



“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.



Enjoy the summer fun of water and energy conservation

Jump into Water and Energy Savings This Summer

Summer is the season of baseball, days at the beach, and lounging by the pool. Summer is also the season for peak energy demands, and one of the best ways to save energy is to save water. Water and energy use are linked. Conservation of both will help keep the electric grid stable and reliable during heat waves when demand for water and energy can be at its highest.

Did you know more than 19% of the energy used in California goes to water-related activities? Treating, pumping and delivering water to your home, heating the water for your shower, and treating the wastewater that leaves your home, all require energy.

The water you use between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. during the summer means additional energy demand. With energy prices at their highest during peak hours, it costs more to pump and deliver water to your home or facility during peak times.

San Diegans can help decrease peak energy demand through their own conservation efforts, such as:

- Using clothes washers, dishwashers or other major appliances after 6 p.m. instead of the middle of the day.
- Irrigating landscapes before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Taking advantage of SoCal Water\$mart 2013–2014 rebates that are now available for a variety of devices in your home, including high-efficiency toilets, high-efficiency clothes washers, weather-based irrigation controllers, and rotating sprinkler nozzles.

Additional rebate information can be found on SoCal Water\$mart’s [website](#). For more state-wide conservation tips, visit the Save Our Water [website](#).

For local resources and tips, [click here](#) to see what the Water Conservation Program has to offer.

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Take part in the following water conservation festivities, this summer:

**SUSTAINABLE SCRIPPS RANCH
WATER ENERGY SOLUTIONS FAIR**
Saturday, September 28th: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Scripps Ranch Community Center
11885 Cypress Canyon Rd., San Diego, CA

Connecting residents with experts who can help develop a roadmap to solving their own energy and water needs. [Click here](#) for more information.

DESIGNING WITH EDIBLES
Saturday, October 5th: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Water Conservation Garden
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr West
El Cajon, CA 92019

Learn to create a beautiful landscape that not only looks good but tastes good too with Edibles Designer, Michelle Benson. Members Free, \$10 Non-Members [Click here](#) for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?



Homes with swimming pools use twice as much water outdoors than homes without swimming pools

Dive into these tips on how to save water and energy in your swimming pool:

- Run pool pump before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- Lower pool water to reduce amount of water splashed out
- Reduce heat loss by using a pool cover
- If your pool is heated, don’t over-heat past 78°

Source: California Energy Commission

Landscape Contest Winners Bask in the Glory of Succulents

Success with succulents—that’s the story of North Park residents Adam and Ashley Feist. They transformed their turf lawn into a succulent garden and were awarded the City of San Diego winner in the recent California-Friendly Landscape Contest. This contest is sponsored by local water agencies and is held annually to honor those who took the plunge to create a vibrant, beautiful and water-smart yard. Adam and Ashley share their experience and how they did their landscape makeover.

Q: *What made you want to change your landscape to be water-wise?*

ADAM: We know it doesn’t rain much in San Diego, especially in the summer, and we wanted to have a yard with minimal maintenance.

Q: *What resources did you find helpful?*

ASHLEY: We went to the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College and attended a ‘ditch the turf class.’ We also read a lot on drip irrigation and low-evaporation irrigation.

Q: *How did you create this beautiful garden?*

ASHLEY: I was inspired by a yard that I liked by my work. After our landscape designer planned out our yard, we prepared the yard by removing the grass, installing ground drip and low-evaporation sprayers, and enriching the soil. Then, we planted our plants and maintained them as they grew!

Q: *What’s your favorite feature in your landscape?*

ADAM: I really enjoy the different colors of the succulents and drought-tolerant plants in our yard.

ASHLEY: I love watching the succulents grow and bloom, and watching all of the hummingbirds and butterflies that are attracted to our yard.

Q: *What have you learned through this process?*

ADAM: I learned all about the different varieties of plants and how they reproduce and grow. Also, I learned that having a water-smart yard looks great in our neighborhood and it complements our turn of the century house.

ASHLEY: Succulents are easy to grow! I don’t have a green thumb and we haven’t had any problems.

Well done Adam and Ashley! For landscaping tips from the Water Conservation Garden, [click here](#).



Adam and Ashley's front yard succulent paradise

ONLINE RESOURCES

WATER & ENERGY CALCULATOR

Conserving hot water—such as taking shorter showers—saves both water and energy. That’s because it takes energy to heat the water. Knowing your carbon footprint might inspire you to conserve too! You can get a good idea about your use and your carbon footprint by using this [calculator](#).

MULTI-FAMILY WATER CONSERVATION SURVEY

The Multi-Family Survey is designed to help landlords and tenants in apartment buildings and other multi-unit buildings conserve water at no additional cost. To schedule a survey, [click here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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Annual San Diegans Waste No Water Contest Recap

There is more summer entertainment in San Diego beyond marvelous outdoor activities and Comic-Con. (Though we are big fans of water conservation super heroes!) The City of San Diego also crowned the winners of its very own film and poster contests.

The City’s Annual Water Conservation Film Contest, San Diegans Waste No Water, focuses on the message that water conservation is part of the San Diego lifestyle. Winning filmmaker Michael J. Bowie from San Diego State University took top honors with “The Hydrologist,” featuring vivid cinematography and the dramatic contrast of color and black and white imagery to show the benefits rain barrels can bring to your garden.

The winning film was shown at select local movie theaters as a public service announcement before feature presentations. In addition to having the film presented in theatres, Bowie received a generous

prize package, valued at \$165, from local San Diego businesses and attractions.

As a Film Contest first, there was also a “Viewers Choice” winner—“Calvin the Cactus” by Aaron Gomes, Alex Mouritzen and Alexis Meraz of Point Loma High School. They also received a generous prize package, valued at \$90.

The creative celebration isn’t limited to filmmakers. Earlier this summer, the entire San Diego City Council honored the winners of the 13th Annual Children’s Water Conservation Poster Contest at a City Council ceremony on May 14. The poster contest provides a focal point for teachers to talk with their students about the importance of using water wisely. Each winner was presented with an awards package and a Certificate of Excellence.

To view winning films and posters, [click here](#).



Michael J. Bowie, 2013 Film Contest Winner