

REDUCE WATER USAGE



La Cañada Flintridge residents can take many different steps to reduce their water usage:

SMART IRRIGATION

- Smart irrigation controllers customize water schedules and run times automatically to replenish only the amount of moisture that the landscape needs.
- Smart controllers, soil moisture sensors, and rain sensors are available at hardware stores and irrigation supply stores.
- For efficient operation and uniform distribution of water, water systems need continual monitoring and maintenance.
- Design irrigation systems in your home that apply water with uniform precipitation rates.
- Plan separate irrigation lines for watering trees and large shrubs, preferably with drippers or low-volume sprinklers/sprayers to provide deep water for tree roots.

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WATER CONSERVATION IN THE HOME

- Check faucets and pipes for leaks: a small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.
- Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read the same, there is a leak.

REDUCE WATER USAGE



- In-sink garbage disposals require lots of water to operate properly and add considerably to the volume of solids in a septic tank, which can lead to maintenance problems. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks

DROUGHT SENSITIVE TREES AND SHRUBS, AND TREE CARE

- Native trees, including oaks, may need a few deep soakings during the summer avoid several diseases and insect pests.
- Trees should be given a higher priority over lawns and shrubs because they take many years to mature. Grass and shrubs are easily replaceable. In addition, trees provide shade, improve air quality, and increase property values.
- Keeping trees healthy involves water in the root zone, which is located 2 to 3 feet deep under the tree canopy.
- Sun and wind increase evaporation. To reduce evaporation, apply water in the early morning or in the evening.
- Water mature trees every 1 to 4 weeks during the dry season (May-November). Drought tolerant trees require less frequent irrigation.
- Newly planted and young trees require more frequent irrigation so consider planting native plants.
- Mulches of organic matter conserve water by holding moisture, preventing weed growth, and reducing evaporation from the soil surface.
- Many beautiful shrubs and plants thrive with far less watering than other species. Replace herbaceous perennial borders with native plants. Native plants will use less water and be more resistant to local plant diseases.

TITLE – LANDSCAPE 2



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