Water Conservation Tools and Tips
(May 2009)

Did you know that more than 60 percent of residential water use occurs outdoors? Just by making some simple changes, and by planning and maintaining your landscape you can reduce water and costs. A sensible approach will allow you to conserve water while enjoying an attractive yard, and realize water savings. Below are several resources to help you be more water efficient.

1. **Helpful Websites:** [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com); [www.water.ca.gov](http://www.water.ca.gov); [www.wmwd.com](http://www.wmwd.com); [www.evmwd.com](http://www.evmwd.com); [www.valleysoil.com](http://www.valleysoil.com); [www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org); [www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com); [www.ranchowater.com](http://www.ranchowater.com); [www.irrigation.org](http://www.irrigation.org); [www.ouwe.water.ca.gov](http://www.ouwe.water.ca.gov)

2. **Informational Classes:** colleges, universities, extension, county sponsored, water district sponsored, irrigation company sponsored, local irrigation supply house sponsored, nursery sponsored, composting workshops.

3. **Professionals** in the Landscape Industry, who have experience and certification in water conservation are: landscape architects, landscape contractors, certified irrigation designers and auditors, California Landscape Contractors Association—Inland Empire Chapter.

4. Knowledge of existing soil conditions must be known before proceeding with landscaping and soil preparation using **organic amendments** is a must. An **agronomic soil report** should be prepared by a certified laboratory to test for soil texture, percentage of organic matter, soil infiltration rate, pH, and salinity.

5. **Soil drainage** must be good and adequate to support plant life.

6. **Disease and pest control** by using integrated pest management techniques as found on the website, [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) for a natural and non-toxic approach to control.

7. **Irrigation equipment** and controller manufacturers have inexpensive, state of the art products. Many companies offer technical assistance for homeowners and commercial property owners, [www.rainbird.com](http://www.rainbird.com); [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com) Drip irrigation can save up to 90 percent of your water bill for irrigation compared with standard spray irrigation.

8. **Plant selection** is critical. California native plants are adapted to drought and low water use. They also are resistant to most common insects and diseases. Drought tolerant and low water use non-California native plants can be mixed with California native plants.

9. **Hydro-zoning** of plants is essential for proper irrigation design and efficient use of irrigation water. Different areas have different water needs, and they must be watered separately from each other. Separate your irrigation valve design by: lawn, sun shrub, shade shrub, top of slope, middle of slope, bottom of slope, plants with different water requirements, and different types of irrigation equipment—do not irrigate mixing spray heads, rotor heads, impact heads, drip irrigation, etc. on the same irrigation remote control / anti-siphon valve.
10. **WUCOLS III**—Guide to Estimating Irrigation Water Needs of Landscape Plantings in California. This technical guide is available on line at [www.ouwe.water.ca.gov](http://www.ouwe.water.ca.gov) and searching for WUCOLS 2000. You should only be irrigating a total of one hour in a seven day period.

11. **Landscape maintenance** should be performed by licensed landscape contractors with certification in water conservation.

12. **Tree care** should be done by companies with Certified Arborists by the International Society of Arboriculture on staff [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com) Trees should never be topped or improperly trimmed. Tree stakes should be removed 18-24 months after planting.

13. **Planting for energy efficiency** is possible by selecting a plant species, plant location, plant height variation and layering, and using evergreen or deciduous trees properly. This practice can assist in cooling your home in the summer or allowing sunlight and warmth into your home in the winter.

14. **Turf grass lawn** is okay to use in limited amounts in locations where it will be used for recreation and leisure. Lawns are no longer appropriate in places for looks only. Grass must never be overwatered. Warm season lawns, which turn brown in the winter, can be installed to conserve water. Many cool season lawns can be watered 2 or 3 times a week. Some natural looking grasses are now used for lawns and only need to be mowed 2 to 4 times a year.

15. **Artificial lawn** is recommended by some and discouraged by others. Little to no irrigation is needed except to provide cooling for a plastic type material. There is some maintenance required and this is not a natural product, which will decompose in landfills. Do not use artificial grass if it has infill material, which can harbor bacteria.
## Canyon Lake List of California Native Plants

### Trees
- *Aesculus californica* - California Buckeye
- *Calocedrus decurrens* - Incense Cedar
- *Cercidium ‘Desert Museum’* - Blue Palo Verde
- *Cercis occidentalis* - Western Redbud
- *Chilopsis linearis* - Desert Willow
- *Parkinsonia aculeate* - Mexican Palo Verde
- *Pinus torreyana* - Torrey Pine
- *Platanus racemosa* - Western Sycamore
- *Quercus agrifolia* - California Live Oak
- *Quercus lobata* - Valley Oak
- *Sambucus mexicana* - Western Elderberry
- *Umbellularia californica* - California Bay

### Shrubs
- *Arbutus californica* - Indian Mallow
- *Arctostaphylos densiflora ‘Howard McMinn’* - Manzanita
- *Caesalpinia gilliesii* - Desert Bird of Paradise
- *Calliandra eriophylla* - Fairy Duster
- *Carpenteria californica* - Bush Anemone
- *Ceanothus ‘Concha’* - California Lilac
- *Ceanothus ‘Dark Star’* - California Lilac
- *Ceanothus ‘Skylark’* - California Lilac
- *Ceanothus ‘Snow Flurry’* - California Lilac
- *Ceanothus ‘Wheeler Canyon’* - California Lilac
- *Cleome isomeris* - Bladderpod
- *Diplacus aurantiacus hybrids* - Bush Monkey Flower
- *Eriogonum crocatum* - Saffron Buckwheat
- *Eriogonum fasciculatum* - California Buckwheat
- *Fremontodendron californicum* - California Flannel Bush
- *‘California Glory’* - California Flannel Bush
- *Fremontodendron ‘Ken Taylor’* - Island Snapdragon
- *Galvezia speciosa* - Island Mallow
- *Heteromeles arbutifolia* - Toyon
- *Lavatera assurgentiflora* - Island Mallow
- *Mahonia aquifolium ‘Golden Abundance’* - Oregon Grape
- *Mahonia repens* - Creeping Mahonia
- *Rhamnus californica ‘Eve Case’* - Coffeeberry
- *Rhamnus crocea* - Redberry
Shrubs continued:
Rhus ovata                                Sugar Bush
Rhus integrifolia                        Lemonade Berry
Ribes indecorum                          White Flowering Currant
Ribes sanguineum                        Pink Winter Currant
Ribes speciosum                        Fuchsia Flowering Gooseberry
Romneya coulteri                          Matilija Poppy
Rosa californica                        California Wild Rose
Salvia apiana                              White Sage
Salvia clevelandii                        Cleveland Sage
Salvia clevelandii ‘Allen Chickering’     Cleveland Sage
Trichostema lanatum                      Wooly Blue Curls

Ground Covers
Arctostaphylos ‘Emerald Carpet’            Manzanita
Baccharis ‘Pigeon Point’                    Coyote Brush
Ceanothus ‘Yankee Point’                    California Lilac

Perennials
Achillea millefolium ‘Moonshine’            Yarrow
Achillea millefolium ‘Island Pink’           Yarrow
Aquilegia Formosa                            Crimson Columbine
Asclepias speciosa                            Showy Milkweed
Eschscholzia californica                     California Poppy
Iris douglasiana                              Douglas Iris
Lupinus sparsiflorus                          Coulter’s Lupine
Lupinus succulentus                           Arroyo Lupine
Penstemon centrantifolium                    Scarlet Bugler
Penstemon heterophyllus                       Foothill Penstemon
Penstemon spectabilis                           Royal Penstemon
Phacelia campanularia                        California Desert Bluebells
Salvia spathacea                              Hummingbird Sage
Sisyrinchium bellum                         Blue-Eyed Grass
Sisyrinchium californicum                    Golden-Eyed Grass
Viguiera laciniata                            California Sunflower
Zauschneria californica                      California Fuchsia

Vines
Clematis lasiantha                            Chaparral Clematis
Lonicera subspicata                            Southern Honeysuckle

Grasses
Aristida purpurea var. purpurea               Purple Three-Awn
Bouteloua gracilis                            Blue Grama
Muhlenbergia rigens                            Deer Grass
Nassella pulchra                                Purple Needle Grass
Nassella tenuissima                            Mexican Hair Grass
Places to See California Native Plants
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Descanso Gardens, San Marino
Fullerton Arboretum
Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino
Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas
Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens, Claremont
University of California, Riverside
Landscapes Southern California Style—Western Municipal Water District, Riverside

Places to Purchase California Native Plants
El Nativo Growers, Azusa
Greenlee Nursery, Pomona
Green Meadow Growers, Bonsall
Las Pilitas Nursery, Escondido
Mockingbird Nursery, Riverside
Native Grow Nursery, San Juan Capistrano
Recon Native Plants, San Diego
San Marcos Growers, Santa Barbara
Tree of Life Nursery, San Juan Capistrano

Places to Purchase California Native Plant Seed
S & S Seeds, Carpenteria
Stover Seed, Los Angeles
# Canyon Lake List of Drought Tolerant and Low Water Use Plants

## Trees
- Acacia stenophylla: Shoestring Acacia
- Arbutus unedo: Strawberry Tree
- Brachychiton populneus: Bottle Tree
- Cedrus deodara: Deodar Cedar
- Ceratonia siliqua: Carob Tree
- Chitalpa tashkentensis: Chitalpa
- Cupressus sempervirens: Italian Cypress
- Geijera parviflora: Australian Willow
- Lagerstroemia indica: Crape Myrtle
- Laurus nobilis ‘Saratoga’: Saratoga Laurel
- Nerium oleander: Oleander
- Olea europaea ‘Fruitless’: Fruitless Olive
- Pinus eldarica: Mondell Pine
- Pinus halepensis: Aleppo Pine
- Pinus pinea: Italian Stone Pine
- Pistachia chinense: Chinese Pistache
- Quercus ilex: Holly Oak
- Rhus lancea: African Sumac
- Robinia ambigua ‘Purple Robe’: Idaho Locust
- Schinus molle: California Pepper
- Vitex agnus-castus: Chaste Tree

## Shrubs
- Arbutus unedo ‘Compacta’: Dwarf Strawberry Tree
- Buddleia davidii: Butterfly Bush
- Callistemon citrinus: Lemon Bottlebrush
- Callistemon ‘Little John’: Dwarf Bottlebrush
- Cistus ladanifer: Crimson-Spot Rockrose
- Cistus purpureus: Orchid Rockrose
- Cistus ‘Sunset’: Rockrose
- Convolvulus cneorum: Bush Morning Glory
- Convolvulus mauritianicus: Ground Morning Glory
- Correa pulchella: Australian Fuchsia
- Dodonea viscosa ‘Atropurpurea’: Purple Hop Bush
- Echium fastuosum: Pride of Madeira
- Eleagnus pungens: Silverberry
- Feijoa sellowiana: Pineapple Guava
- Grevillea ‘Canberra Gem’: ---
- Grevillea lanigera: Wooly Grevillea
Shrubs continued:

Grevillea ‘Noellii’
Grevillea ‘Ruby Clusters’
Ilex vomitoria ‘Nana’
Ilex vomitoria ‘Stokes’
Juniper species
Lavandula species
Leonotis leonurus
Leptospermum scoparium ‘Ruby Glow’
Leptospermum scoparium ‘Gaiety Girl’
Leptospermum scoparium ‘Snow White’
Limonium perezii
Myrtus communis ‘Compacta’
Nerium oleander ‘Petite Pink’
Nerium oleander ‘Petite Salmon’
Nerium oleander ‘Little Red’
Phlomis fruticosa
Plumbago auriculata ‘Imperial Blue’
Polygala dalmaisiana
Rhaphiolepis indica cultivars
Rosmarinus officinalis ‘Tuscan Blue’
Salvia greggii cultivars
Salvia leucantha
Salvia chamaedryoides
Santolina chamaecyparissus
Santolina rosmarinifolia (virens)
Senna artemesioides
Senna phyllodedia
Teucrium fruticans
Tulbaghia violacea
Tulbaghia violacea ‘Silver Lace’
Westringea fruticans
Westringea fruticans ‘Wynabbie Gem’

Ground Covers

Acacia redolens
Arctotheca calendula
Dymondia margaretae
Juniperus conferta
Juniperus procumbens ‘Nana’
Myoporum parvifolium
Rosmarinus officinalis ‘Prostrata’
Verbena tenuisecta

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Dwarf Yaupon
Juniper
Lavender
Lion’s Tail
New Zealand Tea Tree
New Zealand Tea Tree
Sea Lavender
Dwarf Myrtle
Oleander
Oleander
Oleander
Jerusalem Sage
Cape Plumbago
Sweet Pea Shrub
India Hawthorne
Rosemary
Autumn Sage
Mexican Bush Sage
Blue Sage
Lavender Cotton
Feathery Cassia
Silver Cassia
Bush Germander
Society Garlic
Variegated Society Garlic
Coast Rosemary
Coast Rosemary

Cape Weed
Dymondia
Shore Juniper
Japanese Garden Juniper
Myoporum
Dwarf Rosemary
Moss Verbena
### Perennials
- **Achillea species**  
  Yarrow
- **Anigozanthos hybrids**  
  Kangaroo Paw
- **Artemesia schmidtiana ‘Silver Mound’**  
  Angel’s Hair
- **Echinacea purpurea**  
  Purple Coneflower
- **Eriogonum karvinskianum**  
  Santa Barbara Daisy
- **Gaura lindheimeri**  
  Gaura
- **Hesperaloe parviflora**  
  Red Yucca
- **Kniphofia uvaria**  
  Red Hot Poker
- **Lychnis coronaria**  
  Rose Campion
- **Penstemon hatwegii hybrids**  
  Penstemon
- **Tagetes lemmonii**  
  Mountain Marigold

### Vines
- **Lonicera japonica ‘Halliana’**  
  Hall’s Honeysuckle
- **Macfadyena unguis-cati**  
  Cat’s Claw

### Grasses
- **Calamagrostis ‘Karl Foerster’**  
  Reed Grass
- **Deschampsia caespitosa**  
  Tufted Hairgrass
- **Festuca ovina glauca**  
  Blue Fescue
- **Helictotrichon sempervirens**  
  Blue Oat Grass
- **Nassella tenuissima**  
  Mexican Feather Grass
- **Pennisetum setaceum ‘Rubrum’**  
  Red Fountain Grass