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Water Service in a Cost-Effective and
Environmentally Sensitive Manner

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LVMWD CELEBRATES “SMART IRRIGATION MONTH” Helps Customers Save Water and Money

CALABASAS, CA (July 3, 2017) — Las Virgenes Municipal Water District is joining water agencies throughout the country in designating July as “Smart Irrigation Month”, one of the [Irrigation Association](#)’s most important initiatives. By promoting smart irrigation practices, the District is helping customers become more water-efficient, save money and see better results in their gardens.

In the LVMWD service area, nearly 70 percent of the water delivered to customers is used outdoors, primarily for landscaping. “The summer months are the warmest and driest; it’s when we see our customers’ water demand soar. We need homeowners to realize they can still have attractive landscapes without putting a strain on the water supply,” said General Manager David W. Pedersen. “Overwatering results in wasted water and money,” he added.

LVMWD strongly encourages customers to switch to California-native, low-water-use varieties. These landscapes use significantly less water than lush, grassy or “English garden” landscapes that are costly to maintain.

During the recent drought, many LVMWD customers upgraded to low-water-use, native landscapes. Those looking for ideas can visit the District’s website to see before-and-after photos of these attractive and efficient designs.

Other ways to be more water-efficient include:

- **Installing rotating sprinkler nozzles.** These multi-trajectory, rotating streams apply water more slowly and uniformly to a landscape, encouraging healthy plant growth and reducing misting. These nozzles use 20 percent less water than conventional spray heads. Rebates for rotating sprinkler nozzles are available through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s [SoCal WaterSmart program](#).

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- **Switching to a weather-based irrigation controller.** These controllers automatically adjust sprinkler watering times based on soil and weather conditions. Rebates for controllers are also available through the SoCal WaterSmart program.
- **Installing a drip irrigation system.** This method allows water to drip slowly to the precise location of plant roots. Drip systems also reduce weed and fungal growth, resulting in healthier plants.
- **Using recycled water to maintain trees, shrubs, gardens and lawn areas.** Free recycled water is available to customers of LVMWD and Triunfo Sanitation District/ Oak Park Water Service every Saturday, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. A training session is required for new users, details are available at the LVMWD website.

Customers choosing to keep higher-water-use, grassy lawns should know that they only require 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week to stay healthy. A simple way to measure sprinkler output is by placing a rain gauge in each zone during a regular sprinkler cycle, and adjusting the irrigation controller accordingly.

By watering smarter, customers not only eliminate waste, but they also save money. Making simple adjustments, such as those listed above, to their outdoor irrigation will help customers stay within their water budget and ensure a healthy water supply for years to come.

For more water-saving tips and rebate information, visit www.LVMWD.com/conservation.

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District provides potable water and wastewater treatment services to residents of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village and adjacent unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County including the Santa Monica Mountains and Chatsworth.

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