

# splash



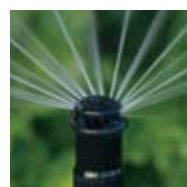
SUMMER 2008

## NEW Rebates Offer Customers Water, Money Savings

*Get \$5–\$150 back on Water-saving Devices*

The Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts (Districts) have unveiled a brand-new rebate program offering money savings for the purchase of water-saving devices that will reduce water waste both indoors and outside. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the rebate program in June with the goal of reducing household water waste, thereby increasing water supply reliability.

Rebates will range from \$50 to \$150, except for the sprinkler nozzle rebate, which is up to \$4 for each nozzle. Rebates include:



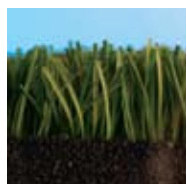
**Rotating sprinkler nozzles**, which uniformly spray landscape with less pressure, use about 20 percent less water.



**Smart sprinkler controllers**, which regulate water given to plants by calculating the time of year, climate and weather, saving more than 40 gallons per household per day.



**High-efficiency clothes washers**, which reduce energy costs by 50 percent and water and sewer costs by about 35 percent.



**Synthetic turf**, which replaces traditional lawn and eliminates the need for watering can save about 22,000 gallons of water per year for a 750 square foot installation. Rebate: 30¢/sq ft.



**Ultra-low-flush toilets** and dual flush toilets, which use less water than older models and can save more than 15 gallons of water each day.



**Waterless urinals** for businesses. Zero and low water models can save up to 45,000 gallons of water per year. Retrofits also qualify.



**Drip irrigation** minimizes water use by applying water slowly and directly to the soil. The water soaks into the soil before it can evaporate or run off and saves up to 4,500 gallons per year for a 500 square foot landscape.

All of the items eligible for residential rebates can be purchased at local hardware stores and nurseries, including the Home Depot, which has partnered with the Districts on our water conservation program.

Districts customers can visit [LACWaterworks.org](http://LACWaterworks.org) to learn more or to apply for a rebate. The form must be printed, filled out and mailed in. Note—do not enter your zip code on the [bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com) website. The product listings are for information only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing.

**This is one way you can Make Every Drop Count.**

## FREE WATER-USE EVALUATION

**Save Water and Money**

This summer do your part to conserve water by signing up for an easy on-site water evaluation. These free evaluations offered by the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts (Districts) can help residents, businesses and institutions identify leaks, check sprinkler systems for problems and provide and install free water-saving devices such as faucet aerators and low-flow shower heads.

Customers can request a water evaluation and a District representative will visit the site to identify areas where water is being wasted, provide a customized outdoor watering schedule and evaluate what each household can do to save water and bring water bills down. On average, residents save 10 percent more water without any lifestyle changes by participating in this program. Making a few simple changes can reduce their water usage even more!

Surveys can help customers find sources of waste they never knew existed and help the Districts save much needed water.

### FREE WATER SURVEY!

Call (888) 987-9473 today for a free on-site water-use evaluation and easy ways to save water and money.



# **DROUGHT DECLARED IN CALIFORNIA**

## **Do Your Part to Conserve**

**In June, Governor Schwarzenegger declared an official drought due to low rainfall and below-average snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This dry season comes on top of court ordered restrictions in the amount of water pumped from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta to protect an endangered species, the Delta Smelt.**

The Districts depend on imported water from the Delta to meet a large part of our customer demand, and decreased supply and increased demand—particularly during hot summer months—make it extremely important for all of us to conserve water this summer.

One easy and effective way to conserve water is to take advantage of the Districts' Free Water Use Survey program. See the front page for more information about these surveys.

### **Here are some simple and easy steps you can take to reduce water use:**

- Outdoor watering—particularly landscaping—accounts for up to 80 percent of water use. Set your sprinklers to water during the coolest part of the day to reduce evaporation, before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Reducing the amount of time you water by one or two minutes per station can also save hundreds of gallons a week.
- Check your sprinkler system. Do a weekly check for broken or clogged sprinkler heads and replace them right away. Make sure you are watering plants and not driveways, sidewalks, or parking lots.
- In lieu of lawns and flora not suited for dry climates, plant native species or drought tolerant plants. These plants are beautiful, are adapted to the area, and require very little water and maintenance once established.

- Use a broom (not a hose) to sweep up dirt, leaves, or grass cuttings. Instruct your maintenance or gardening staff to follow these procedures as well.

Call 1 (800) 675-HELP to let us know about water wasting or runoff in your neighborhood. Provide us with the address, and our Districts crews will investigate and take the appropriate actions.

For more water saving tips, visit [LACWaterworks.org](http://LACWaterworks.org). Every drop counts this summer—Save water and money!

### **Let Us Know**

To report water leaks or nuisance water running into the street, call **1 (800) 675-HELP**. Please provide an address for our Districts crews to investigate.



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P.O. Box 1460  
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Phone: (626) 300-3362  
Email: [mbarrett@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:mbarrett@dpw.lacounty.gov)

[www.lacwaterworks.org](http://www.lacwaterworks.org)

Mission: "To provide reliable, high-quality water at a reasonable cost to all of our customers."