

Water Wise



Published for large landscape and irrigation customers of the Coachella Valley

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California voters approve \$7.5 billion water bond

Proposition 1 is a \$7.5 billion general obligation bond measure approved by California voters on Nov. 4, 2014. Proposition 1 will fund investments in water projects and programs as part of a statewide, comprehensive water plan for California.

In addition to funding programs from water conservation to recycling to groundwater cleanup to water storage, Proposition 1 is expected to leverage additional local and regional funds to provide a total investment of \$25 billion to \$30 billion to address California's water needs.

The bond funds will be distributed through a competitive grant process overseen by various state agencies, including the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the California Water Commission.

The agencies will conduct processes to solicit proposals for grants, review applications and award the funding.

The approved bond measure provides targeted funding for the following areas to help combat drought and secure our water future:

Regional Water Reliability: \$810 million

Proposition 1 funds programs such as water conservation and stormwater capture that increase local and regional water supplies



and also serve other purposes, such as creating habitat and flood protection.

Water Storage Capacity: \$2.7 billion

Proposition 1 funds a share of new water storage projects to add flexibility to our water system and create more places to store water in wet times for use later. Funding is not tied to specific projects; dollars would be allocated on a competitive basis to projects ranging from local and regional surface storage to groundwater storage and cleanup to reservoir reoperation.

Water Recycling: \$725 million

Proposition 1 funds water recycling and salt-removal projects to reuse water and maximize supplies. Funds could be used to build new recycled water pipelines, test new treatment technology or build desalination plants.

Groundwater Sustainability: \$900 million

Proposition 1 funds protection and cleanup of groundwater basins, and helps

local agencies develop and implement groundwater sustainability plans required under new state legislation.

Safe Drinking Water: \$520 million

Proposition 1 funds safe drinking water and clean water programs, particularly for disadvantaged communities. These funds are designed to leverage additional federal funds and also pay for community wastewater programs and drinking water infrastructure.

Watersheds and Flood Management: \$1.89 billion

Proposition 1 funds habitat and watershed programs, enhancements for rivers and creeks, watersheds in designated areas, state commitments to restoration and statewide flood management.

For more information or to download fact sheets on Proposition 1, visit the Associate of California Water Agencies website at www.acwa.com.

Reduce your watering time during winter season

As nighttime temperatures begin to cool, gradually reduce watering times to avoid wasting water.

Plants and grass do not need much water during the fall and winter season. By reducing watering times you can save significant amounts of water and money.

For example, in January grass only requires about three minutes per day. However, in February five minutes per day is recommended.

If your soil does not absorb water quickly, try dividing watering times into multiple sessions. This will allow the soil to efficiently absorb the water and reduce run-off. Compost is a great soil amendment that aids in water absorption and it provides soil nutrients naturally.

Visit www.cvwd.org/conservation/wateringguide.php to download a Drought Watering Guide.



CVWD landscape seminar to feature Ewing Irrigation instructors

CVWD is hosting two free Water Management Seminars for Landscape Professionals on Mar. 3 in Spanish and on March 10 in English.

These seminars will be held at CVWD's administration building in Palm Desert.

Ewing Irrigation educators will present on topics geared toward efficient irrigation practices and preventing water waste.

Water Management Seminars are designed to help landscape professionals learn to properly irrigate and manage their clients' lawns and gardens in this arid, hot climate. Seminar curriculum provides technical and practical information to help landscape professionals achieve those goals without wasting water.

Registration cost is free including continental breakfast and lunch.

Each individual who completes the seminar will receive class materials and a certificate of completion.

For more information or to register, visit www.cvwd.org or call (760) 398-2651.

Seminar quick reference

Dates: March 3 (Spanish) & March 10 (English)

Time: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: CVWD office at 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert

Cost: Free

Enroll: Register at www.cvwd.org

Drought Irrigation Guide

This new Drought Irrigation Guide offers specific watering times for lawns that is adjusted downward by 20 percent. Individual watering times vary based on sprinkler efficiency, soil and weather conditions. Gradually adjust the amount of water to find an adequate amount for your landscaping without being wasteful.

	Water-efficient shrubs	Water-efficient trees	Non-desert trees	Grass on spray or rotary system
January	0.7 gal./day 2 days/week	14 gal./day 2 days/week	45 gal./day 2 days/week	Spray system: 3 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 7 min./day; 7 days/week
February	0.9 gal./day 3 days/week	21 gal./day 3 days/week	56 gal./day 3 days/week	Spray system: 5 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 13 min./day; 7 days/week
March	0.9 gal./day 4 days/week	16 gal./day 4 days/week	53 gal./day 4 days/week	Spray system: 7 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 18 min./day; 7 days/week



A column to answer your landscaping and water conservation questions

Dave Koller is the conservation manager for the Coachella Valley Water District. He has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and landscape irrigation auditor.

Q. What can our HOA do to help remind residents about the mandatory water use restrictions?

A. In response to California's devastating drought and state-mandated restrictions, Coachella Valley Water District implemented mandatory water-use restrictions on Aug. 12, 2014.

These water use restrictions apply only to domestic water users. Nevertheless, everyone can do their part to conserve water. For example, recycled water and Colorado River water customers are encouraged to join the effort by adopting water conservation measures.

In addition, homeowner associations are also encouraged to help enforce the water use restrictions listed below:

- ◆ Irrigate lawns/other landscaping only after sunset and before 10 a.m., except when over-seeding.
- ◆ Use CVWD's drought watering guide to irrigate: www.cvwd.org/conservation/wateringguide.php.
- ◆ Repair broken sprinklers within 24 hours of being notified.
- ◆ Do not wash down driveways, sidewalks and other hardscapes.
- ◆ Only use a hose with a shutoff nozzle when washing vehicles, windows, solar panels or tennis courts.
- ◆ Prevent water runoff onto a neighbor's property or hardscape such as sidewalks, driveways or roads.
- ◆ Operate fountains or other water features only if they recirculate the water.

Some of the listed actions are not

prohibited if they are needed to address an immediate health and safety need, use recycled water or if taken to comply with a condition of a state or federal agency-issued permit.

What about businesses?

The above restrictions apply to both residents and businesses. However, there are additional restrictions that we are asking businesses to comply with listed below:

- ◆ Restaurants can serve water to customers only upon request.
- ◆ Hotels are being asked to place messages in guest rooms promoting water conservation.

Are there fines for violating the restrictions?

The first offense is a written warning; 2nd offense is a \$50 fine on the water bill; 3rd offense is a \$100 fine; and 4th offense is a \$200 fine.

To help homeowners and businesses, the Coachella Valley Water District board of directors increased funding for conservation programs, bringing the total for the fiscal year to \$3.2 million, the most allocated by any water district in the Coachella Valley. Due to overwhelming response from customers eager to do their part, the additional funding of \$1.8 million has been depleted for this program.

New applications for turf conversion rebates will continue to be accepted, but will not be approved until the next fiscal year in July 2015. However, golf courses are still eligible for turf conversion projects thanks to a state grant.

Conservation programs include:

- ◆ Golf course turf rebates. Coachella



Valley golf courses within the CVWD boundary may be eligible for turf rebates of up to \$105,000 (\$15,000 per acre up to seven acres) per applicant. Applications will be accepted from January 2, 2015 until February 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

- ◆ Smart controllers are free for residents; CVWD will refund half the cost for large landscape customers.
- ◆ Indoor water conservation kits are free for residents: <http://www.cvwd.org/conservation/residentialkit.php>
- ◆ Residents can receive \$100 rebates for installing a high-efficiency toilet (two per home). Commercial establishments, such as hotels, can receive a rebate of half the cost of installing these water-efficient toilets.
- ◆ Pre-rinse nozzles and water broom sets will be distributed free to restaurants, schools and other commercial, institutional or industrial customers.

For more information, visit CVWD's conservation page at www.cvwd.org.



Coachella Valley Water District
 P.O. Box 1058
 Coachella, CA 92236

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Communication & Conservation

Heather Engel

Editor

Lorraine Garcia

Photographers

David Anderson & Robert Keeran

Contact Information

(760) 398-2651
 www.cvwd.org
 cvwdmail@cvwd.org



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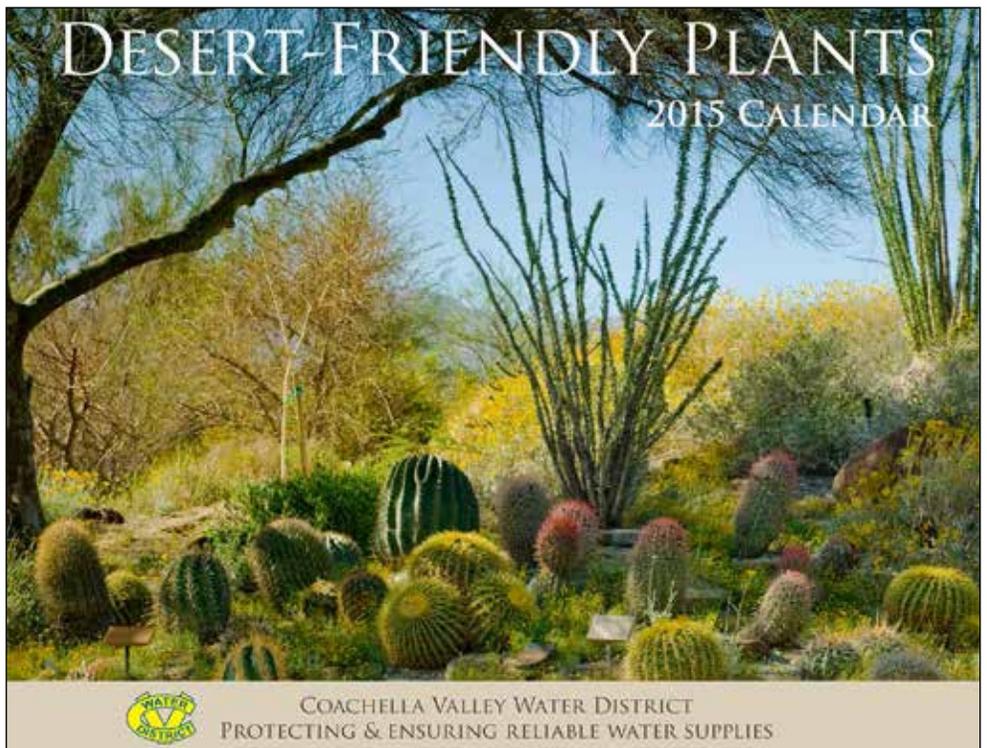
Desert-friendly plant calendars now available

Coachella Valley Water District's 2015 desert-friendly plants wall calendar is now available to Coachella Valley residents.

The calendar features a different desert-friendly plant each month along with key information, including a short plant description, watering and sun requirements, bloom season and color, and growth measurements.

Also included are helpful month-to-month gardening tips along with a monthly irrigation guide, which serves as a reminder to change your irrigation clock monthly.

This calendar celebrates the beauty of desert-friendly landscaping while promoting water-efficient practices.



In addition, these bright and colorful calendars are free of charge! Place your order today, supplies are limited.

To order calendars visit www.cvwd.org or contact Lorraine Garcia at (760) 398-2651 or email her at Lorraine.Garcia@cvwd.org.