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Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Newsletter

November 2011

Thanks to Vets



*This is the season
to cut down on
water use...*

Be cautious about over-watering. It not only wastes money and resources, it can damage your landscape as well.

Temperatures are cooler and plants are beginning to go dormant for the winter.

Over-watering can saturate the soil, causing root damage and weakening the health of your plants.

Just how much you should water depends on a variety of factors: where you live, your garden's soil conditions, plant varieties, and your irrigation system.

The Metropolitan Water District provides a watering calculator to help you calculate the right irrigation for your yard. [Click here](#) to use it.

Or, you can do things the old-fashioned way, by sticking your finger into the soil to check its moisture yourself.

AB 1881: What does it really mean for your landscape?

There's a lot of confusion out there about requirements enacted under AB 1881, the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. Some components of the bill take effect in January, 2012, but they only apply to new or retrofitted landscaping projects. Here are some of the key changes taking place next year:

- Smart Timers: Automatic irrigation controllers using evapotranspiration or soil moisture sensors will be required (for new and retrofitted projects only). Manufacturers will be the ones most impacted by this change.
- Sprinkler Heads: Irrigation heads in new projects must be located 18 inches from curbs and sidewalks to prevent runoff.
- Water Meters: A dedicated water meter must be assigned for irrigation purposes only.

The purpose of this bill is to reduce water use and conserve our most precious natural resource. Remember, these changes are for new or retrofitted landscape projects only, but there are still plenty of ways to save water with your existing landscape. Talk to us for details.

Holiday landscapes, festive foliage

You've heard us say that in water conservation, every drop counts. The same holds true for gasoline. To save fuel and money, Harvest has begun a vehicle replacement program that is putting account managers behind the wheel of Ford Escapes instead of work trucks. The Ford Escape gets roughly 25 mpg compared to our fleet trucks, which get about 11. Every drop adds up... So does every dollar saved.

Caramel Apple Socials



We love this time of year. The orange pumpkins, the orange tint in the leaves, the big, orange sunsets here in Orange County...

Employee Taco Truck

Plants don't live on water and sunlight alone. They depend on soil nutrients created by the decomposition of other plant materials. Mulching is a great way to enhance the nutrients in your lawn without the expense and negative environmental impacts synthetic fertilizers can bring. These days, there are special mulching mowers available that do this with ease. These mowers cut the grass more finely than traditional mowers, and blow the clippings deep and evenly into the turf. The clippings are small and produce nitrogen when they decompose. Nitrogen is an essential nutrient for lawns and can help prevent turf disease. These mowers work great and eliminate the need for raking that mulching with traditional mowers can require.

Here at [Harvest](#), we use a mix of technology and know-how to ensure that the water we are delivering to the landscapes we maintain is just right.

Steven Schinhofen is President and CEO of Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Regal Mist in Bloom at Edison 'SmartScape' Site



The grasses have matured at our SmartScape project in the City of Orange, a sustainable landscape project coordinated by Orange County Coastkeeper at Southern California Edison's Villa Park Substation. Rich pink hues from the Regal Mist provide color and texture to the landscape. In the months ahead the grasses will go dormant, until they begin the cycle once again in spring.

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