



www.westhills91307.org



FSC@johninovak.com

Westhills Fire Safe Council (FSC) April 2015 Newsletter

Contents:

- Annual Homeowners Meeting—Wednesday, June 17 at 7 p.m.
- LVMWD Reducing Water Use by 35%
- Indoor and Outdoor Conservation Tips from LVMWD
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SAVE THE DATE: Westhills Homeowners Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 16th at 7 p.m.

Hill Point Montessori School—enter on Kittridge just west of Valley Circle

Fire Safe Council Activities at our Annual Meeting

- Wildfire Discussion by David Whitney of the LA County Fire Department
- Hands-on Fire Extinguisher training immediately after the meeting
- Fire Safe table with fire safety, water conservation and drought tolerant landscaping brochures
- LVMWD Reducing Water Use by 35%

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's (LVMWD) Slated for 35% Reduction

<http://www.lvmwd.com/home/showdocument?id=4905>

On April 1st, the Governor issued an Executive Order calling for a mandatory 25% reduction in potable urban water usage across the state. On Tuesday April 7th the State Water Board released its preliminary regulatory framework to implement the Governor's Order, assigning reduction percentages to the state's 411 urban water suppliers. **Based on our service area's**

residential per capita water usage, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) is slated for a 35% reduction.

LVMWD Outdoor Water Conservation Tips

<http://www.lvmwd.com/for-customers/conservation/outdoor-conservation>

A survey conducted in the LVMWD service area shows that nearly 70 percent of the water we serve is used outdoors, primarily for landscaping. Outdoor conservation is particularly important in our service area, because excessive irrigation not only wastes water but also results in urban runoff, polluting our local creeks and streams. Did you know a turf lawn in our region requires five feet of water each year? Consider new landscape selections that require less water.

Take advantage of our rebates for new, water efficient irrigation rotary nozzles, or even a new Weather Based Irrigation Controller (WBIC) that automatically adjusts to match your landscape's needs to changes in the weather.

Outdoor Conservation Equipment

- New rotary sprinkler heads that reduce evaporation
- Weather-Based Irrigation Controller - **Video**
- Drip irrigation
- Trigger nozzle for hose

Outdoor Conservation Practices

- Seasonally adjust irrigation timer; less in fall & winter months, more in spring and summer
- Check for leaks near irrigation valves and look for unusually wet areas in lawn & garden
- Reduce the amount of turf; replace with California Friendly plant selections
- Irrigation zones should be matched to similar plant selections and timed accordingly
- Use a bucket and a hose with a trigger nozzle to wash cars; don't let the water run
- Don't let children use the hose as a toy
- Add water to pools and spas only when needed; don't change out water unnecessarily
- A pool cover can greatly reduce evaporation loss
- Don't cut the lawn too short; allow for growth beyond 2 inches before cutting
- Use compost or mulch to help soil retain moisture in lawns and gardens

- Water in the evening or early morning hours to minimize evaporation loss
- Don't water on windy days
- Turn your sprinkler system off before, during and after periods of rain
- Don't water every day – your plants don't need that much water
- Don't hose down paved areas; use a broom instead
- If there is any runoff from your property, there is a problem that needs correction

Summary of the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's (LVMWD) Irrigation Efficiency Webpage

<http://www.lvmwd.com/for-customers/conservation/irrigation-efficiency>

The website has detailed information on efficiency and the irrigation adjustment percentage that isn't included in this summary:

Call us at 818-251-2100 and ask for a Conservation staff member

For a simple means of establishing a water schedule, read our [Simple Irrigation Scheduler](#) (PDF - 299 KB) brochure. For a more detailed explanation, read our [Optimal Irrigation Scheduler](#) (PDF - 258 kb) brochure.

Click here to view LVMWD's Let's Talk About Water Video on [Smart Irrigation Controllers](#).

Improve your sprinkler system's performance using this [Sprinkler System Tune-up Tutorial](#).

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's (LVMWD) Water Conservation Rebates

<http://www.lvmwd.com/for-customers/conservation/rebate-programs>

Rebate Programs



Rebates for water-saving devices are again available for LVMWD residential customers through the SoCal Water\$mart program. Residential water customers include those living in houses or apartments, townhomes, condominiums or mobile home complexes with less than five dwellings whose water bills are not paid by a homeowners association or property

management company.

Upgrade your home, reduce water use and save money with rebates on these water-saving devices:

- “Mow No Mow” Lawn Replacement Program (\$2 per square foot; front and back yards qualify.)
- High Efficiency Toilet (\$100)
- High Efficiency Clothes Washer (\$85)
- Weather-Based Irrigation Controller (\$80)
- Rotating Sprinkler Heads (\$4 rebate each, minimum 15 heads)
- Rain Barrel (\$75, *max 4 per home*)
- Soil Moisture Sensor System (\$80)

It’s important to know rebate terms and conditions before you make a purchase, so please carefully read the information found at the SoCal Water\$mart website:

www.socalwatersmart.com

Items qualifying for a rebate include: Selected high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers, rotary irrigation nozzles installed with a pressure-regulating head, weather-based irrigation controllers, soil moisture sensors, and rain capture barrels.

Rebates are administered by SoCal Water\$mart and may take several weeks to process. For more information, please contact us at 818.251.2200. Updated February 20, 2014