

DPR Water Conservation Highlights: July 2015

Rainbow Park, Rainbow (North County)

The Department of Parks and Recreation converted 15,000 square feet of grass at Rainbow Park to bark mulch and decomposed granite. Utility costs have gone down – thanks to reduced reliance on potable water use for landscape irrigation – and resources that were previously dedicated to lawn mowing, aerating and fertilizing have been redirected to other park projects.

BEFORE



AFTER



Live Oak County Park, Fallbrook (North County)

At Live Oak County Park, 400 square feet of landscaping at the park entrance was removed and replaced with mulch. This particular area receives less recreation traffic than other areas, and was a prime opportunity for resource reallocation. Irrigation devices have since been shut off, and the mature oaks that welcome park visitors have not been affected – holding true to the park's namesake.

BEFORE



AFTER



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Collier County Park, Ramona (East County)

More than 25,000 square feet of turf along with nine irrigation stations and 56 sprinkler heads were removed at Collier Park in July to meet department-initiated water conservation goals and to satisfy a standard established for the Ramona Municipal Water District to cut water use by 28 percent. Park staff teamed up with California Conservation Corps crews to replace the front lawn with drought-tolerant plants and decomposed granite. The existing pepper trees were kept in place, and rocks were added around the base of these trees to help capture and retain rain water. This conversion, plus the installation of low-flow devices in restrooms and a new watering schedule on the remaining lawns, will reduce water use at the park by more than 30 percent.

