



# Water-Efficient Irrigation Design and Maintenance

Mountain View

BAWSCA

20-Mar-2014

Sherri D. Osaka

Sustainable Landscape Designs

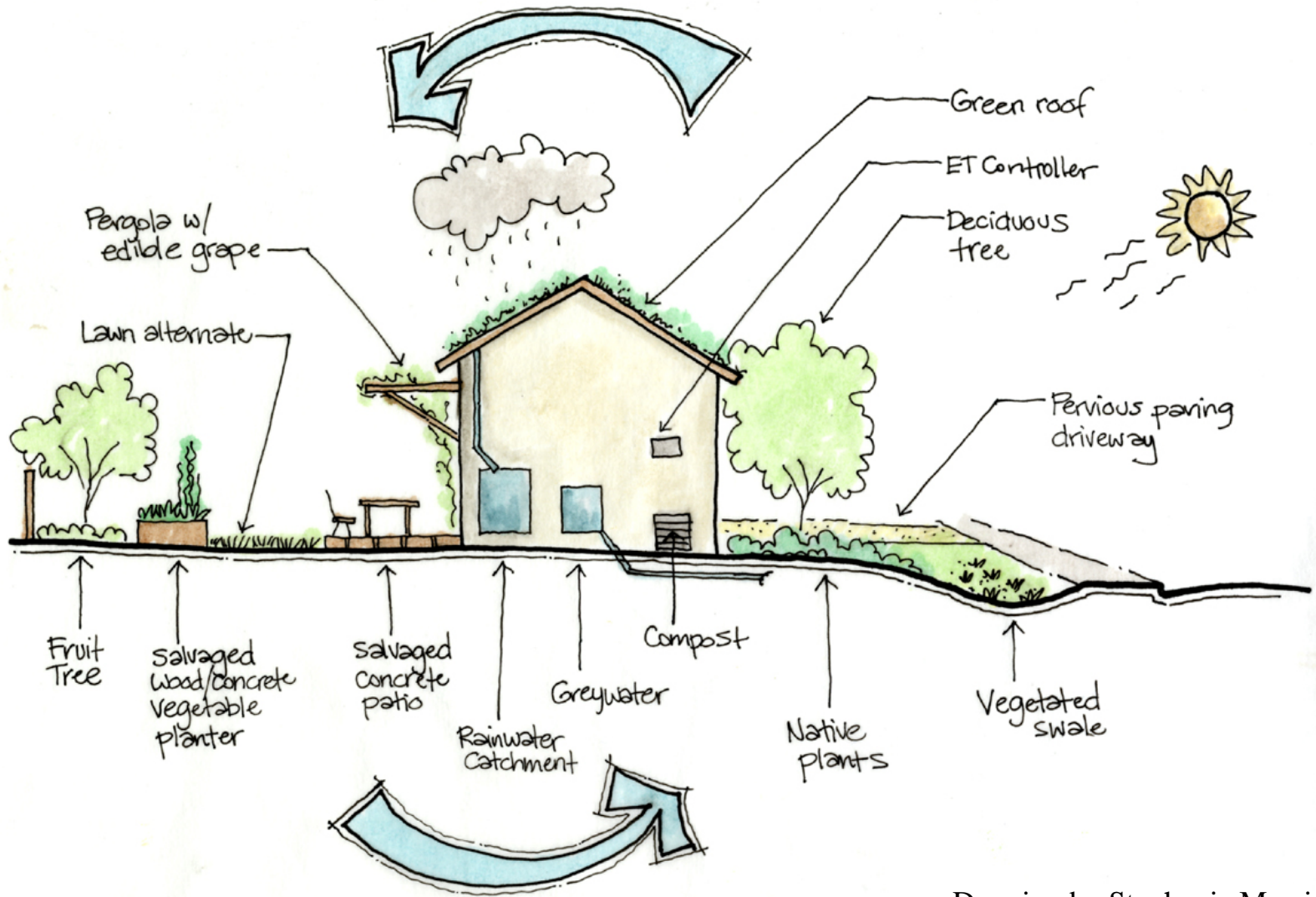
# The Water Problem

## ■ Good News

- Hetch Hetchy – 69%
- Crystal Springs – 89%

## ■ Bad News

- San Jose – 6” out of 12” YTD
- SF – 7” out of 12” YTD



Drawing by Stephanie Morris

# WHOLE SYSTEMS APPROACH



# Mountain View City Water Rates

## Residential Water Rates Single Family Homes:

0-3 Units

\$3.54

>3-15 Units

\$4.72

15+ Units

\$7.55

## How to Read Your Utility Bill Statement

Your utility bill gives you information about your water usage and other charges on your utility bill.

### Key Information At-A-Glance

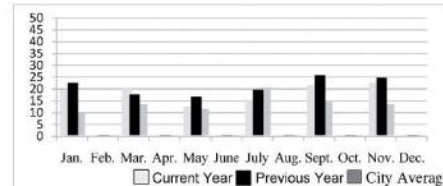
- A** This area provides the telephone numbers to call for billing and other service-related questions or concerns.
- B** **Account Information:** A summary of your billing information, including the billing dates, amount due and due date. Note: if payment is not received by due date, finance charges will be added to your next bill.
- C** **Water:** A breakdown of water usage by tier in the rate structure and is based on meter size, usage and number of days in the billing period. Note: one unit of water equals 748 gallons.
- D** **Water Usage:** A summary of water usage with a 12-month graph comparing your water usage for the current year to the previous year. Note: single-family residential customers have an additional bar showing the average water usage for all single-family homes.
- E** **Bill Details:** A breakdown of the *Total Amount Due*.  
*Water* is the total of the *Cost* in section **C**.  
*Meter Charge* is based on your meter size and days in your billing period (this pays for the fixed costs related to water operations and maintenance).  
*Sewer* is a flat rate for residential customers and a variable rate based on water usage for commercial customers.  
*Trash* is a list of the type, size, number and frequency of containers.
- F** **Messages:** A **\*\*DO NOT PAY\*\*** message indicates that you have signed up with the City to have your bill automatically paid. No payment needs to be sent. This area will also periodically contain special-interest messages from the City.
- G** **Payment Coupon:** This portion should be returned with your payment made payable to the City of Mountain View and mailed to the address indicated. Please write your account number on your check. Other payment options are:
- Automatic payment through the City (call 650-903-6317).
  - Automatic payment through your bank.
  - Drop box at City Hall (left of main doors).
  - Payment by phone with credit card (call 650-903-6317).
  - Payment in person at the Finance and Administrative Services Department (2nd floor of City Hall).

CCF = 100 cubic feet, 1 CCF = 748 GALS  
 1 CF = 7.48 GALLONS



JANE DOE  
 123 ANY ST  
 MOUNTAIN VIEW CA 94039

| Water  | Rate/Unit | Units Used | Cost  |
|--------|-----------|------------|-------|
| Tier 1 | 0 - 6     | 1.654      | 10.25 |
| Tier 2 | 6 - 50    | 3.407      | 47.03 |
| Tier 3 | 50 +      | 6.769      | 0.00  |



| Water Usage           | Usage | Days | Gallons/Day |
|-----------------------|-------|------|-------------|
| Current Period        | 20    | 63   | 237         |
| Prior Period          | 19    | 56   | 253         |
| Same Period Last Year | 17    | 64   | 198         |

| Water Meter Readings: |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Current               | Prior | Total |
| 1615                  | 1595  | 20    |

\*\*\* Please return this portion with payment \*\*\*

### UTILITY BILL

Billing Inquiries: (650) 903-6317  
 (M-F, 8AM-5PM)  
 Water/Wastewater Emergency: (650) 903-6329  
 (M-F, 7AM-4PM)  
 Call Police Dept: (650) 903-6344  
 (After 5PM, holidays, and weekends)

**Account Information**

Account Number: 1234-567890.00  
 Customer Name: JANE DOE  
 Service Address: 123 ANY ST  
 Bill Date: 03/07/2011  
 Service From: 12/15/2010  
 Service To: 02/15/2011  
 Days In Billing Period: 63  
 Payment Due By: 04/06/2011  
 Total Amount Due: \$155.14

**Bill Details**

Water 57.28  
 Meter Charge 11.56  
 Sewer 48.40  
 Trash Residential 32 Gal 37.90  
 Subtotal 155.14

Prior Balance 151.66  
 Payments Received -151.66  
 Total Amount Due: 155.14

\*\*\*\* DO NOT PAY \*\*\*\*  
 Auto Pay-Paid 10th Day From Bill Date

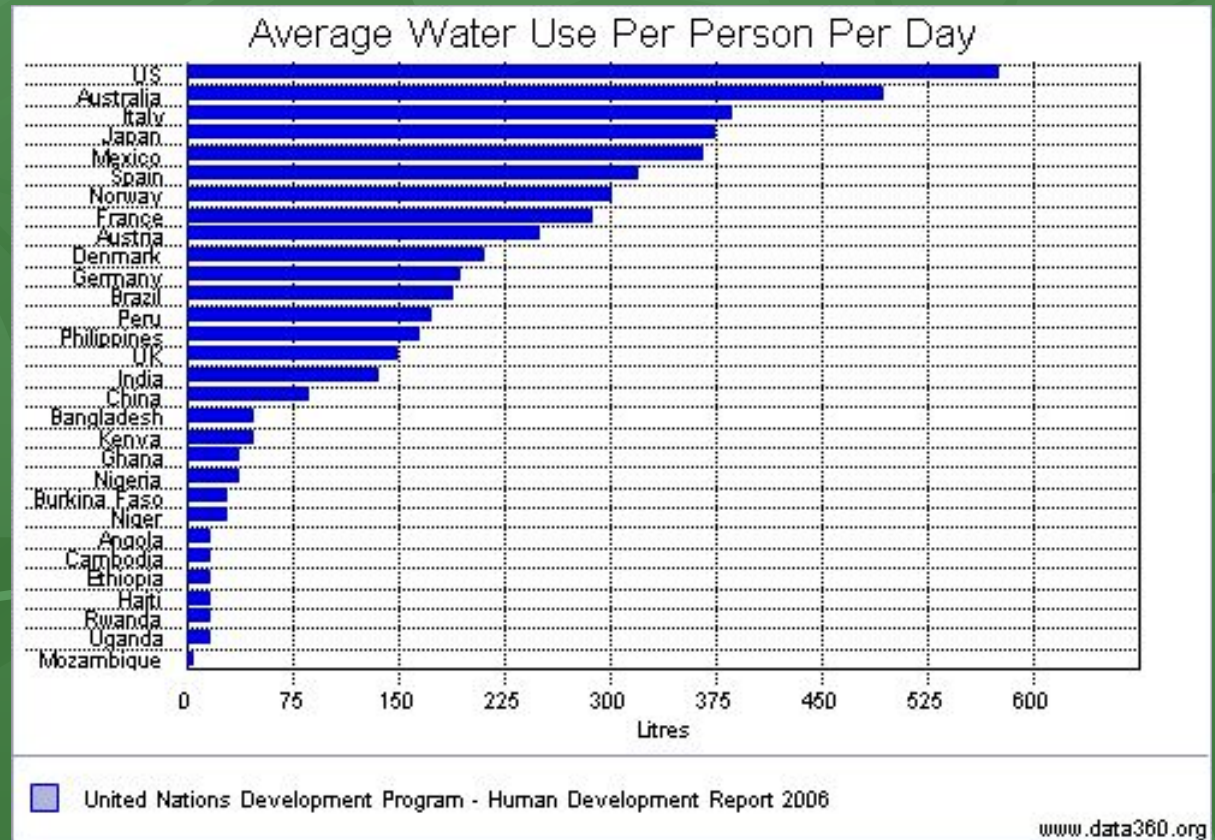
\*\*\*\*\*  
 Attend a Free Gardening Class  
 Call or visit our website:  
 Water Conservation (650) 903-6216  
 www.conservewater.mountainview.gov  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Automatic Bill Payment\*\*\*  
 Go to www.DirectPaymentPlan.com or  
 call (650) 903-6317 for details

Name: JANE DOE  
 Address: 123 ANY ST  
 Account #: 1234-567890.00  
 Due Date: 04/06/2011  
 Total Due: \$155.14  
 \*\*\*Auto Pay Do Not Pay\*\*\*

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW  
 FILE No 73015  
 P.O. Box 90000  
 San Francisco, CA 94160-3015

# World-Wide Water Use

- United Nations estimates that 13 gallons (50 litres) required/person/day
- U.S. uses 145 gal./person/day
- Average US household uses about 127,000 gallons per year

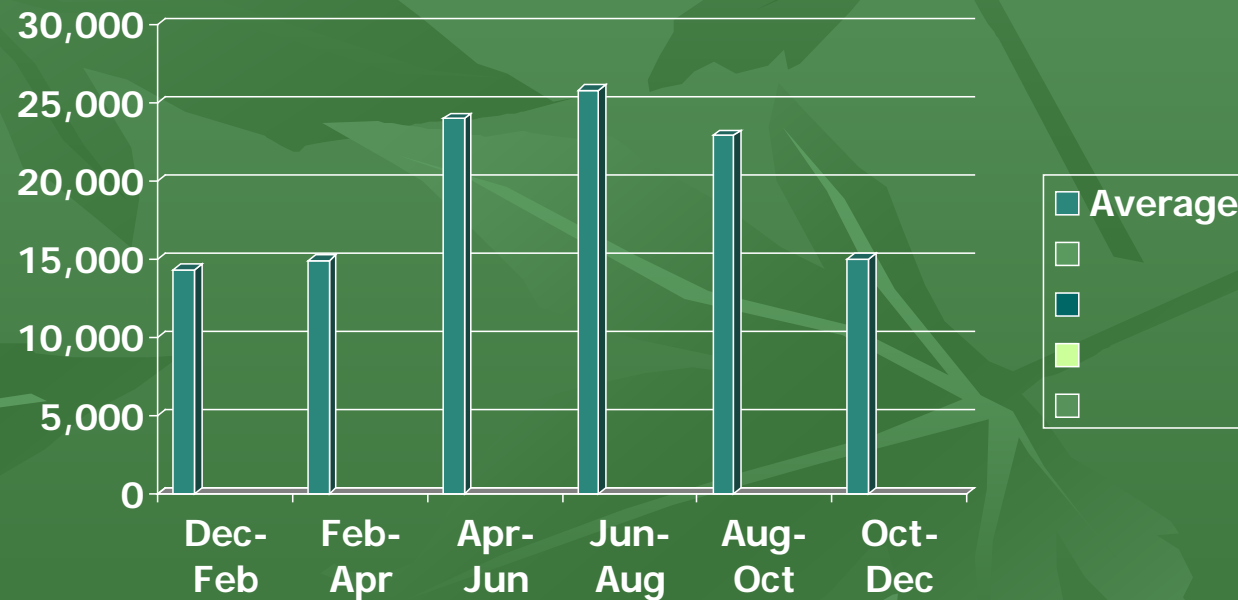


One gallon equals 3.8 litres

# Water Use in Bay Area Home

11,000 square foot lot, pool, low water landscape

- About 122,000 gallons per year
- 84,000 gallons inside house
- 38,000 gallons outside house

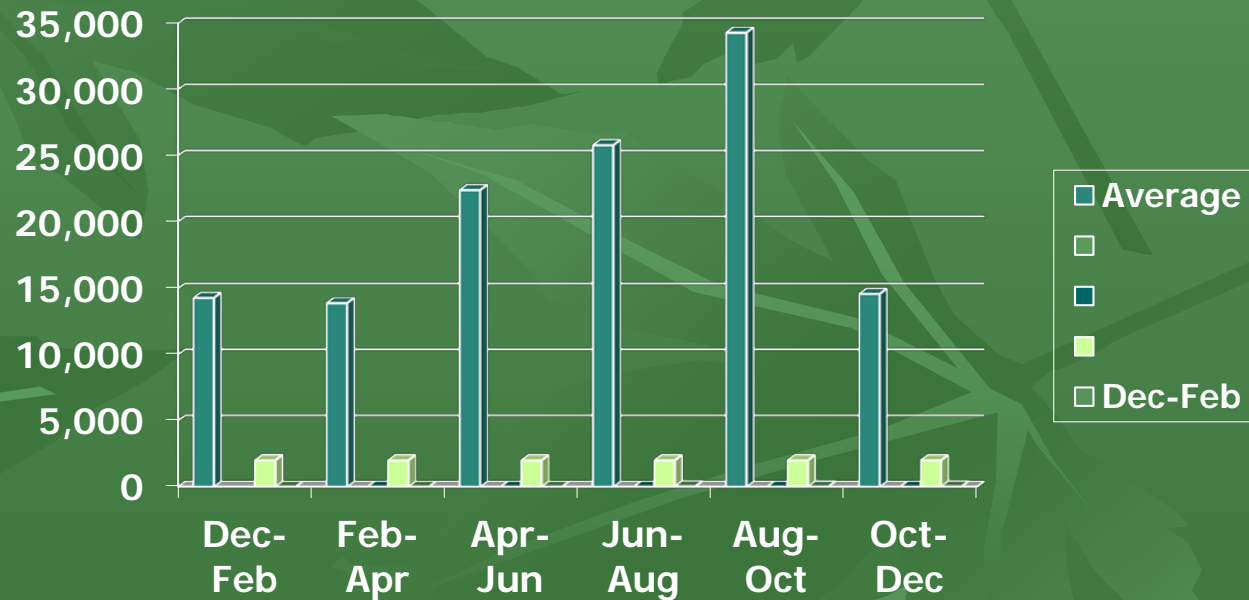


About 30 percent for outdoor use

# Water Use in Bay Area Home

11,000 square foot lot, pool, low water landscape

- About 100,000 gallons per year
- 84,000 gallons inside house
- 16,000 gallons outside house



About 16 percent for outdoor use



# Water Use Goal Setting

© 2008 Active Solutions™

## SMART Goal Setting in 5 Easy Steps

| Step | Mnemonic |                     | Description   | Smart Goal                        | Criteria met?                       |
|------|----------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1    | S        | pecific             | Which, what, who, where, when, why                  | Monthly sales turnover            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2    | M        | asurable            | How much or how many                                | to \$2000.00                      | ?                                   |
| 3    | A        | ction oriented      | Describe a result                                   | build up                          | X                                   |
| 4    | R        | ealistic & Relevant | Realistic and relevant to the individuals business? | Determined by the business owner. | ?                                   |
| 5    | T        | ime based           | By When   | ?                                 | X                                   |

# Check for leaks

## Read your water meter



One in every 10 homes has a leak that is wasting at least 90 gallons of water per day.

# Water-Efficient Landscapes

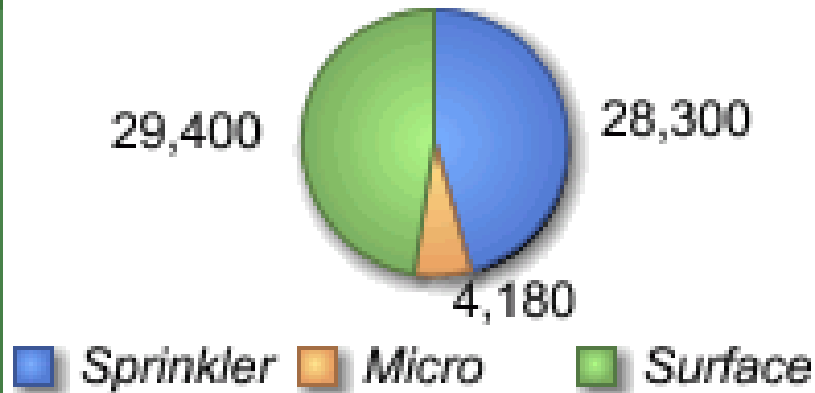
- Drought-tolerant plants
- Organic soil care
- Efficient irrigation



Manzanita berries “Little Apples”

# Hand water vs. Spray vs. Drip\*

Irrigated acres, in thousands, 2000,  
by type of irrigation



- Hand watering – 33% less water than average
- Spray irrigation – 35% more water
- Automatic watering – 47% more water
- Drip irrigation – 16% more water

\* American Water Works Association Research Foundation's study

Change your controller at least 4 times per year, monthly better

Dec – Off      Mar – 50%      June – 100%      Sep – 50%

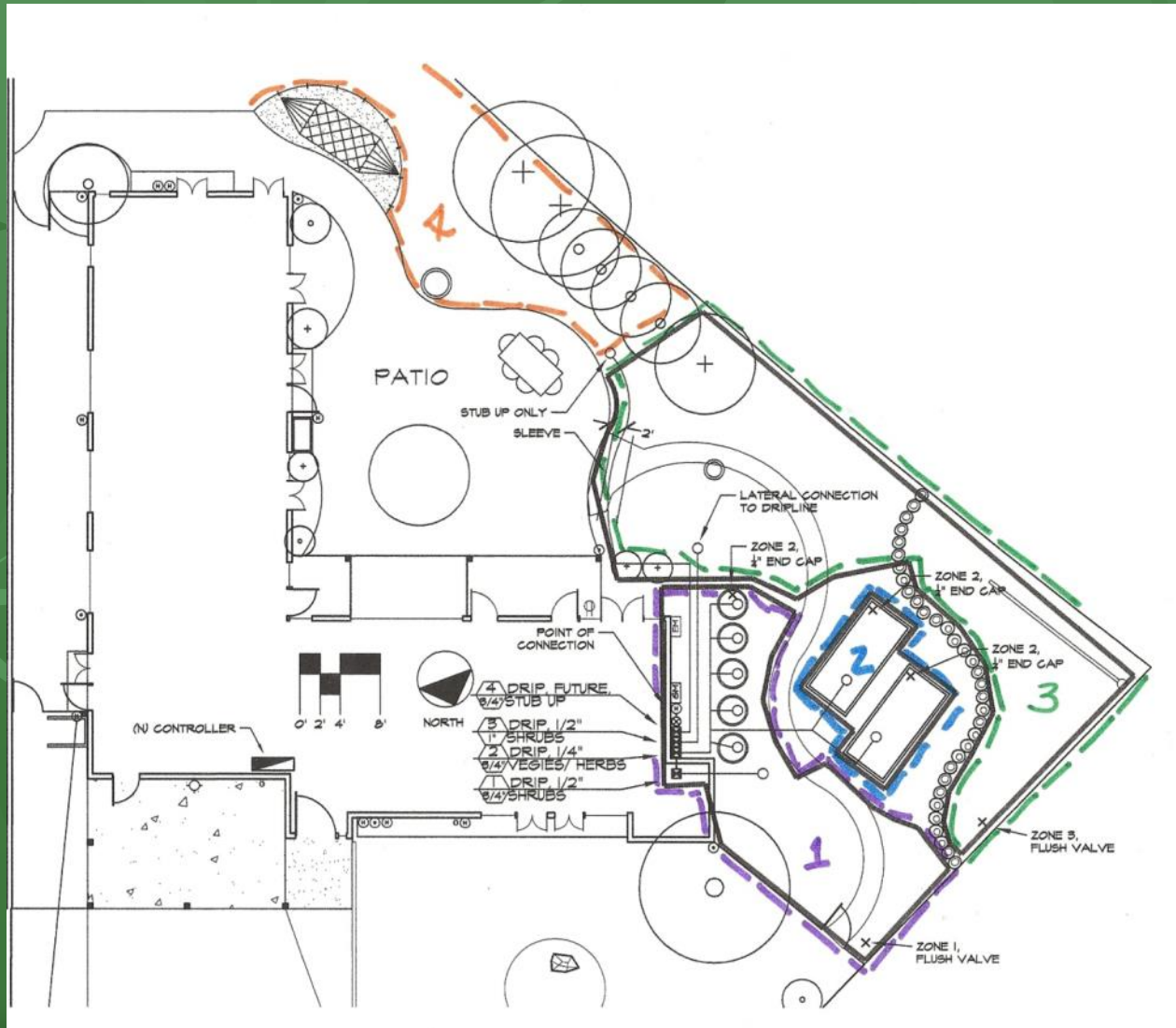
# Case Study - Handwatering



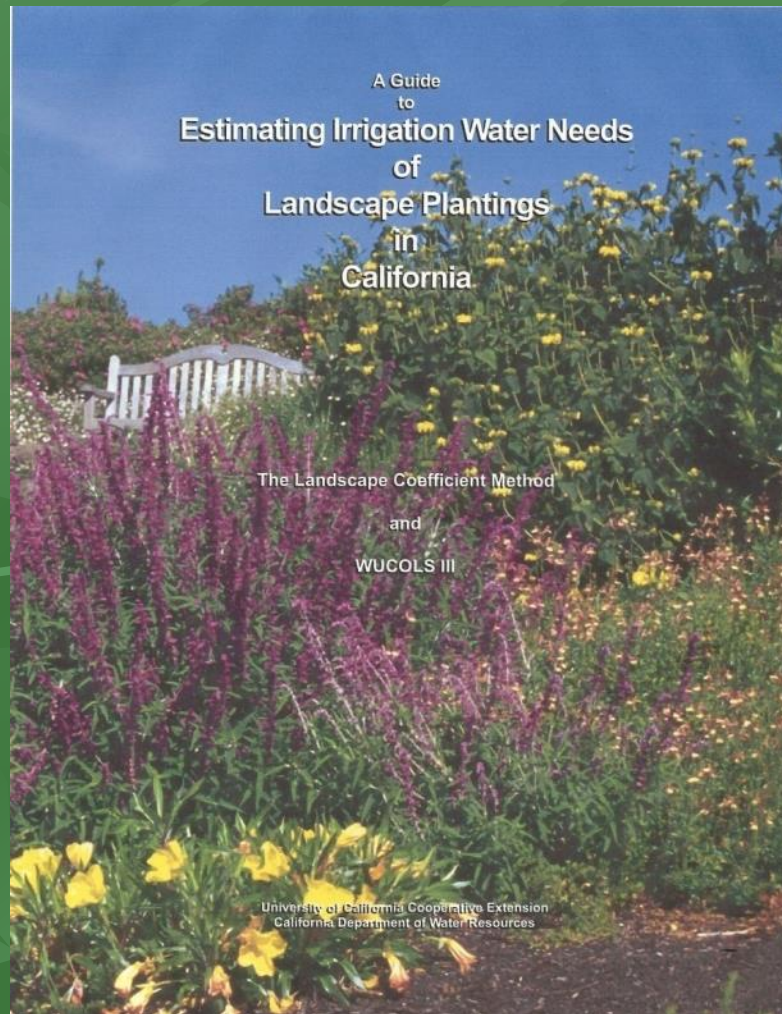
# Case Study - Handwatering



# Hydrozoning



# Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS)





# WUCOLS

Species Evaluation List--1999

| TYPE | BOTANICAL NAME                    | COMMON NAME                  | REGIONAL EVALUATIONS |   |   |   |   |   | INVASIVE |
|------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
|      |                                   |                              | 1                    | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |          |
| S    | <i>Brugmansia</i> spp.            | angel's trumpet              | M                    | / | M | H | / | / |          |
| S    | <i>Brunfelsia pauciflora</i>      | yesterday today and tomorrow | M                    | M | M | H | / | H |          |
| P    | <i>Brunnera macrophylla</i>       | Siberian bugloss             | H                    | H | H | ? | ? | ? |          |
| S    | <i>Buddleja alternifolia</i>      | fountain butterfly bush      | L                    | L | M | / | M | M |          |
| S    | <i>Buddleja davidii</i>           | butterfly bush               | L                    | L | M | M | M | M |          |
| S    | <i>Buddleja marrubiifolia</i>     | woolly butterfly bush        | ?                    | L | ? | L | / | L |          |
| P    | <i>Bulbine frutescens</i>         | stalked bulbine              | L                    | ? | L | L | / | L |          |
| P    | <i>Bulbinella robusta</i>         | bulbinella                   | L                    | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |          |
| T    | <i>Bursera hindsiana</i>          | bursera                      | ?                    | ? | / | / | / | M |          |
| T    | <i>Butia capitata</i>             | pindo palm                   | L                    | L | L | L | L | L |          |
| S    | <i>Buxus microphylla japonica</i> | Japanese boxwood             | M                    | M | M | M | M | M |          |
| S    | <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>         | English boxwood              | M                    | M | M | / | M | M |          |
| S    | <i>Caesalpinea cacalaco</i>       | cascalote                    | ?                    | ? | ? | ? | / | L |          |
| S    | <i>Caesalpinea gilliesii</i>      | desert bird of paradise      | L                    | L | L | L | M | M |          |
| S    | <i>Caesalpinea mexicana</i>       | Mexican bird of paradise     | ?                    | / | ? | L | / | L |          |
| S    | <i>Caesalpinea platyloba</i>      |                              | ?                    | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |          |

# Strategies for No Irrigation Landscapes

- Hydrozone
- Use Very Low Water plants – see WUCOLS
- Handwater as needed
- No water vegetables:
  - Dry farm during the summer, or
  - No vegetables in the summer, or
  - Perennial vegetables and fruit tree
- Improve the soil

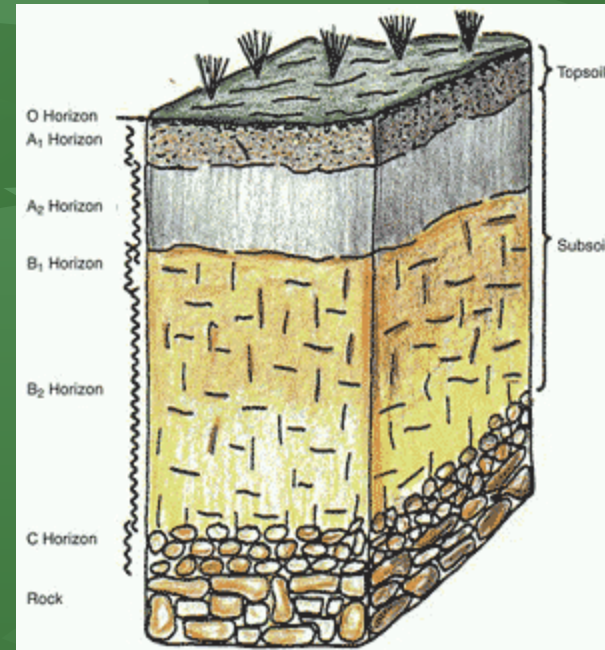
# The Soil Problem

Loss of natural capital:

- No top soil
- Lifeless soil

Benefits of healthy soils

- Support plant growth
- Holds water
- Cleans water



# Compost aids water retention

- “Numerous studies have found an increase in the moisture holding capacity and moisture retention capacity of soil as a result of compost applications (Hortenstine and Rothwell, 1972; Bengston and Cornette, 1973; Epstein et al., 1976). Therefore, the incorporation of compost into the soil of turf sites will reduce the need to irrigate.”
- For instance, on a typical site in Redmond with little slope, and little wind, turf grown on compost-amended soil can reduce peak summer irrigation needs by 60% when compared to sites with un-amended topsoil.
- **Guidelines for Landscaping with Compost-Amended Soils by City of Redmond, Washington, September 1998**

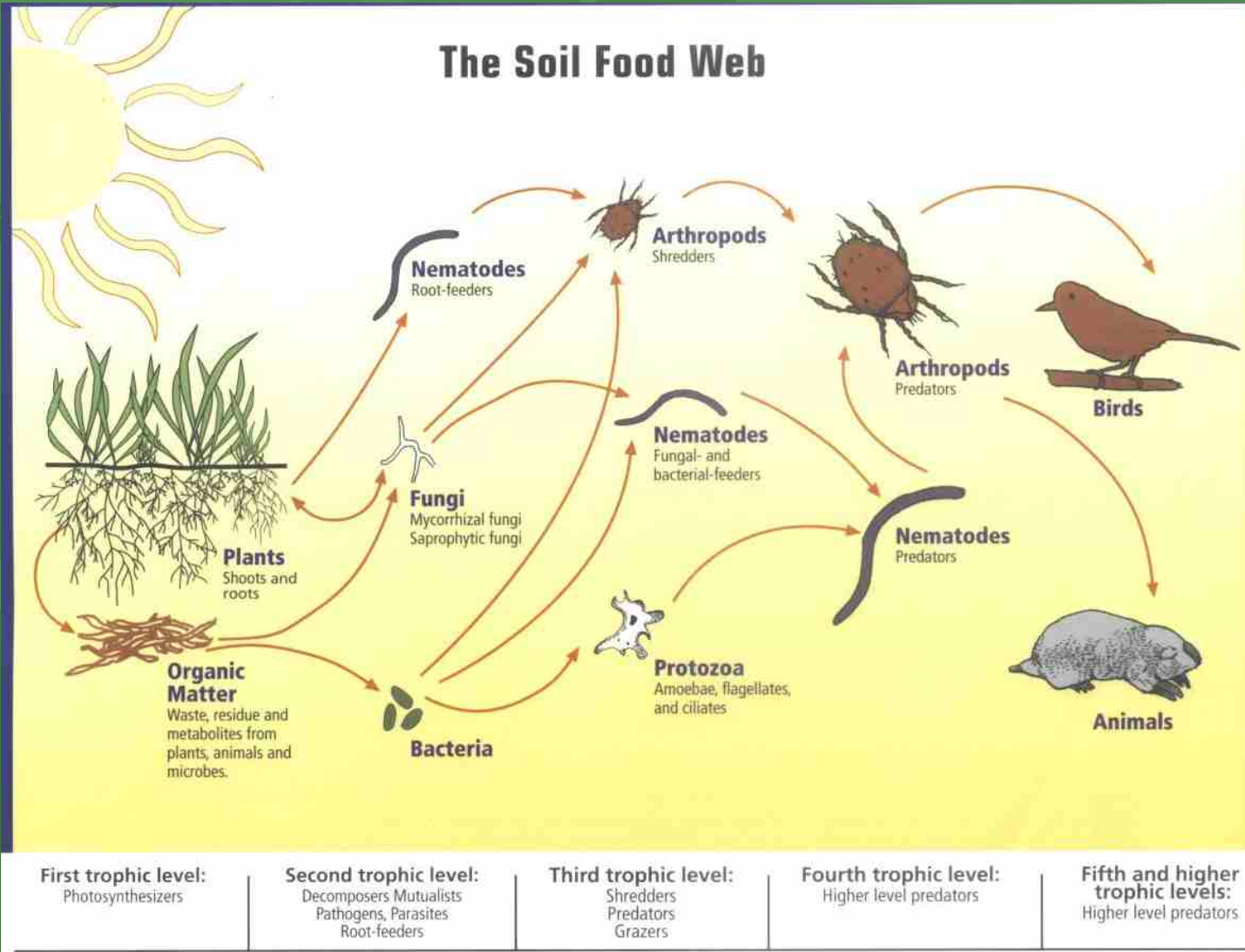
# Gallion Irrigation in Houston, TX

## “Instant Deep Watering Microbes”



**Gene Barnes developed a system that puts water and air deep into the soil.**

# Soil Biology – It's Alive!



# Soil Biology & Plant Health

## Two Bugs Are Better Than One

In the experiment depicted here, blue grama grass was grown in sterile soil. Bacteria were added to the soil in some pots. Bacteria and bacteria-eating nematodes were added to other pots.

The plants in soil with both bacteria and nematodes grew fastest. Although this was an artificial environment, the study demonstrated that the interaction between two organisms benefited plants.

Effects of bacteria and bacterial-feeding nematodes on blue grama grass growth

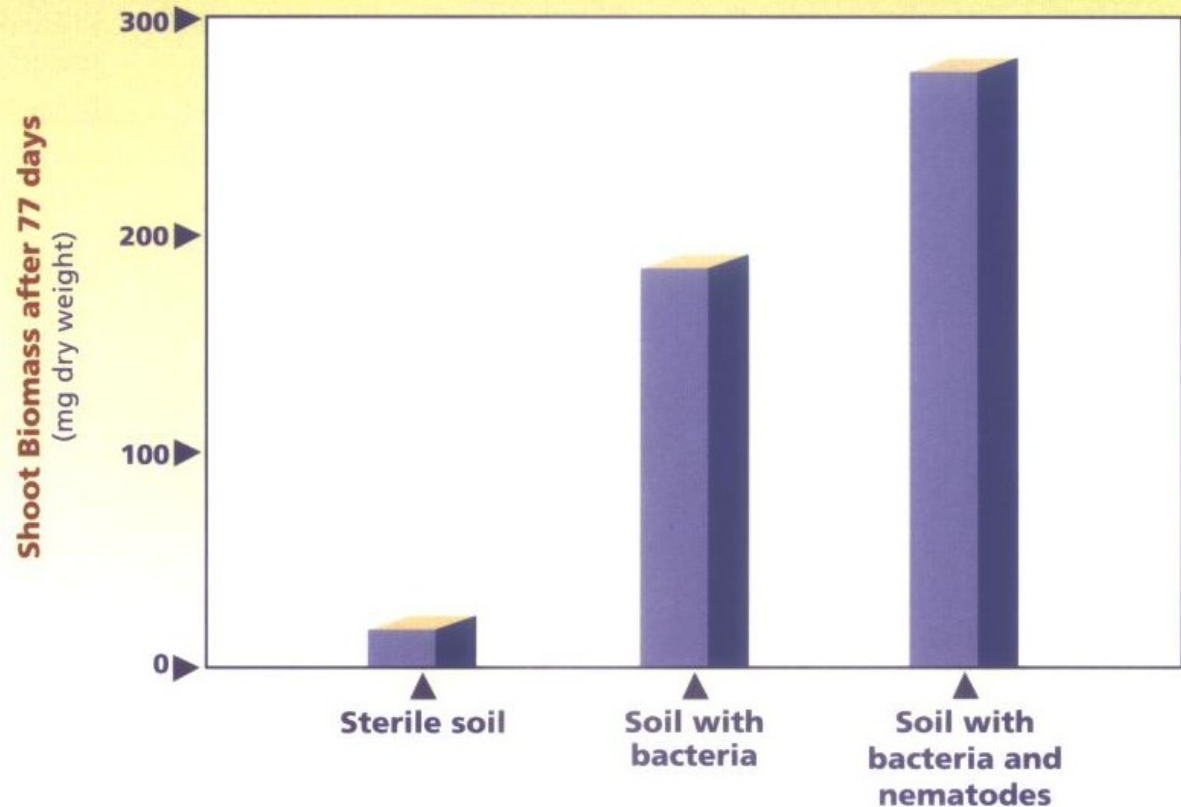


Figure 6

# Case Study Soil protection



No top soil at new housing development,  
Water puddles, won't soak in  
Won't support plant life



# Eliminate Waste, Feed the Soil Compost!



Steve's Earth Engine – Cedar



Biostack compost bin (made from recycled plastic)

# Improving Soil Biology

- Add living compost and compost tea
- Keep soil planted
- Keep plant litter on top of soils or add mulch
- Have soil tested
- Add organic amendments only as required
- Add myccorhiza when planting
- No tilling
- No chemicals or petrochemicals
- No solarization



Photo: [www.denver.gov.org](http://www.denver.gov.org)



# Beach Strawberry



*Fragaria chiloensis*

"A breakthrough book for the field of organic gardening." —AMERICAN GARDENER

# Teaming with Microbes

The Organic Gardener's Guide  
to the Soil Food Web

REVISED EDITION



Jeff Lowenfels & Wayne Lewis

Foreword by Elaine Ingham

- Local composting classes
- Alane O'Reilly Weber - [Sanmateoarbooretum.org](http://Sanmateoarbooretum.org)
- Lyngso Garden Materials for compost tea and other supplies

The background is a solid green color with a subtle, repeating pattern of stylized leaves and stems in a slightly darker shade of green. The leaves are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and texture.

**Add a little irrigation....**

# ■ Why is Spray Irrigation Inefficient?





## ■ Why is Spray Irrigation Inefficient?

1. Overspray
2. Runoff
3. Poor design
4. Misting
5. Broken heads
6. Plants blocking spray head
7. Watering when it's raining
8. Watering when it's windy



# Spray vs. Drip

## ■ Spray

- Good for redwood or other coastal communities
- **50-70% efficient**
- Good for lawns under existing trees
- Can damage/ stain fences and wooden structures
- Uses PVC pipe
- Does not qualify for rebates
- Gallons per minute!

## ■ Drip

- Good for all other plant communities
- **90-99% efficient**
- Can be used for lawns
- Does not damage/ stain wooden structures
- Uses polyethylene (PE) or PE and PVC
- Qualifies for rebates
- Gallons per hour!

# History of Drip Irrigation

- Simcha Blass
- 1960s



# Pressure/ water guage



# Components of Drip Irrigation

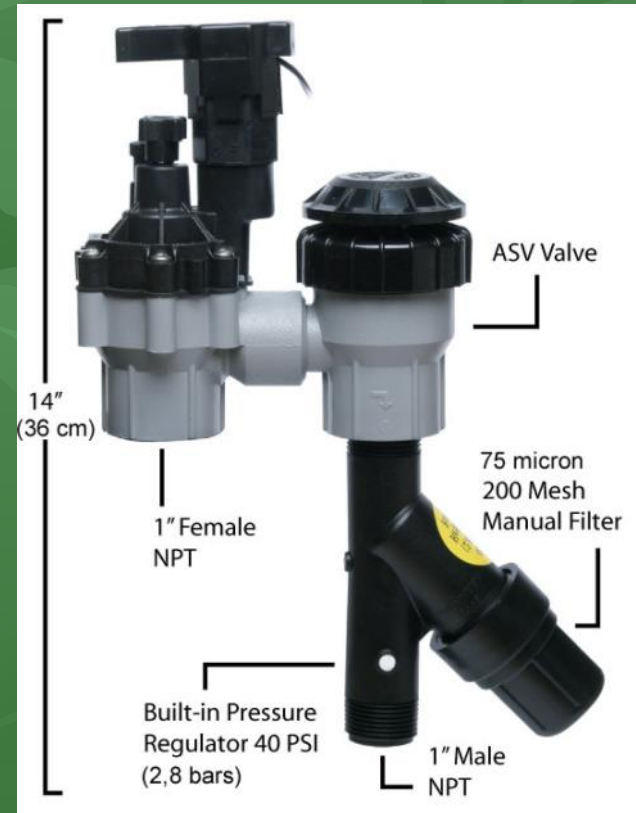
- Backflow preventers
- Source of water
- Punch-in or inline emitters
- Pressure regulator
- End caps or flush valves

# Backflow Prevention



# Source

- Valves
- Hose bib



# Filters – A Must!

- Y filter
- Inline filter
- Spray body filter
- 120 mesh minimum



# Pressure Regulators

- Pressure should be between 20 and 50 PSI
- Household pressure typically 60-90 PSI



PSI-L30X-075

PSI-M50X-075

PSI-M40X-100



# Fittings

- Barbed

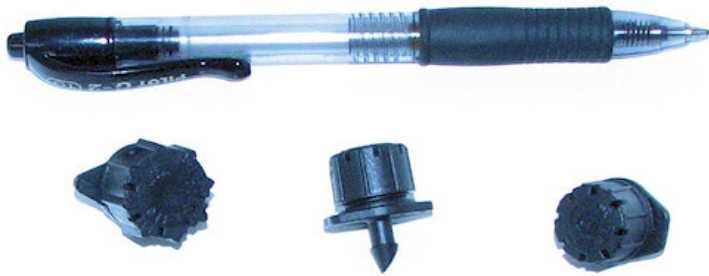
- Compression



# Emitters

- On-line

- In-line



# Flush Caps



# Changing from Spray to Drip



- Rainbird Kit
  - 200 mesh filter
  - 30 PSI pressure regulator



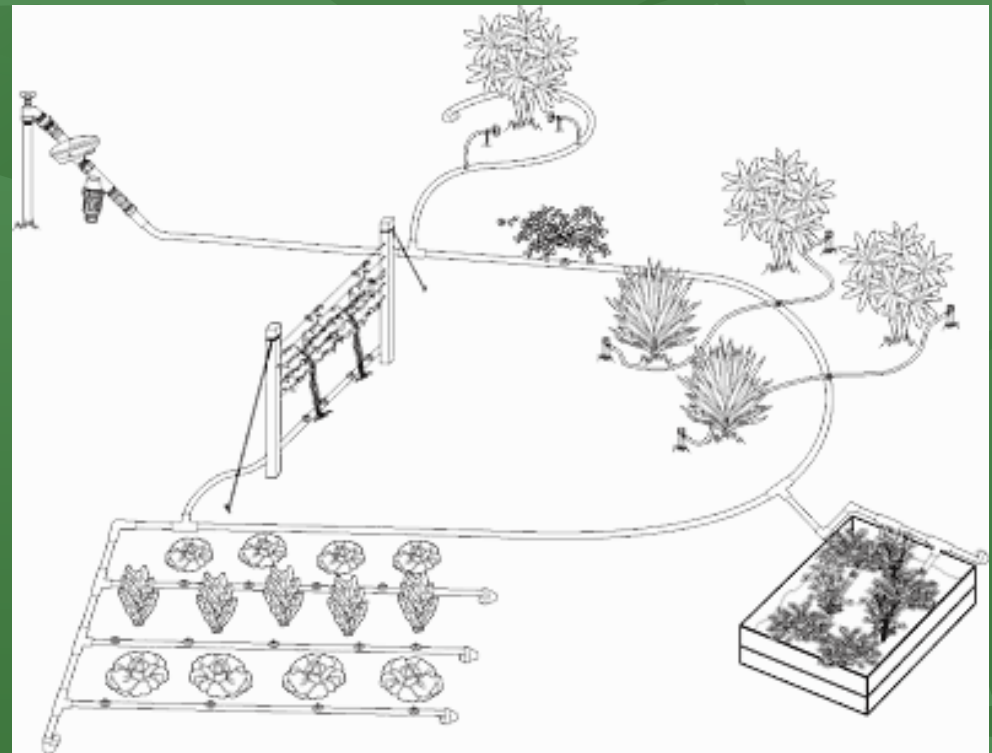
- Kit from Rainbird



Better choice than Rainbird Kit

# Two Drip Irrigation Methods

- Per Plant Method
  - Add emitters per each plant
  - More efficient when plants are small
  - Less expensive to install
  - Limits root and plant growth
  - Requires more maintenance if plants change
  - Can make adjustments for differing water requirements



# Two Drip Irrigation Methods

## ■ Grid Method

- Waters all the soil, mimics rainfall
- Inefficient when plants are small
- Better long term for growth
- More expensive to install
- Must hydrozone!





# Subsurface Drip Irrigation for Lawns and Meadows



Lawn uses subsurface  
drip irrigation—  
Recommend Netafim  
Techline CV products

# Subsurface Irrigation for Native “Lawns”



# 17 mm Fittings



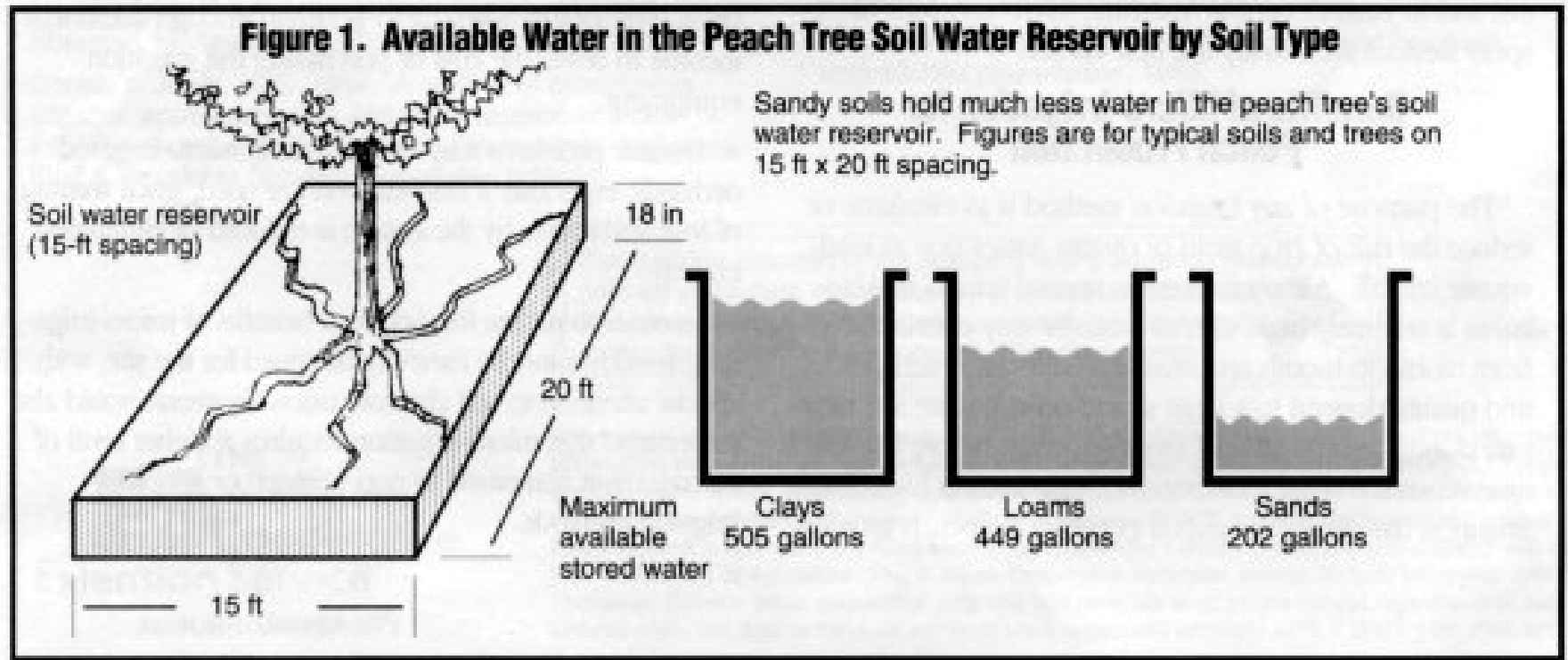
**TECHLINE CV**  
NOW MADE WITH  
POST CONSUMER  
RECYCLED MATERIAL

# Drip Spacing

| GENERAL GUIDELINES  | TURF  |      |      |           |      |      |            |      |      |             |      |      | SHRUB & GROUNDCOVER  |      |           |      |            |      |             |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|---|------|------|-----------|------|------|------------|------|------|-------------|------|------|--|------|-----------|------|------------|------|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|
|   | CLAY SOIL                                     |      |      | LOAM SOIL |      |      | SANDY SOIL |      |      | COARSE SOIL |      |      | CLAY SOIL  |      | LOAM SOIL |      | SANDY SOIL |      | COARSE SOIL |      |      |      |      |      |
| EMITTER FLOW  | 0.26 GPH                                      |      |      | 0.4 GPH   |      |      | 0.6 GPH    |      |      | 0.9 GPH     |      |      | 0.26 GPH   |      | 0.4 GPH   |      | 0.6 GPH    |      | 0.9 GPH     |      |      |      |      |      |
| EMITTER SPACING   | 18"   |      |      | 12"       |      |      | 12"        |      |      | 12"         |      |      | 18"  |      | 18"       |      | 12"        |      | 12"         |      |      |      |      |      |
| LATERAL (ROW) SPACING   | 18"   | 20"  | 22"  | 18"       | 20"  | 22"  | 12"        | 14"  | 16"  | 12"         | 14"  | 16"  | 18"  | 21"  | 24"       | 18"  | 21"        | 24"  | 16"         | 18"  | 20"  | 16"  | 18"  | 20"  |
| BURIAL DEPTH  | Bury evenly throughout the zone from 4" to 6" |      |      |           |      |      |            |      |      |             |      |      | On-surface or bury evenly throughout the zone to a maximum of 6" |      |           |      |            |      |             |      |      |      |      |      |
| APPLICATION RATE (INCHES/HOUR)  | 0.19  | 0.17 | 0.15 | 0.45      | 0.41 | 0.37 | 0.96       | 0.83 | 0.72 | 1.44        | 1.24 | 1.08 | 0.19   | 0.16 | 0.14      | 0.29 | 0.24       | 0.21 | 0.72        | 0.64 | 0.58 | 1.08 | 0.96 | 0.87 |
| TIME TO APPLY ¼" OF WATER (MINUTES)   | 81  | 90   | 99   | 33        | 37   | 41   | 16         | 18   | 21   | 10          | 12   | 14   | 81   | 94   | 108       | 53   | 61         | 70   | 21          | 23   | 26   | 14   | 16   | 17   |
| Following these maximum spacing guidelines, emitter flow selection can be increased if desired by the designer.<br>0.9 GPH flow rate available for areas requiring higher infiltration rates, such as coarse sandy soils. |   |      |      |           |      |      |            |      |      |             |      |      |  |      |           |      |            |      |             |      |      |      |      |      |

Note: 0.4, 0.6 and 0.9 GPH are nominal flow rates. Actual flow rates used in the calculations are 0.42, 0.61 and 0.92 GPH.

# Clay Soils Hold More Water

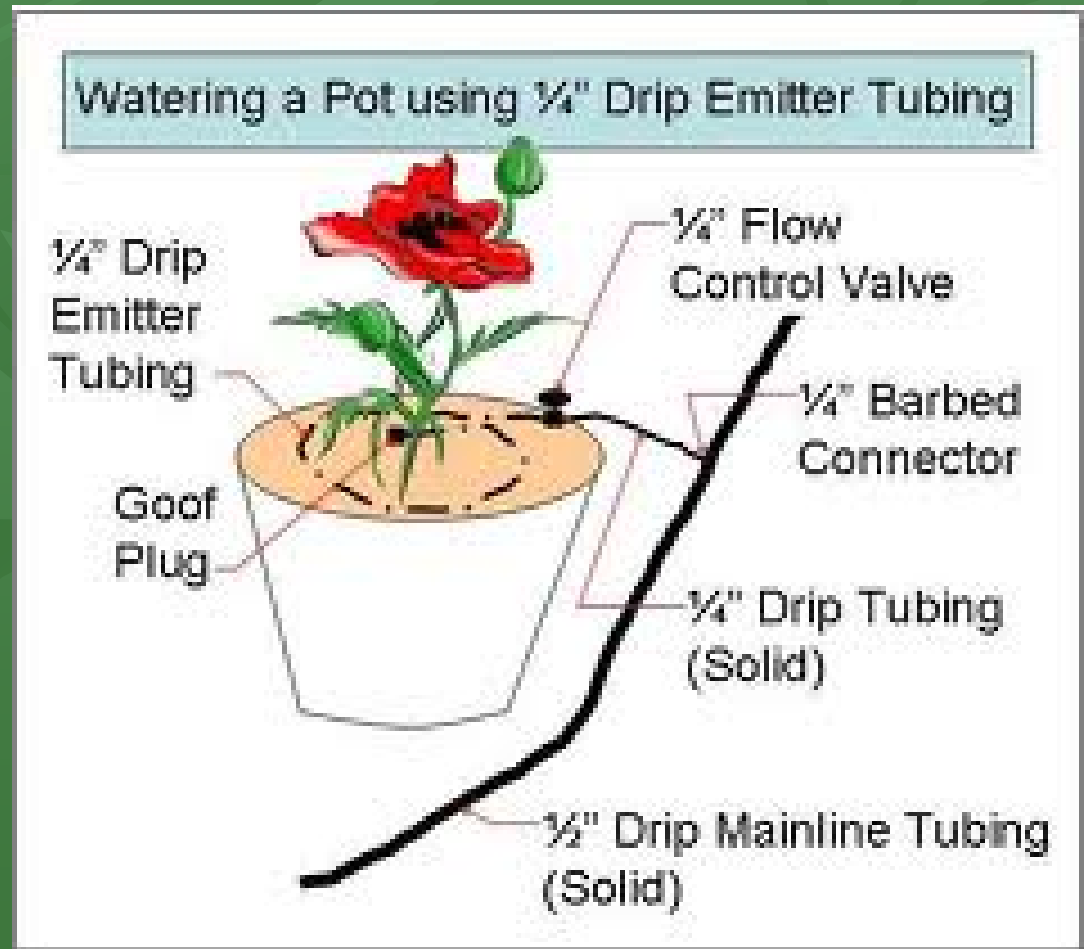


# Slopes

- More water at the bottom of the hill, lay lines farther apart
- Less water at the top of the hill, lay lines closer together
- More pressure at the bottom of the hill Lay lines parallel to the contour of the hill

# Special Cases

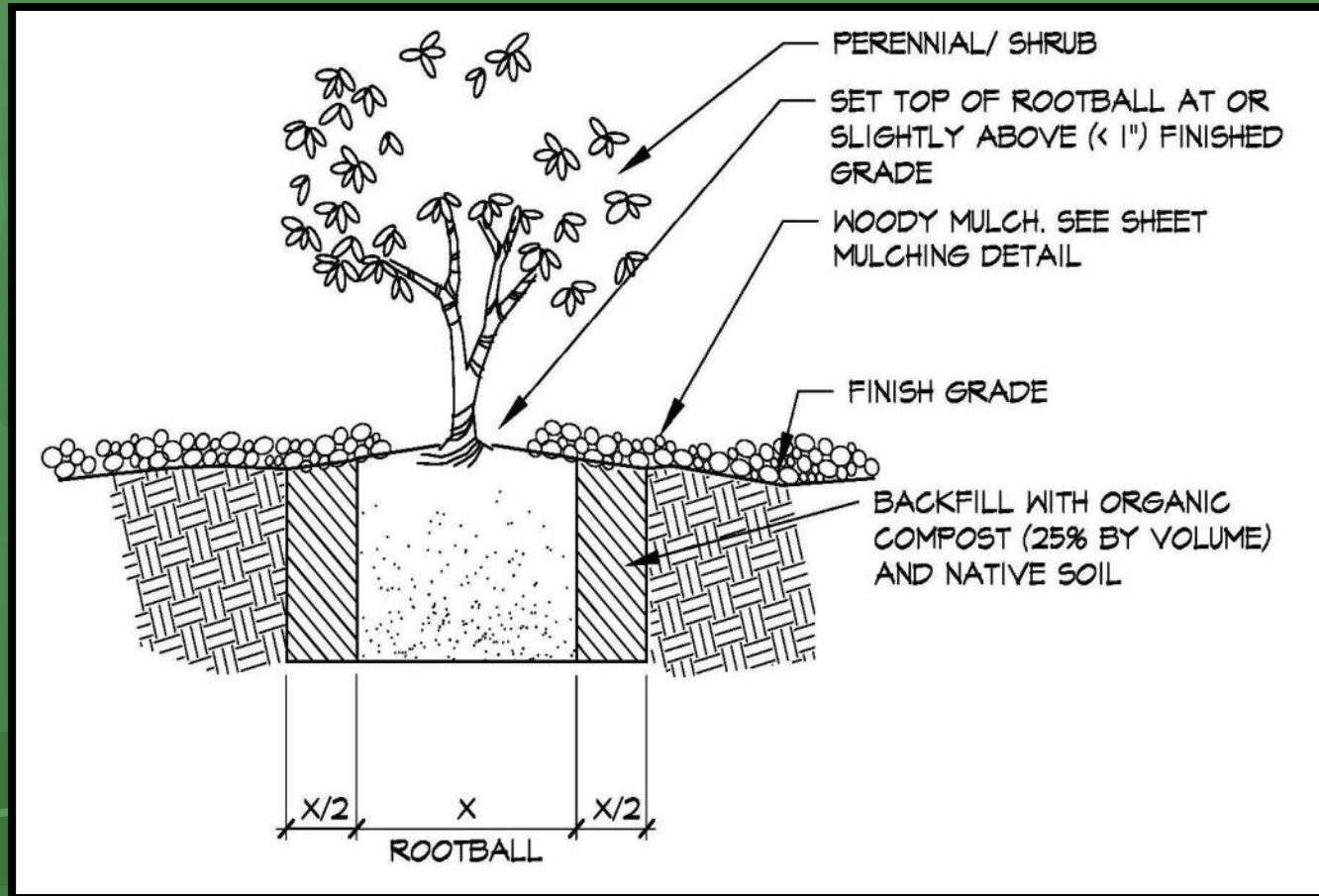
- Vegetable beds – 1/4" tubing, 6-12"
- Pots – 1/4" tubing, 6-12"



- Add Compost
  - Adds drainage
  - Aggregates the clay particles
  - Etc.

## **Fine Gardening Article “Improving Clay Soils”**





# Planting technique

## ■ See Yerba Buena Nursery List

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>Amelanchier alnifolia</u></a>                       | Serviceberry            |
| <a href="#"><u>Aralia californica*</u></a>                         | Elk Clover              |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos bakeri 'Louis Edmunds'**</u></a>     | Serpentine Manzanita    |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos 'Dr Hurd'**</u></a>                  | Dr. Hurd's Manzanita    |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos edmundsii 'Carmel Sur'**</u></a>     | Carmel Sur Manzanita    |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos 'Green Supreme'**</u></a>            | Green Supreme Manzanita |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Howard McMinn'**</u></a> | McMinn's Manzanita      |
| <a href="#"><u>Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Sentinel'**</u></a>      | Sentinel Manzanita      |
| <a href="#"><u>Aristolochia californica</u></a>                    | Dutchman's Pipevine     |
| <a href="#"><u>Artemisia douglasiana*</u></a>                      | Mugwort                 |

# Clay-Tolerant Species

# Scheduling

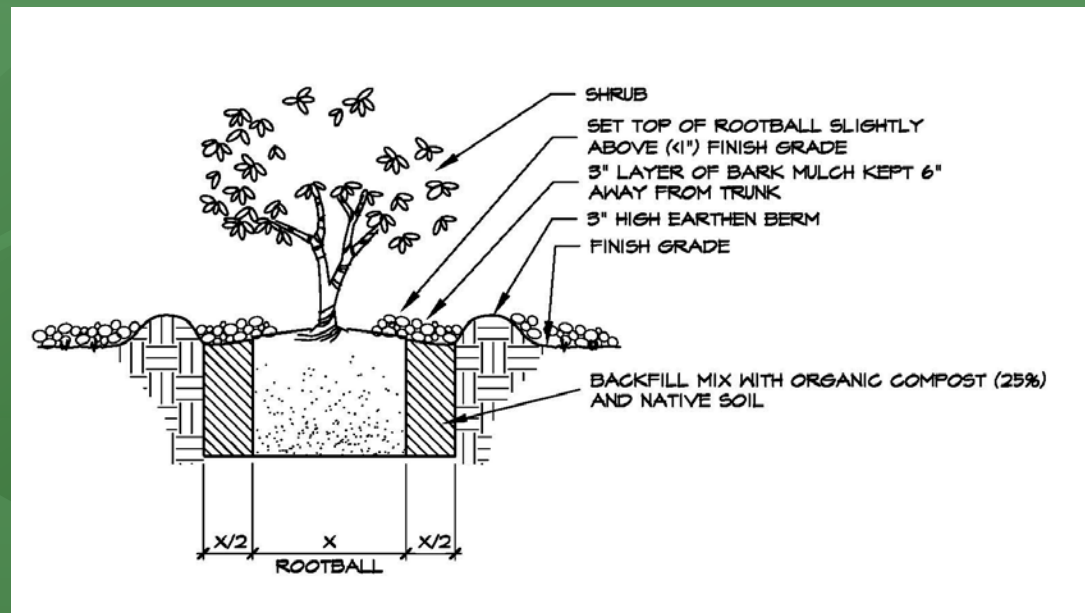
The background of the slide features a pattern of stylized, overlapping green leaves. The leaves are rendered in various shades of green, from a light, almost white-green to a deep forest green. The veins of the leaves are clearly visible, creating a complex, organic pattern that fills the entire frame. The overall effect is a textured, naturalistic backdrop.

- Planting medium vs clay soil
- Hydrophobic soils



**Too Little Water**

- Hand water
- Create a berm
- Get irrigation to the plant – see Netafim adapter
- Completely remove potting medium – Kris K's method



**How to ensure babies get enough water**

# Maintenance

- Spring tasks

- Check/ clean the filter
- Open the flush valve and turn on the station, flush for 5 minutes
- Close the flush valve and walk the system, listen and look for leaks

- Monthly summer tasks

- Read your water bill
- Turn on and walk each zone listening and looking for leaks



# Rebates!

The background of the slide is a solid green color with a pattern of stylized, overlapping leaves. The leaves are rendered in various shades of green, from a light, almost white-green to a dark forest green, creating a layered, textured effect. The leaves have prominent veins and are scattered across the entire frame.

# Santa Clara Valley Water District

- High Water Using Landscape Conversion
  - \$1.00 /sq. ft.
  - Max = no limit!
  - Palo Alto - \$2 /sq. ft





# Landscape Replacement Rebates - Santa Clara Valley Water District

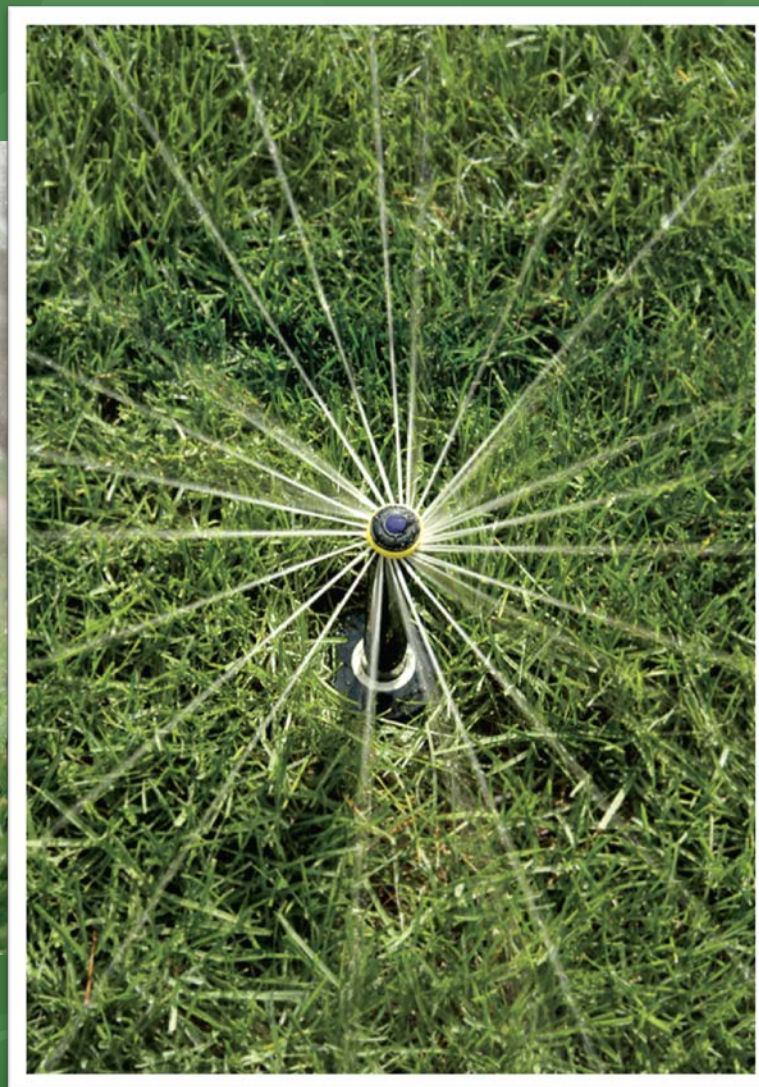
## Qualifying Irrigation Hardware and Rebate Amounts

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Rain Sensor  | Up to \$50 per sensor        |
| High-Efficiency Nozzles  | Up to \$5 per nozzle         |
| Dedicated Landscape Meter  | Up to \$500 per meter        |
| Rotary Sprinklers or Spray Bodies with Pressure Regulation and/or Check Valves | Up to \$20 per set           |
| Weather Based Irrigation Controller, 1-12 Stations*                            | Up to \$300 per controller   |
| Weather-Based Irrigation Controller, 13-24 Stations*                           | Up to \$700 per controller   |
| Weather-Based Irrigation Controller, 25 Stations Or Greater*                   | Up to \$1,000 per controller |

# Rain Sensors



# Spray heads to MP Rotators



# ET or 'Smart' Controller

- ET= Evaporation/transpiration
- Use weather information to determine precise water needs
- Some monthly fees for connection to weather station
- Several manufacturers: Weathermatic, Toro, Hunter, Rainbird, Irritrol, etc.



**Rebates  
\$1000 - \$5,000**

# Lawn Be Gone!

**Imagine...**

**Create...**

**Enjoy...**

- \$0.75 per sq. ft.,
- Front yards only
- Up to \$1,000



Pre-Conversion



Post-Conversion



**Get Paid to Transform  
Your Landscaping!**

Effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

**BAWSCA**  
Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency

650-349-3000  
[www.bawasca.org](http://www.bawasca.org)

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# Water-Efficient Landscape Rebate Program



Photo By Stephanie Penn

**Trade in your high-maintenance and water-thirsty lawn for a more natural, low maintenance, and water-efficient landscape, and ACWD will give you money back for doing it!**

**Get a Rebate of up to \$1,500-\$20,000\***

**Effective May 1, 2013**

*\*Rebate is based on \$1.00 per square foot of lawn converted to water-efficient landscape. Single family residential customers are eligible for up to \$1,500, multi-family residential, commercial and industrial customers are eligible for up to \$20,000.*

# Drought tolerant landscapes – Case study bird sanctuary



30 species native plants, 17 for birds



Pondless waterfall on timer

# Drought-tolerant landscape

## Case study lawn replacement



Before



After: 18 species of native plants



# Drought-tolerant landscapes

## Case study front yard









# Drought-tolerant landscape – Case study pool removal



# Next Steps



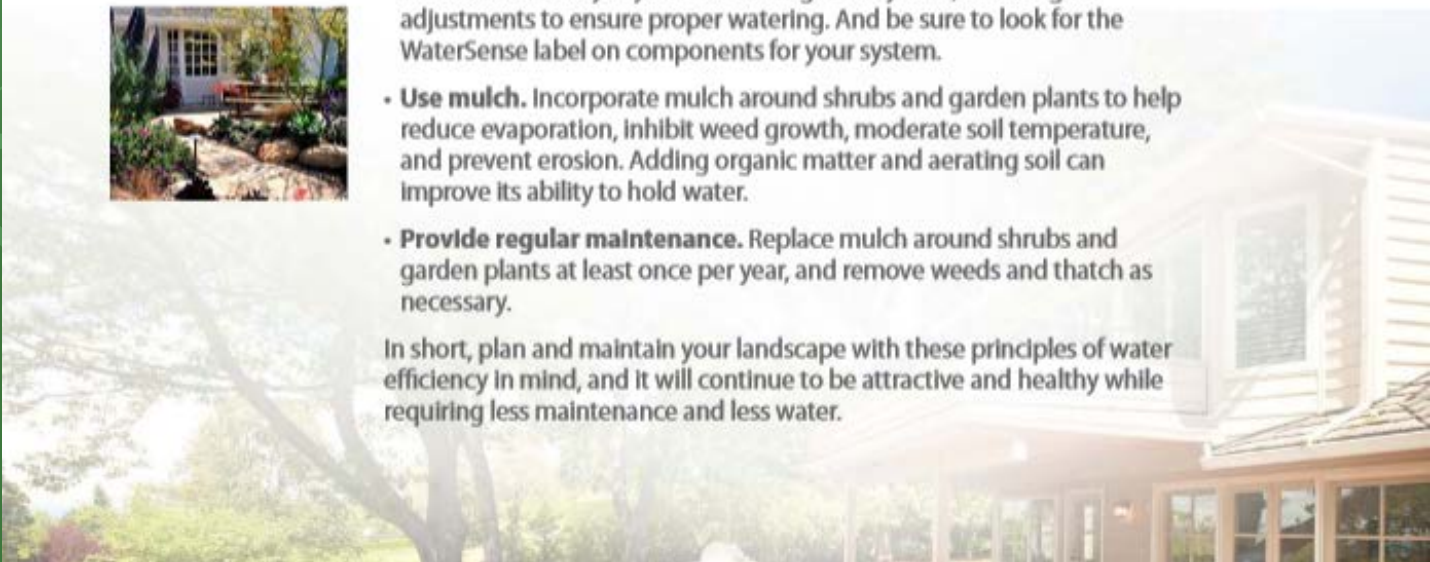
- Check your water meter for leaks
- Determine how many gallons of water you use in a year
- Determine how much is inside vs outside
- Set a goal to reduce your consumption
- Set a reminder to adjust your water meter 4 times per year



## KEY TIPS TO REMEMBER WHEN IT COMES TO WATER-SMART LANDSCAPING:

- **Go native or choose plants that need less water.** Once established, native and low water-using plants require little water beyond normal rainfall. If you're designing a new landscape or just sprucing up your current landscape, be sure to consider the water needs of the plants you choose.
- **Group plants according to their water needs.** Grouping vegetation with similar watering needs into specific "hydrozones" reduces water use by allowing you to water to each zone's specific needs. Turf areas and shrub areas should always be separated into different hydrozones because of their differing water needs.
- **Maintain healthy soils.** Healthy soils are the basis for a water-smart landscape; they effectively cycle nutrients, minimize runoff, retain water, and absorb excess nutrients, sediments, and pollutants.
- **Be selective when adding turf areas.** Turfgrass receives the highest percentage of irrigation water in traditional landscaping. To improve the aesthetics of your landscape and better manage outdoor water use, plant turfgrass only where it has a practical function.
- **Water wisely.** Know your plant's water needs and avoid watering during the heat of the day. If you have an irrigation system, make regular adjustments to ensure proper watering. And be sure to look for the WaterSense label on components for your system.
- **Use mulch.** Incorporate mulch around shrubs and garden plants to help reduce evaporation, inhibit weed growth, moderate soil temperature, and prevent erosion. Adding organic matter and aerating soil can improve its ability to hold water.
- **Provide regular maintenance.** Replace mulch around shrubs and garden plants at least once per year, and remove weeds and thatch as necessary.

In short, plan and maintain your landscape with these principles of water efficiency in mind, and it will continue to be attractive and healthy while requiring less maintenance and less water.



# Irrigation References

- Irrigation Supply Stores
  - Ewing
  - Horizon
  - Water Savers
- WUCOLS:  
[http://www.water.ca.gov/pubs/conservation/a\\_guide\\_to\\_estimating\\_irrigation\\_water\\_needs\\_of\\_landscape\\_plantings\\_in\\_california\\_wucols/wucols00.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/pubs/conservation/a_guide_to_estimating_irrigation_water_needs_of_landscape_plantings_in_california_wucols/wucols00.pdf)
- Rebates:
  - Santa Clara Water District
  - Alameda County Water District
  - Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation (BAWSCA) – Lawn Be Gone!
- EPA's "Water Efficient Landscaping" guide  
[http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/docs/water-efficient\\_landscaping\\_508.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/docs/water-efficient_landscaping_508.pdf)



# Upcoming Talks

- See [www.sustainable-landscape.com](http://www.sustainable-landscape.com) for more information!
- Thursday, March 20, 2014 "Irrigation Basics for Homeowners", Mountain View
- Saturday, April 12, 2014, "Sustainable Edible Gardening", Menlo Park
- Saturday, April 19, 2014, "Graywater Irrigation", Palo Alto
- Common Ground Organic Garden Supply and Education Center, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, 559 College Avenue, Palo Alto, CA
- Saturday, April 26, 2014, "Maintaining Your Native Garden", Sunnyvale
- Thursday, May 1, 2014 "Maintaining Your Native Garden", Mountain View
- Wednesday, June 25, 2014, "Irrigating Native Plants", Campbell



The California Native Plant Society (Santa Clara Valley Chapter)

in association with

UCCE Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County

present the



# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Going Native Garden Tour

**Saturday, April 26, 2014, 10-4:** NORTHERN GARDENS: Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Los Altos, and San Mateo County

**Sunday, April 27, 2014, 10-4:** SOUTHERN GARDENS: Cupertino, Santa Clara, Campbell, San Jose and south

## SPONSORS:

Almaden Valley Nursery • Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency • Bay Maples • Bay Natives Nursery • California Nativescapes • Central Coast Wilds Nursery • East Bay Wilds • Gold Rush Nursery • Mediterranean Garden Society • Native Revival Nursery • Santa Clara Valley Water District • Watershed Watch

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Acterra Nursery • Azureheart • Bay Nature Magazine • Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge • Larner Seeds • National Wildlife Federation • Our City Forest • Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society • Sierra Club (Loma Prieta Chapter) • The Watershed Nursery • Western Horticultural Society • Yerba Buena Nursery

To sponsor or support the tour, contact [info@GoingNativeGardenTour.org](mailto:info@GoingNativeGardenTour.org)

Photos: [tmousecmouse.blogspot.com](http://tmousecmouse.blogspot.com)

Bay Area homeowners are making their gardens aesthetically pleasing, attractive to birds and butterflies, water-wise, and low maintenance by incorporating California native plants. Visit gardens landscaped with native plants on this **free** annual tour, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year.

About 50 gardens will be open for viewing, from town home gardens to acre lots, from newly planted gardens to established ones. The gardens are located all over the Santa Clara Valley and the Peninsula, so you won't have to go far to see one. Some gardens will feature **talks**, others will have **plants for sale**. Visit as many as you like — for inspiration, for photos, for meeting other garden enthusiasts.

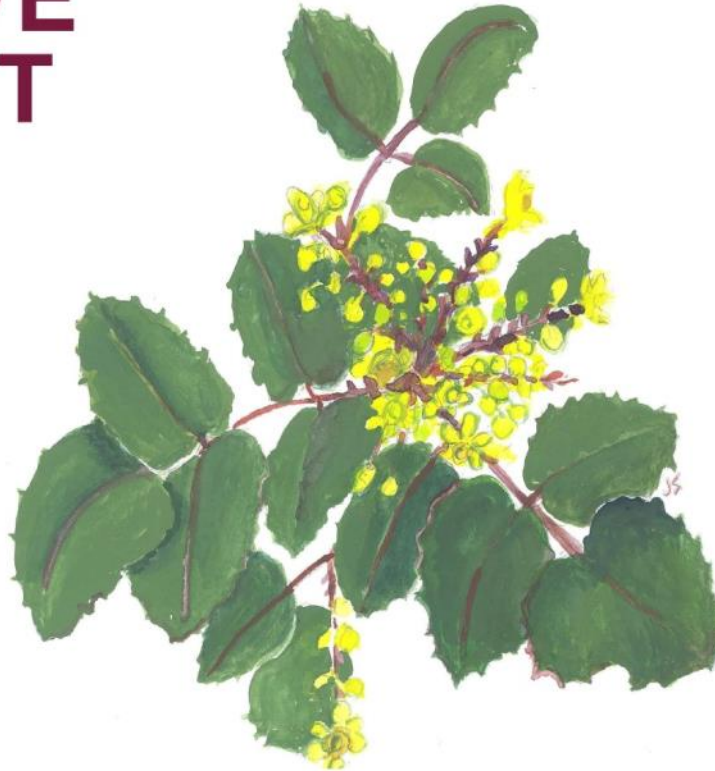
**Free admission • Plant Sales & Talks at select gardens • Register at [www.gngt.org](http://www.gngt.org)**

Garden information, maps, and directions will become available to registrants the week of April 7. Registrations will be accepted until noon of April 27. For information, visit [www.gngt.org](http://www.gngt.org), or email [info@gngt.org](mailto:info@gngt.org).



THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER AND ACTERRA

# NATIVE PLANT SALE



**BERBERIS AQUIFOLIUM  
VAR. REPENS**

**SATURDAY MAY 3, 2014 10 AM - 3 PM**  
**HIDDEN VILLA RANCH**

26870 MOODY ROAD      LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA

2 MILES WEST OF Foothill COLLEGE  
TAKE THE EL MONTE / MOODY EXIT FROM 280  
CONTACT: 650-260-3450      or [www.cnps-scv.org](http://www.cnps-scv.org)  
PARKING IS FREE      BRING A BOX FOR PLANTS

# Summary

- Drought-tolerant plants
- No or efficient irrigation
- Organic soil care
- Drip Irrigation



*Fremontodendron californica* 'Ken Taylor'

Thank you!