

IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY PROGRAM (Including Turf Replacement)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In the Sacramento region, 65% of all household water use is used outdoors. Aside from over watering and evaporation, water can also be wasted by inefficient, leaking, or broken irrigation systems. This project aims to increase irrigation efficiency for a selection of single family residential and commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) properties within the Regional Water Authority (RWA) region.

Irrigation Efficiency (IE) is a critical measure of irrigation performance in terms of the water required to irrigate a landscape. It can be defined in terms of: 1) the irrigation system performance; 2) the uniformity of the water application; and 3) the response of the landscape to irrigation. Having an efficient irrigation system is better for the landscape and saves water. Irrigation systems and/or equipment that were inadequately designed, inefficient, or poorly maintained reduce the irrigator's degree of control over the way water is applied.

What Is the Irrigation Efficiencies Project?

The Project was developed to help customers upgrade and increase the efficiency of their irrigation systems. The Project will provide customers with a free water use survey (outdoor water audit) from their water provider and a list of various recommended irrigation system upgrades to increase efficiency, including recommendation to remove turf to reduce outdoor water use.

To provide an incentive to the customer to implement the recommended landscape upgrades to their property, the Project offers a rebate of up to \$500 per residential survey/meter and \$1,500 per commercial survey/meter. The rebate only covers the recommended turf removal and/or irrigation system upgrades provided to the customer during the initial water use survey. The rebate may also be used to cover labor costs to install the recommended efficient irrigation and pressure regulating equipment. Labor costs are limited to \$150 for residential survey/meter and \$500 for commercial survey/meter. **Itemized receipts for equipment are required to receive a rebate.**

What Are The Basic Steps For This Project?

- Fill out Project Application (available on the District website or at the District office) and submit to the District office. The District will determine if rebate funds are still available under the program.
- Schedule and complete a Pre-Qualification Evaluation administered by the District or District's consultant.
- Obtain Rancho Murieta Association ARC approval for any landscape changes or remodels.
- Purchase irrigation system equipment upgrades specifically recommended on the Pre-Qualification Evaluation Form.
- Install recommended irrigation system equipment or recommended turf replacement.
- Schedule and complete a Post-Installation Inspection administered by the District or the District's consultant.
- Submit recommended irrigation system equipment receipt and Pre-Qualification Form to District office.

Terms and Conditions

- Program is open to all residential properties served by a Rancho Murieta Community Services District water account. Applicant's account must be in good standing.
- The site must currently be metered and have a minimum of 12 months of metered usage data.
- Rebates are only available to improve existing in-ground irrigation systems and/or automatic timers. New irrigation system installations are not eligible.
- Rebates funds are limited. Submission of an application does not guarantee rebate.
- Any project that is started before the Pre-Qualification Evaluation is performed is not eligible for a rebate.
- All applications for rebates must be submitted by applicants no later than December 31, 2016.
- The District is entitled to fully review all reported labor and materials costs and reserve the right to deny reimbursement to any applicant for extraneous costs.