



L A N D S C A P E

W A T E R C O N S E R V A T I O N





Waterwise landscape techniques can allow you to cut costs and improve the health and vigor of your plants.

Saving water outdoors is simple: design your landscape for water savings; select and place plants properly; practice good garden maintenance; and water with care.

EBMUD offers free programs for all customers with landscapes larger than one acre. Property owners/managers, landscape committee personnel, landscape maintenance personnel, and city parks maintenance departments can benefit from these programs.

■ *Landscape Irrigation Audits*

Are you watering too often, or not often enough? Our irrigation specialists will show you and your landscape maintenance personnel how to use existing equipment most efficiently and tell you about the latest in water-efficient technologies and practices. Landscape irrigation audits include:

- *evaluation of current and past water use*
- *site inspection and evaluation of existing irrigation systems: controllers, drip, spray, rotors, bubblers, moisture sensors, pressure regulators and valves*
- *uniformity tests*
- *on-site training in the principles of efficient irrigation: evapotranspiration (ET), precipitation rates, infiltration rates, root zone depth, and crop coefficients*
- *assistance in developing an irrigation schedule based on ET rates*

- *emphasis on record-keeping to maintain consistency in water use over time: site maps, meter maps, controller maps, current schedules, and past schedules*
- *recommendations for increasing water use efficiency*
- *evaluation for eligibility in the Irrigation Upgrade Program*

■ *Irrigation Upgrade Program*

EBMUD's Irrigation Upgrade Program is designed to help large landscape irrigators improve the efficiency of existing irrigation systems. Customers who participate in a landscape irrigation audit may qualify for rebates of 50 to 100 percent of the materials cost of installing water-efficient irrigation equipment. The goal is to optimize equipment performance by improving irrigation uniformity and lowering water delivery rates, resulting in shorter watering times, less waste, and lower water bills.

■ *Receive a 50% EBMUD contribution for:*

- *irrigation controllers: providing more programs and start times*
- *matched precipitation rate sprinkler heads: standardizing make and model within circuits*

■ *Receive a 75% EBMUD contribution for:*

- *drip irrigation systems and equipment: converting existing spray systems to drip*
- *pressure regulation devices: installing reducers, regulators and valves*

■ *Receive a 100% EBMUD contribution for:*

- *moisture sensors: tensiometers, electrical resistance meters*
- *rain shut-off devices: prevent irrigation during rainfall*
- *check valves: stop low head drainage*
- *nozzles: improve coverage, reduce overspray*

■ *How do you participate?*

- 1 Contact the Water Conservation Office to arrange for a water audit.*
- 2 Submit a proposal form for EBMUD review. A District representative may inspect the upgraded area(s).*
- 3 If the project is approved, EBMUD will send you a project agreement for your signature.*
- 4 You will have 90 days to complete the equipment upgrade.*
- 5 When the upgrade is complete, EBMUD may inspect the upgraded areas, will arrange for payment, and will review the importance of proper programming to ensure water savings.*

■ *Workshops and Classes*

Ask about training for groups of up to 20 people on irrigation management.

■ *ET Hotline*

Phone the ET Hotline at (510) 287-1903 to obtain current information on precipitation and evapotranspiration. ET is a benchmark for your plants' water needs. Measured in inches of water, it is used for establishing efficient irrigation schedules.

■ *Books, Brochures, and Video*

EBMUD distributes a variety of publications, including the award-winning book, *Water Conserving Plants and Landscapes for the Bay Area*. Brochures and landscape videos are available, including *Drip Irrigation Guidelines*, *Firescape*, and *Waterwise Gardening*. Call the Water Conservation Office or your EBMUD business office.



Landscapes may be overwatered by as much as 300%. Improve your water use efficiency with a landscape irrigation audit.



EBMUD offers cash rebates to customers who upgrade their existing irrigation equipment with more water efficient systems.

■ ***Conservation on the Internet***

Visit our web site at www.ebmud.com for information on the District and water conservation.

■ ***Newsletter***

The District publishes the *Landscape Advisory Newsletter* to keep customers up-to-date on issues related to landscape water conservation. Call the Water Conservation Office to be placed on the mailing list.

■ ***Landscape Advisory Committee***

EBMUD works hand-in-hand with local nurserymen, landscape architects, landscape contractors, and other representatives of the “green industry” to discuss issues of common interest and to collaborate on educational projects involving water conservation.

■ ***Landscape Plan Review***

EBMUD specialists will review landscape plans for new service connections for water use efficiency. Conservation staff will then prepare a checklist of specific water conservation recommendations for your site. This process does not delay your application for new service connections.

■ ***EBMUD Water Conservation Division:***

Phone: (510) 287-0590

Office:
2130 Adeline St.,
Oakland, CA
94607-4240

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 24055, MS 48
Oakland, CA
94623-1055

■ ***EBMUD Business Offices:***

*San Leandro Business Office and Water Education Center 1595 Washington Ave.
San Leandro, CA 94577 (510) 483-3540*

*Richmond Business Office 1030 Nevin Ave.
Richmond, CA 94801 (510) 232-5051*

*Walnut Creek Business Office 1535 Bonanza St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (925) 820-6600*

*Oakland Business Office 375 11th Street,
Oakland, CA 94607 (510) 287-1380*

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