



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jane Egly, President
Kelly H. Boyd, Vice President
Toni Iseman
Elizabeth Pearson
Verna Rollinger

WATER COMMISSION

Bruce R. Scherer, Chairman
Susan M. Trager, Vice Chair
Marvin C. Johnson
Mark B. Lewis
Deborah K. Neev

Important information regarding your account

In June, the District completed an upgrade of its customer billing system to ensure continued fast and accurate customer service. As part of the upgrade, all customers have been assigned a new account number. Your new account number is located in the upper right corner of your statement.

If you pay your bill automatically each month through a financial institution

that requires your District account information, contact your bank or credit union and give them the new account number to ensure that your account is properly credited with your payment. Your old account number will still be accepted; however, using your new account number will ensure that your payment is processed in a more timely manner.

If you pay your bill by check, please write your new account number on your check and include your bill stub with your payment.

Stay informed during emergencies

Knowing what to do and what's happening during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count.

Thanks to today's technology, the District has a variety of methods for quickly communicating with residents to keep you informed on water shutdowns, emergencies, and advisories.

Make sure your information on file with the District is up-to-date. It's as easy as visiting our web site at www.lagunabeachwater.com, and completing our online **Customer Account Information Update** form located by clicking the **Customer Service** tab on our home page. Be sure to include all phone numbers and email addresses where you'd like to receive information. You may also contact customer service at (949) 494-1041.

Time to tune up your timers

Summer's here, which always means increased water usage due to irrigation demands. The District provides customers with irrigation efficiency tests at no charge. We will test your sprinkler system for optimal coverage and can set your timers to ensure efficient watering for the coming season. Don't forget—the number one cause for premature plant death is over watering! Protect your investment in your landscape with this valuable service. To schedule, call (949) 342-1437.



Gray is the new Green

An average four-person household sends well over 40,000 gallons of reusable water down the drain each year from bathrooms and laundries.

In recent years, concerns over water shortages and overloaded or costly sewage treatment plants have generated much interest in the reuse of graywater.

Graywater is wastewater generated from domestic activities, which can be recycled on-site for uses such as landscape irrigation. Graywater includes but is not limited to wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom sinks, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs, but does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks, dishwashers, or laundry water from soiled diapers.

In August 2009, the California Building Standards Commission adopted new code language for residential graywater reuse. The new code allows homeowners to install single fixture systems (which collect graywater from one plumbing fixture) as well as laundry to landscape systems without obtaining permits. Certain requirements, such as the prohibition of ponding or run-off and the disposal of home waste products, must be followed.

The revision to the code makes graywater systems more accessible, permissible, and affordable to residents. And, by reusing graywater, a person can reduce the amount of potable water he or she uses by 50 to 80 percent. A win-win for our limited water supply.

Installing graywater systems in Laguna Beach

The City of Laguna Beach allows the installation of two types of graywater systems that do not require a city permit, but do require a **Notice of Installation** be filed with the City. A copy of the notice and a **Graywater Systems Fact Sheet** can be picked up at the City offices.

The systems that do not require a City permit are:

1. Laundry to landscape systems, which utilize a single domestic clothes washing machine in a one or two family residence.
2. Single fixture systems, which collect graywater from one plumbing fixture.

General graywater system rules:

1. Only residential graywater systems are allowed.
2. Kitchen sink and diaper soiled water are not included in the definition of graywater.
3. Ponding, spray, or runoff to the storm sewer system of graywater is prohibited.
4. Graywater systems must be installed so that there is no chance of contamination of potable water.
5. Graywater can not be used to irrigate root crops or edible portions of food crops.

Any graywater system other than a clothes washer or single fixture unit system requires a City plumbing permit and may require a plan prepared by an engineer and a soils or geologic report prepared by an engineer or certified engineering geologist. If there are any questions about graywater systems, contact the City Building Office at (949) 497-0336.

Waves is a publication for the customers of the Laguna Beach County Water District.

Information in this publication is provided to keep customers informed about water related issues and events. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Volume 6, Issue 4
July/August 2010

Laguna Beach County Water District
306 Third Street
Laguna Beach, CA 92651
(949) 494-1041
www.lagunabeachwater.com

RENAE M. HINCHEY
General Manager

CHRISTOPHER J. REGAN
Assistant General Manager
Managing Editor