

City of
Huntington Beach
Public Works,
Utilities Division
714.536.5921



Did you know?

- The State Water Project (SWP) transports water from the San Joaquin Delta to Southern California, a 444 mile long journey.
- The SWP lifts water 2,000 feet to cross the tall Tehachapi Mountains (Fort Tejon and the Grapevine), which makes it the highest vertical lift of water in the world!
- Transportation, pumping and treatment of water requires 20% of the total energy consumed in the state of California!

Water and Huntington Beach

USE WATER WISELY

Spring 2012

Now is the ideal time to do an irrigation system tune-up!

Outdoor irrigation uses 50-60% of water in a home. A home owner can save a lot of water and money if the irrigation system operates efficiently. We recommend monthly regular maintenance to check for leaks and misdirected sprinkler heads.

Tips for a healthy, beautiful and water efficient garden:

- ♦ Adapt your watering schedule to the weather and the season. Learn the settings on your irrigation controller and adjust the watering schedule regularly.
- ♦ Adjust sprinkler heads. Remove obstructions that prevent sprinklers from distributing water evenly. Make sure you water plants and not sidewalks, streets and buildings.
- ♦ Water at the right time of the day. Watering when the sun is low and winds are calm reduces evaporation by 30%. The best times to water are early evening and just before sunrise.
- ♦ Water more often for shorter periods. Setting your system to run for three, 3-minute intervals, with time in between, lets soil absorb more water than watering for 13 minutes at once.
- ♦ Water only when needed. Saturate root zones and let the soil dry out. Overwatering results in shallow roots and encourages weeds, disease and fungus growth.
- ♦ Schedule watering for each zone separately. For each area in your garden, take into account the type of sprinkler, sun or shade exposure, soil type and plant water requirements.

H.B. Utilities initiates program to keep bees safe

Every building has a meter box measuring the amount of water a residence or business uses. The meter box is located in the ground and bees sometimes build nests in the meter box. The Utilities division has recently initiated a program to call on a bee removal specialist/bee keeper to remove the bees in a safe and non-chemical fashion when the bees have taken up residency in meter boxes. This program is truly a win-win situation as the bees' lives will be saved while the City saves money.

Bees are pollinators, helping flowers bloom and fruits grow, and very important in our eco-system. The bees are increasingly facing threats to their existence, a condition scientists have named Bee Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

To help the bees, we can plant California native plants and flowers and greatly reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides, as these chemicals are suspects in the demise of our important and fuzzy, little hard-working friends. For questions or further information, please call 714.374.1796.



Become a fan of Huntington Beach Water on Facebook for updates, events, articles and water wisdom!

City of Huntington Beach is happy to invite you to a Free California Friendly Landscape Class on June 16th

The California Friendly Landscape Class will be taught Saturday June 16th, between 9 am and 12 noon, at the H.B. Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave. Light refreshments will be provided. Space is limited, so please let us know if you would like to attend at: 714.536.5921 or bcrisp@surfcity-hb.org

Topics includes basic landscape design, irrigation systems,

landscape watering, and landscape plants. Ocean Friendly Gardens™ and the components of CPR, which describes the sustainable and ocean friendly garden practices of Conservation, Permeability and Retention, is also included.



Remember to water with automatic sprinkler systems after 5 pm or before 9 am!

Sustainability = meeting the needs of current generations without compromising the needs of future generations.

We can help you save money! The Water Use Efficiency program offers free water surveys to all residents and businesses. For more info. call 714.374.1796

“Planet Water” at Shipley Nature Center

Two workshops of the popular “Planet Water” fun family series remain:
June 23rd, at 1 pm - “From Shipley to the Ocean”
September 22nd, at 1 pm- “Turn off the Water”
For more information; www.shipleynature.org or call 714.842.4772

Announcements

REBATES AVAILABLE!

Metropolitan Water District (MWD) offers rebates for water efficient products such as clothes washers, weather based irrigation controllers (WBICs) and sprinkler nozzles.

For more information and lists of qualifying products for residents; www.socalwatersmart.com

For more information and lists of qualifying products for commercial and industrial customers; www.mwdsaveabuck.com

Should you have any questions, please contact the City of H.B. Water Use Efficiency staff at 714.374.1796

The H.B. Water Wise Gardening Website is now available! It's a great educational gardening tool! www.surfcity-hb.org/hbwater

We are fortunate to have the Shipley Nature Center in our city! Shipley is an ecological sanctuary for insects, wildlife, birds and butterflies and we highly recommend a visit!
www.shipleynature.org

55+ gallon rain water barrels are available for purchase at the discounted price of \$75! For more info. please visit; www.surfcity-hb.org/hbwater Benefits includes extra water storage, conservation of a vital resource, and reduced storm water runoff which protects the ocean environment. Money is saved on utility bills and your plants will love the “soft” rain water.

