

PURISSIMA PIPELINE

Waste Not, Want Not

Waste not; want not. We've all heard this old cliché. But it is a truism, and it is so appropriate for those of us who live in this semi-arid region. We're talking water here. We really can't afford to waste water. The most obvious sign of water being wasted is water flowing off your property into the gutter. You won't get a home beautiful award for growing the most beautiful gutter algae.

This wasted water serves no purpose except to increase your monthly bill. This misuse is beyond leaky faucets and toilets that never stop running, showers that are too long or washing machine cycles that use lots of water for a few garments. Here in the Purissima Hills Water District, about 80% of our water is used for landscape irrigation. Signs of this misuse (in addition to the blue-ribbon gutter algae) include soggy areas in your lawns or other plantings, unseasonal yellowing of plants or loss of foliage, and standing water in low areas. (Standing water—think of a mosquito breeding ground.)

What's a homeowner to do? If you have these conditions, check for leaky valves, broken pipes, excessive watering cycles, overlapping watering zones, or water delivered beyond the intended landscaping. There may be other causes. Another alternative is to call the Water District office to discuss the problem. The staff is knowledgeable about irrigation systems and will try to put you on the path to correcting the problem.

Got your obvious water wasting problems under control and still think you are using too much water? Contact us to obtain literature describing drought-tolerant plantings, drip irrigation, and water conserving landscaping. *The staff is here to serve you.*

Ernest Solomon
Director

Great Job!

As of this current reading period, our customers have reduced their overall water usage. Great job on reducing your irrigation! For those of you who have not reduced your irrigation times yet and need assistance, please feel free to contact me, Alexis Shields, your Water Conservation Specialist!