to save water in the process for free. [Click here](#) for information.

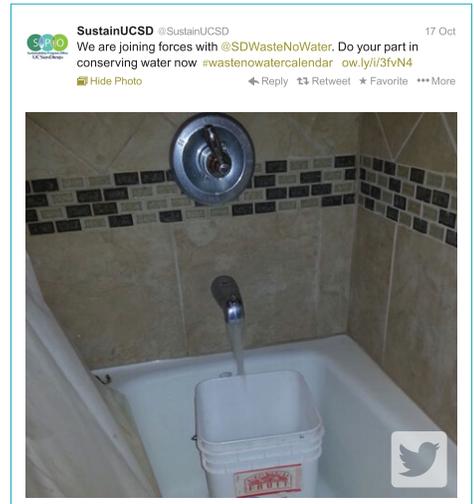
SDSU’s EXPERIENCE WATER: GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES
Wednesday, November 20th: 7 p.m.

San Diego State University
Geology, Mathematics, Computer Science - 301

Screen the documentary film, “Water First”, and learn about student projects on water in developing countries. [Click here](#) for information.

DID YOU KNOW?

When you catch cool water while it warms and use it to water plants, you save 50 gallons a week. Share this tip with a friend. @SustainUCSD did:





Come One, Come All — “Experience Water” at SDSU

San Diego State University (SDSU) launched a new program this year called Common Experience. The Common Experience serves to increase interactions among faculty, staff, students, and the community through a focus on shared, current themes, related readings and academic endeavors. This year, the theme is *Experience Water*. We caught up with the Common Experience Coordinator, Jose Preciado, to talk about the program and its focus on water.

Q: *How was water chosen as this year’s theme? What is the process? Who is involved?*

A: I am the chairman of the Sweetwater Authority and I knew it was something that many people and academic disciplines would be able to connect to. Once a theme was selected, the advisory board helped roll out the program.

Q: *What are some of the goals of Experience Water?*

A: Encourage and nurture engagement to allow individuals with their own interests to connect with the water theme and share it with the rest of the community.

Q: *What types of events or programs are being planned for the year? Which ones are you looking forward to?*

A: While most of our programs are lectures and open forums, I am excited for the original stage adaptation of the children’s classic, *The Jungle*

Book. The School of Theatre, Television and Film has created a story focusing on the ‘watering hole’ in the story to teach water cooperation.

Q: *How can the greater San Diego community engage in Experience Water?*

A: We have an open door policy and all of our events are open to the public.

Q: *What are some messages you hope SDSU students take away from Experience Water?*

A: I hope they take away how something as “simple” as water can be connected in such complex ways to other disciplines.

Thank you, Jose, for taking the time to talk with us and good luck on the rest of this year’s *Experience Water* programs. For more information on the Common Experience, [click here](#).

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Common Experience
SDSU invites us all to Experience Water

ONLINE RESOURCES

LANDSCAPE WATERING CALCULATOR

With the change of watering times, make sure to access the [Landscape Watering Calculator](#). You can produce a weekly schedule for the maximum amount of water your plants may need each month of the year.

RAINWATER HARVESTING

Cooler weather may bring a chance of showers. Catch the rain with a rainwater system. They come in all shapes and sizes, from simple catchment systems under a downspout to large above-ground and/or underground cisterns with complex filtration systems that can store thousands of gallons of water. [Click here](#) for rain barrel rebates.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Click the links in the stories or scan the codes below with your smartphone’s QR code scanner to get connected with *San Diegans Waste No Water* today.

[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



Department News: Water Treatment Upgrade Project Receives National Award

While San Diegans are optimizing ways to use water efficiently and “waste no water,” the City of San Diego has been busy optimizing ways to improve their system operations. In fact, a City water treatment plant built during the timeline of President Truman’s administration has won a prestigious award for a decades-long modernization and expansion project that has resulted in safer and better-tasting water for City residents.

The Alvarado Water Treatment Plant recently won an Outstanding Civil Engineering Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). To get a sense of the significance of this award, Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge won last year.

Each year, ASCE recognizes a project that: 1) Best exemplifies superior civil engineering skills, and 2) Represents a significant contribution to civil engineering progress and society.

The award recognized the plant’s recently completed Ozone Upgrade and Expansion Project. This project was designed to bring the plant into compliance with new federal safe Drinking Water requirements. It involved adding new ozone disinfection facilities.

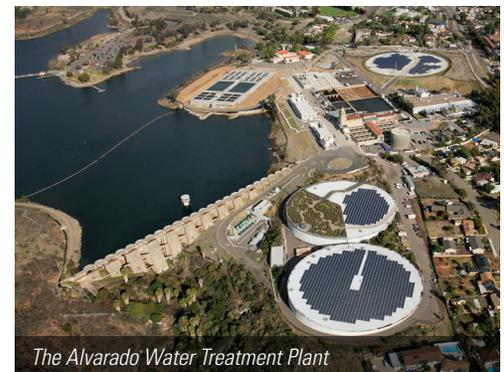
The project brings two key benefits:

- Reduced levels of carcinogenic disinfection by-product (DBPs)
- Odorless, better tasting water

The City began expanding the treatment plant nearly two decades ago in an effort to upgrade water quality and capacity. Workers replaced one of the two original Alvarado reservoirs – which were built in 1951 – with two 21 million gallon pre-stressed concrete reservoirs. In the past six years, the plant’s capacity has increased by more than two-thirds; from 120 million gallons per day to 200 million.

Interestingly, Alvarado has maintained continuous operation during the entire construction process, helping to ensure the City’s customers have had adequate supplies of safe drinking water.

[Click here](#) for more information on the Alvarado Water Treatment Plant.



The Alvarado Water Treatment Plant