

This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com



A photograph of a garden bed with purple and pink flowers along a sidewalk. The flowers are in full bloom, and the garden bed is well-maintained. A blue sign is visible in the background on the left.

“The Missing Link” – to building a beautiful Ocean Friendly Garden

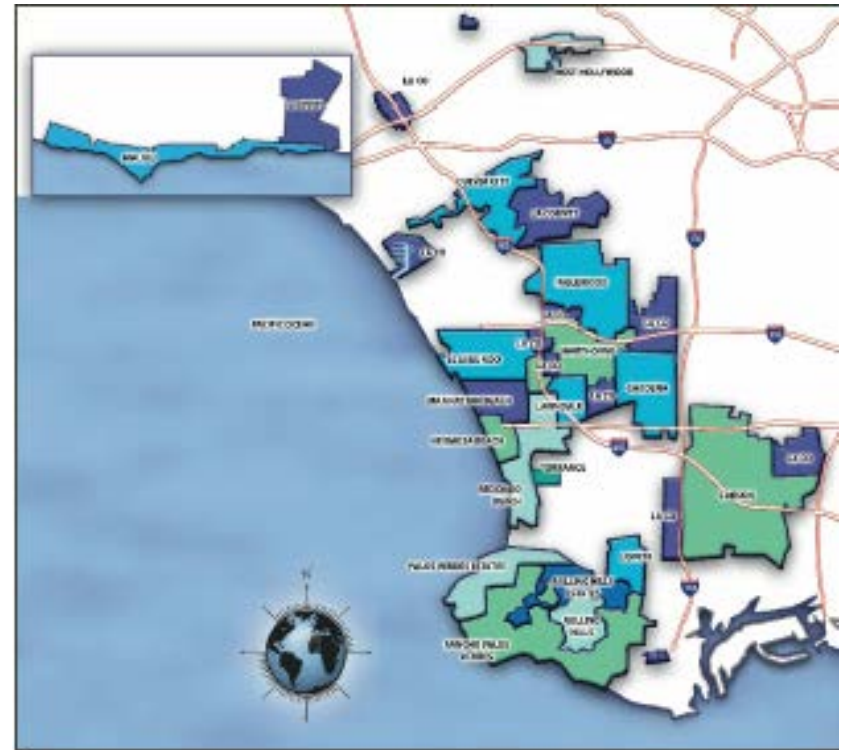
Co-Presented by:

**Gus Meza, Sr. Water Efficiency Specialist for
West Basin Municipal Water District and**

Paul Herzog, Program Manager for the Surfrider Foundation

West Basin Municipal Water District

- Public Agency - Water Wholesaler
- 17 Cities in the South Bay Area of Los Angeles
- Estimated 1 Million residents
- Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility – El Segundo, CA
- Ocean-Water Demonstration Facility – Redondo Beach, CA
- Water Reliability 2020 Program – Reduce Imported water by 50% by the year 2020



“Is this the Missing Link?”



Public / Private / Non-Profit Partnership



Ocean Friendly Garden Classes

- Partners Developed Curriculum
- Goal: 40 OFG Classes
- Comprehensive (not just about plants & mulch) -
Apply CPR:
 - Conservation
 - Permeability
 - Retention
- Inspires Action

Attend A Basics Class



Now What?



"The Missing Link"



- Resources?
- Help?
- Where do I start?

Now What?



Before



After

Where do I start?

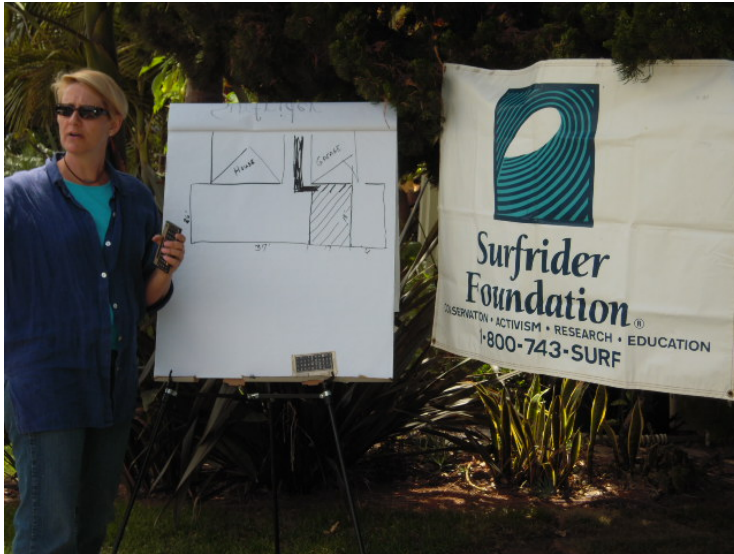
What resources are available?

Are there professionals who can coach me?

Missing Link = “Hands-On Workshops”

- Link between taking a class and building a sustainable garden.
- Led by a trained landscape professional.
- Types of H.O.W.s:
 - Site Assessment & Design
 - Rainwater Harvesting & Sheet Mulching
 - Planting & Irrigation
 - Stewardship (Maintenance)

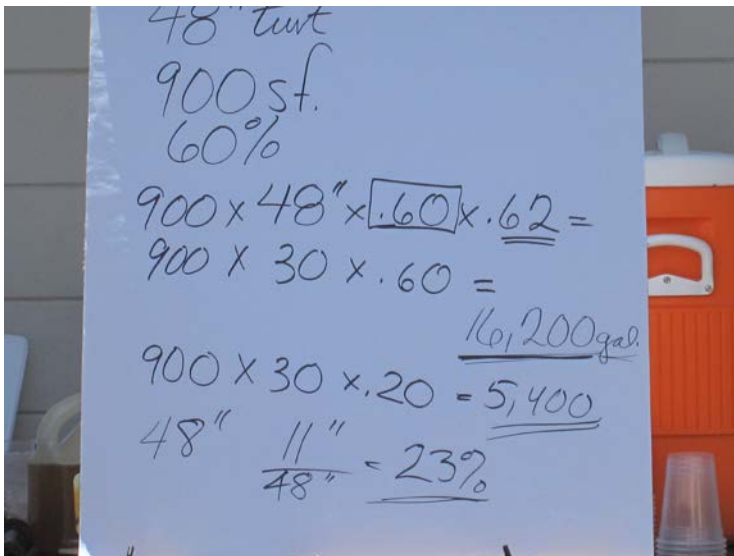
Site Assessment H.O.W.



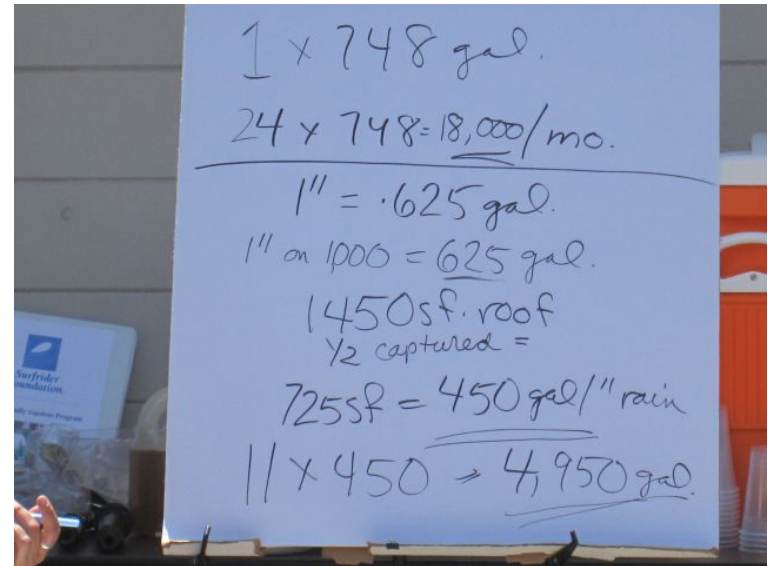
Measure The Site



Irrigation & Soil Type/Compaction Test



Develop An OFG Water Budget



Calculate Rainwater Harvest Potential

Rainwater Harvesting & Sheet Mulching H.O.W.

At the H.O.W. participants will learn how to:

- Remove turf grass without chemicals.
- Contour site to capture rainwater.
- Apply compost & compost tea.
- Layer paper & fresh tree trimmings (or free city mulch).

Try Sheet Mulching With Painter's Paper or Cardboard



- ① Remove turf.
- ② Apply compost tea.
- ③ Painter's paper over soil.
- ④ Spread City compost.

- ⑤ Fresh tree trimming mulch on top.
- ⑥ Plant through the soil "lasagna."



Sheet Mulching (continued)

West High – Carson, CA



Before



After – Side A



After – Side B

Planting & Irrigation H.O.W.



Part In-Class...And Part...



In-Field



Stewardship (Maintenance) H.O.W.



Weeding & Irrigation Check



Checking Rainwater "Irrigation"



Irrigation Controller Check



Applying Compost Tea

Benefits of a H.O.W.

- Builds confidence
- Learn by doing “hands-on”
- Saves water
- Reduces runoff
- Prevents pollution
- Builds community – “I’m not alone”

Annual Water Use

Water Efficient Garden vs. Traditional Lawn

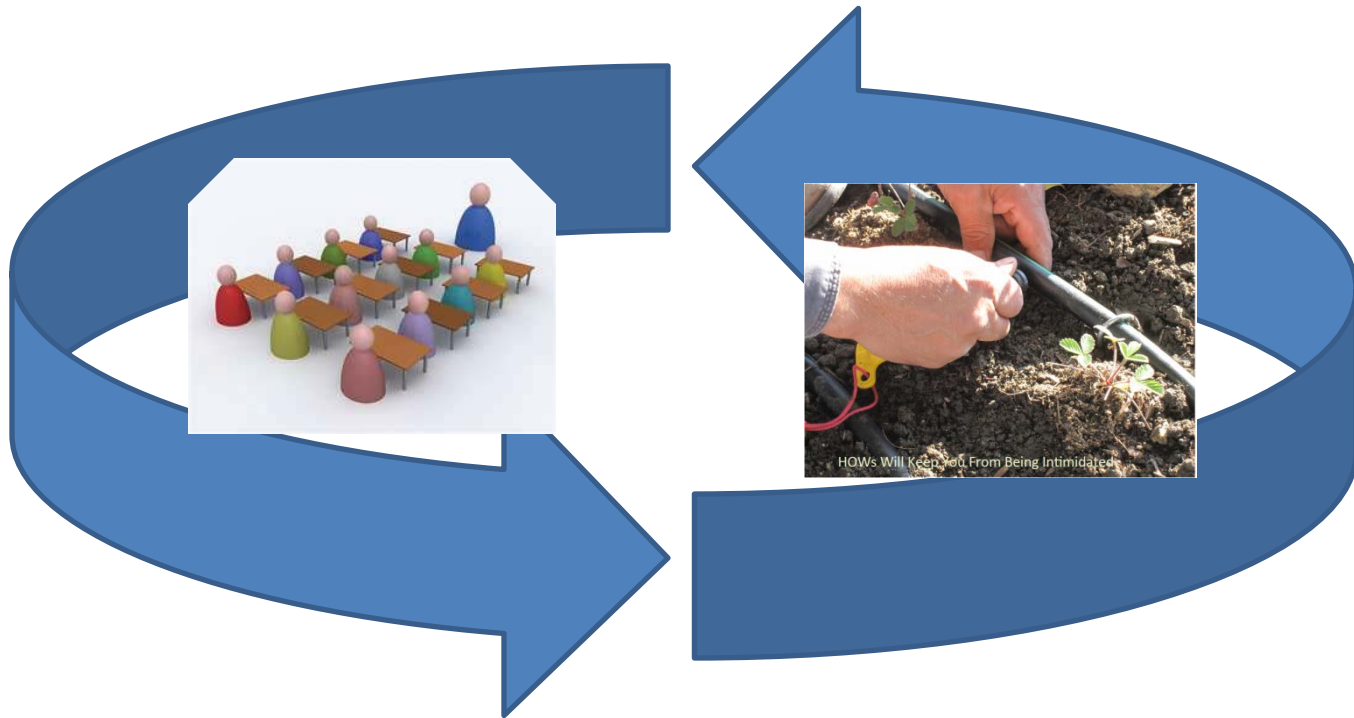
6,854 Gallons



41,130 Gallons



A “Winning” Model



West Basin MWD – Public Gardens

OFG Gardens – Online Map:

www.oceanfriendlygardens.crowdmap.com

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "Ocean Friendly Gardens – Surfrider Foundation". The address bar displays "https://oceanfriendlygardens.crowdmap.com". The browser's toolbar includes "Most Visited", "Getting Started", "Latest Headlines", and "http://seattleof...". The website header features a banner with the "OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDENS" logo and the "SURFRIDER FOUNDATION" logo. A red button labeled "SUBMIT A REPORT" is visible in the top right corner. Below the banner, a green box contains the text: "An Ocean Friendly Garden (OFG) is a garden that applies CPR – Conservation, Permeability, and Retention – to revive the health of our watersheds and oceans. Be a Part of the Solution, Not the Pollution. Please tell us about your yard. START HERE: Click 'Instructions' button to start." The main navigation bar includes links for "HOME", "REPORTS", "SUBMIT A REPORT", "CONTACT US", "INSTRUCTIONS", and "ABOUT OFG". The central part of the page displays a map of the United States with several red dots indicating the locations of Ocean Friendly Gardens. A "Filter Reports By" dropdown menu is located on the left side of the map. A "How to Report" button is visible in the top right corner of the map area.

Resources

- **Class handout – “Low Hanging Fruit:**

- Evaluate Your Site / Understand Your Potable Water Use

- Encourage a Soil Party to Restore Good Soil

- Create Permeable Surfaces And Retention of Stormwater

- Create Habitat

- Select Climate-appropriate Plants and Plant With Confidence

- Minimize Turf and Maintain Organically

- Irrigate Properly And Achieve Zero Dry Weather Runoff

- Steward Your Land

- **Resources**

- Local agency incentives, on-site services and materials (mulch, compost)

- Associations of landscape pros (design, contractor, architect)

Contact Information

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(parking lot of slides)



**Conduct A
Site Evaluation**



Lay Out the Garden



HOWs Will Keep you From Being Intimidated



- evaluate the existing soil, plants and irrigation; calculate current water use, an OFG "water budget" and rainwater capture and use potential;
- and come up with retrofit design concepts.