
WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE DESIGN MANUAL

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

APPROVAL

I hereby certify that this **Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual** has been considered and approved by the Director of Planning & Development Services on the 27th day of May 2016, to be used in conjunction with the County's Water Conservation in Landscaping Ordinance, County Code, Title 8, Division 6, Chapter 7.



Mark Wardlaw
Director of Planning & Development Services

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PURPOSE

The State Legislature determined in the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act (the "Act"), Government Code sections 65591 *et seq.*, that the State's water resources are in limited supply. The legislature also recognized that while landscaping is essential to the quality of life in California, landscape design, installation, maintenance and management must be water efficient. The primary purpose of this document is to establish a structure for planning, designing, installing, maintaining and managing water efficient landscapes in new construction and projects with modified landscapes. Promoting the use of tertiary treated recycled water and graywater for irrigation, set a Maximum Applied Water Allowance as an upper limit for water use, It also encourages landscapes that create defensible space in the event of a wildfire.

This document incorporates the requirements of the County's Water Conservation in Landscaping regulations (County Code of Regulatory Ordinances Section 86.701 *et seq.*) with landscape design guidelines and installation specifications. It provides guidance on preparing the various components of landscape plans which may be required as part of a discretionary or ministerial permit process. Compliance with this manual will result in a more efficient process and avoid unnecessary time delays. For those people who are not required to submit a formal landscape plan, this manual serves as a resource to educate and assist in the design and installation of a water efficient landscape.

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Lake Oroville June 2005



Lake Oroville February 2008



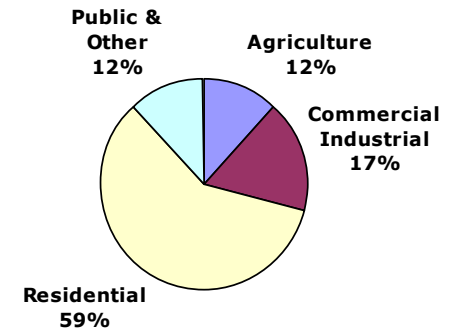
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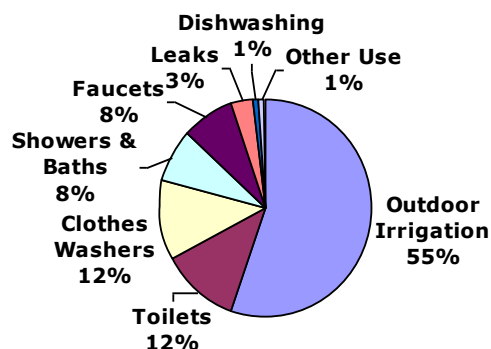
REGIONAL WATER USE



"Estimates of Water Use in the San Diego Region." *Our Water, Our Future – 2009 Update*, California Landscape Contractors Association, San Diego Chapter, May 2009

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SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL



"Estimates of Water Use in the San Diego Region." *Our Water, Our Future – 2009 Update*, California Landscape Contractors Association, San Diego Chapter, May 2009

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Cover photograph of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College taken by Dixie Switzer.