



Nearly 70 percent of residential water use goes outdoors. Close to half of that water is wasted by overwatering and lost to runoff and evaporation. With smart choices about plants, irrigation and maintenance, water savings can grow along with the beauty and sustainability of your landscape.



bewaterwise.com



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QUICK TIPS

For a California
Friendly® and Native
Garden

bewaterwise.com®

How does your California Friendly® and native garden grow?
With more color.
With more birds, bees, butterflies and beneficial bugs.
With more features to capture rainwater.
With more smart irrigation. And with a lot less water.



1 Choose Plants that Make Sense for SoCal

- Try to create a plant palette that includes **California Friendly®** and native plants that have moderate to low water needs
- Group your plants with others that match their sun and water requirements to make watering more efficient
- Place your favorite high-water need plants as accents in areas that are more protected from heat and wind
- Help your plants have healthy roots by preparing your soil and watering less frequently, but more deeply
- Get inspiration from the Native Plant Profiles listed on bewaterwise.com

2 Mow High and Mulch Thick

- Raise the lawnmower blade to mow higher and allow the grass to grow deeper roots
- Keep a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch in plant beds to limit evaporation and help control weeds

3 Redirect and Capture Rainwater

- Direct rainfall off the roof and into a rain barrel or cistern for garden use (both are eligible for rebates)
- Install stormwater retention features like dry rock beds, swales, berms and grades
- Redirect water into the garden and allow it to soak into the ground rather than running off into the gutter
- Install a rainchain from the roof to direct runoff into flower beds and away from the home's foundation

4 Have a Smart Irrigation Program

- Take advantage of rebates for smart controllers and install a custom watering schedule by zone that adjusts to the weather. Some controllers can even be adjusted through a phone app.
- Use rotating sprinkler nozzles (also eligible for rebates) for more efficient watering and less overspray and loss to evaporation
- Be quick to repair sprinkler leads and adjust for blocked spray to avoid excessive runoff
- Consider converting from spray watering to drip, bubblers and microsprays for shrubs and flower beds
- Use a soil moisture sensor to more accurately determine watering needs (eligible for a rebate)

Rebates

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has many rebates to help you save water indoors and outside, along with helpful conservation tips and how-to videos at bewaterwise.com. Click on the rebates tab for a complete list and eligibility requirements. Here you'll also be able to also see if additional incentives are available from your local water agency. Check out the Lawn Replacement Rebate to save as much as \$10,000. Here's a snapshot of residential outdoor water-saving rebates:



Lawn Replacement
Smart Irrigation Controller

Starting at \$2/square foot (maximum 5,000 square feet)

Starting at \$80 (less than one irrigated acre)

Starting at \$35/station (one irrigated acre or larger)

Starting at \$2/nozzle (minimum 30 per home)

Starting at \$35/barrel (maximum two per home)

Starting at \$250, \$300, \$350 depending on number of gallons

Rotating Nozzles
Rain Barrel
Cisterns