



MesaWater
DISTRICT

Water District News

MesaWater.org

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Hot Water News

Wise Water Use at the Airport

John Wayne Airport (JWA) completed a two-year improvement project in 2011. The addition of a third terminal included water efficiency improvements such as automatic faucets and high-efficiency toilets, resulting in a 20 percent reduction in water use for every person traveling through the airport. Every drop counts, especially in times of drought, and as a result of making wise investments in water-efficient devices, JWA is now saving more than 6 million gallons of locally-sourced water each year.

Fresh Water Facts

Keeping Coasts Clean

Urban runoff can lead to coastal water pollution, but actions you take at your home can help your property to be more water-efficient and reduce pollution heading to the ocean, including:

- Sweeping the driveway instead of hosing it down;
- Cleaning up after your pets;
- Avoiding synthetic fertilizers; and
- Regulating or adjusting sprinklers to keep from overwatering.

For more information about water quality at your local beach, or to report local water pollution, download the free WaterKeeper® "Swim Guide" app on your smartphone (with the QR code below) or visit the WaterKeeper® Alliance at theswimguide.org.



Outdoor Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Projects to Help You Spring Into Summer

There are many water-wise DIY projects that can help improve your outdoor space. From creating sustainable landscapes to building rain gutter gardens, you can be water-efficient while beautifying your home.

Creating eco-friendly gardens is a great way to reduce your water use. Using California-Friendly® plants can provide vibrant colors while requiring less maintenance. Also, watering your plants properly ensures that necessary nutrients are not washed away. This reduces runoff and promotes the health of your plants.

Dawn and dusk are the best times to irrigate your landscape so that water does not evaporate too quickly. Spreading 3-5 inches of mulch also helps to retain moisture, keep the soil cool, and prevent weed growth. For more water-wise gardening tips, visit BeWaterWise.com and click on the "Garden Spot" tab.

Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) has created three water-wise demonstration gardens that use water efficiently and serve as great teaching tools for the community. Mesa Water® maintains a garden at the District headquarters on Placentia Avenue, another at the [Mesa Water Reliability Facility](http://MesaWaterReliabilityFacility.com) (MWRF) on Gisler Avenue (by appointment only), and a third garden at the OC Fair. The two on District property have been designated Ocean-Friendly® by the local Surfrider Foundation. You are welcome to explore and learn more about these water-efficient landscapes. Visit MesaWater.org/landscape_gardening for more information.



On the lighter side, creating a self-watering rain gutter garden can be a fun and useful DIY project for those with a green thumb and a green mind. Since rain gutters are designed to catch water, gutter gardens address the landscaping challenge of an inconsistent water supply.

Repurposing or converting a piece of rain gutter into a gutter garden is a "green design idea" that combines creativity, recycling, and functionality for small spaces, and can be used to grow flowers, succulents, lettuce, fruit, and herbs. Gutter gardens can be free-standing or attached to walls, railings, and fences where they can catch runoff. For more gutter garden ideas, please visit your local nursery or garden center.

Dedicated to Satisfying our Community's Water Needs

Be Prepared

Helpful Tips for Creating Your DIY Earthquake Kit

It's always a good time to be prepared by refreshing or creating your DIY preparedness kit and emergency plan. Your DIY preparedness kit should be stored and accessible where you spend most of your time in your home, work, and vehicle. Your DIY kit should be able to last at least 3 days for each person, and perishable items (food, water and batteries) should be updated once a year. Here's a list of basic supplies to keep in your kit:



- Water (1 gallon per person/per day)
- Wrenches to turn off gas/water lines
- Whistle
- Cash
- Work gloves and protective goggles
- Heavy duty plastic trash bags
- Portable radio with extra batteries
- Emergency contact phone numbers
- Flashlights or light sticks
- Canned/packaged foods and a manual can opener
- Matches
- Pet food and pet restraints
- Warm clothing, including extra socks
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- First Aid Kit & Insurance Paperwork
- Medications & Prescriptions

Community Connections

Join Mesa Water This Summer

Learn more about your water district and win a water-wise prize at these events:

Fish Fry & Carnival: Start the summer off right with the 66th Annual Fish Fry & Carnival presented by the Costa Mesa – Newport Harbor Lions Club. The event will be held at Fairview Park from May 31 to June 2. Stop by Mesa Water's booth for a chance to win a water-wise prize!

Costa Mesa Concerts In The Park: Continue a Costa Mesa summer tradition and join us at Fairview Park on Tuesday evenings from July 1 through July 29, from 5:30 - 7:45p.m. for music,

food, prizes and fun!

2014 OC Fair: Tour Mesa Water's demonstration garden during the 2014 OC Fair from July 11 through August 10 and attend

our water-efficient landscape workshop on Wednesday afternoons, free with admission. Visit MesaWater.org for details. For more information, email info@MesaWater.org or call 949.631.1201.



Employee Excellence

Succession Planning and Developing New Leaders

For 30 years, Alan Cook has been part of the fabric of Mesa Water District and is an essential contributor to the District's operations. He is a key reason why the water system works so well. Alan began as a Water Maintenance Worker in 1984, was promoted to Supervisor in 1998, achieved the highest level of certification available from the State of California, won numerous awards, and became a trainer in his career with Mesa Water. Alan is now retiring from the District after teaching the next generation of maintenance workers and

crew leaders, resulting in the promotion of Scott Sullivan to Supervisor.



For 18 years, Scott has been learning from Alan, and is now ready to take the next step on Mesa Water's Operations team. Scott has grown from Maintenance Worker to Crew Leader to Supervisor, and is looking forward to serving in his new position. Congratulations Alan and Scott!



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Board Meetings

Mesa Water's Board meets the second Thursday of each month. Regular meetings begin at 6 p.m. at 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, and are open to the public. For more information, call 949.631.1206.

Produced by Mesa Water's Board of Directors, **Water District News** is a bi-monthly publication to inform Mesa Water's customers and community about water-related issues and events.

We welcome your comments:

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