

Water Ways

Why We Pay For Water

Tap water is a great value for Carmichael Water District's (CWD) customers. But the cost of treating and delivering it to your tap is going up. Here are some of the factors that contribute to increased costs:

- **Public Health:** CWD's water system assures that you can drink from your tap with the greatest sense of confidence in safety. Our award winning micro filtration water treatment and distribution system protects our customers from naturally occurring and manmade contaminants that can have immediate or long-term health effects.
- **Fire Protection:** In the days before water systems were constructed, devastating fires were a constant threat. Even today, many homes and businesses in rural areas without access to public water systems are under the constant threat of wild fires. In order to protect customer's personal safety and property against fire, CWD's infrastructure must be diligently maintained.
- **Local Economy:** Local businesses and new residential developments do not succeed without a safe

and reliable water supply. For local businesses, tap water is commonly vital to day-to-day operations and often is a primary ingredient in the products and services they provide.

- **Quality of Life :** If you measure the success of our community you will inevitably find that it is tied to access of safe and reliable water supplies. We often take for granted that safe water is always accessible to drink, to wash our clothes, to water our lawns and for countless other purposes. When water service is interrupted everyone affected is reminded of the remarkable value of water supplies and services.



Though many consumers will pay over \$1.50 for a small container of bottled water, many of us often resist even rate small increases. But there's no more valuable and critical need than safe and dependable water service.

Ask Darren

As the Conservation Specialist for CWD, I am asked a variety of questions from customers that I meet every day. Now that the weather is warming up, I would like to share a very common early summer question.

Question: How often and for how long should I water my lawn?

Answer: Unfortunately there is not one, simple answer to this question. Every landscape is different and there are a variety of sprinkler types out there that apply water at different rates. The slope of the landscape, soil type and compaction can also affect how much water can be applied at one time.

In Carmichael, even during the hottest months, applying 1 inch of water per week is sufficient for most lawns.

Here's a trick to figure out how long you should water:

- Place an empty tuna can somewhere on the lawn. Run the sprinklers in that area for 15 minutes. Check the can after the sprinklers stop. If the can is half full, you know that you should water for 30 minutes a week. A quarter full, water for an hour a week, and so on. It's not an exact science, but it should get you close.



Learn more at www.carmichaelwd.org

Jordan Visits Carmichael Water District



A delegation from Jordan recently visited CWD to learn how the District trains and certifies operators and managers of water treatment and water distribution facilities. General Manager Steve Nugent and staff from CWD, were on hand to welcome the delegation at a working session which will help shape the way the people of Jordan develop their own systems.

NEW OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR WATER BILL

CWD now offers our customers the ability to pay their bills directly through our online BillPay service. For more details visit our website at www.carmichaelwd.org and click on the following icon on our homepage and follow the instructions:



Did You Know?

Jordan is considered one of the ten most water scarce countries in the world. Water supply in the Jordanian highlands, where most of the population lives, is primarily intermittent. Water is delivered through the distribution system once a week in big cities like Amman and once every twelve days in rural areas. Imagine having to store a week's supply of water for your home.

Join CWD and earn your Blue Thumb!

The Blue Thumb Pledge Drive is sponsored by the Regional Water Authority (RWA), Carmichael Water District and water providers in Sacramento, Placer and El Dorado counties plus the city of West Sacramento who are working together to help their customers use water more efficiently.



You can earn your Blue Thumb, too, by making a personal commitment to using water efficiently through actions like:

- Adjusting your watering schedule at least every month according to anticipated weather and your water provider's guidelines;
- Stopping runoff. If you see runoff, divide total watering time in half into two shorter cycles;
- Checking your irrigation system every month for leaks and misdirected sprinkler heads; and
- Fixing water-wasting problems in your irrigation system within 48 hours of finding them.

You can earn an official pair of Blue Thumb garden gloves, while supplies last. Simply take the Blue Thumb pledge at BeWaterSmart.info or stop by our office.

Remember that water is a limited resource that shouldn't be wasted.

Join your neighbors and start earning your Blue Thumb today.

Learn more visit BeWaterSmart.info and get tips about creating beautiful, water-efficient landscapes.



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