



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 16, 2010

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July Is Smart Irrigation Month
This is a good time to "Check Your System"

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – The City of Newport Beach has selected July as "Smart Irrigation Month" to draw attention to the need to conserve water resources and remind property owners to check their sprinkler systems and make any needed repairs.

July marks the start of the summer season peak for outdoor water use. Homeowners typically over-water lawns and landscapes by up to 30 percent. Since irrigation is one of the largest uses of water, tremendous potential exists for conservation through proven new and existing water-saving technology and good irrigation practices. While the irrigation industry is bringing increasingly efficient technology to the marketplace, property owners have an important role in choosing efficient technology and using it effectively.

The key to efficient landscape irrigation is to apply the correct amount of water and only when necessary. Wise water habits will result in healthier lawns and landscapes, conserve water, and prevent runoff from reaching the bay and ocean where pollutants can harm marine life. Plus, reducing water use will help to reduce water bills.

You are overwatering if:

- ✓ Water overflows the curb and flows to the gutter
- ✓ Moss is growing on the ground of landscaped area (especially check in shady areas)
- ✓ Soil is saturated 5" below surface or soil is muddy
- ✓ Lower leaves on plants are yellow and fall.

The following list provides some easy things to do to help conserve water outside a home or business.

- Correct misdirected sprinkler heads that are watering driveways, sidewalks and streets.
- Consider purchasing a weather-based, "smart" irrigation controller.

- Periodically inspect your irrigation system. Fix leaks and broken sprinkler heads.

For more easy water-saving tips, visit www.watersmartnewport.org or www.bewaterwise.com