

This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com



A photograph of a garden with purple and pink flowers along a sidewalk. The flowers are in the foreground, and a paved path leads into the distance. There are green bushes and trees in the background. A blue sign is visible on the left side of the garden.

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

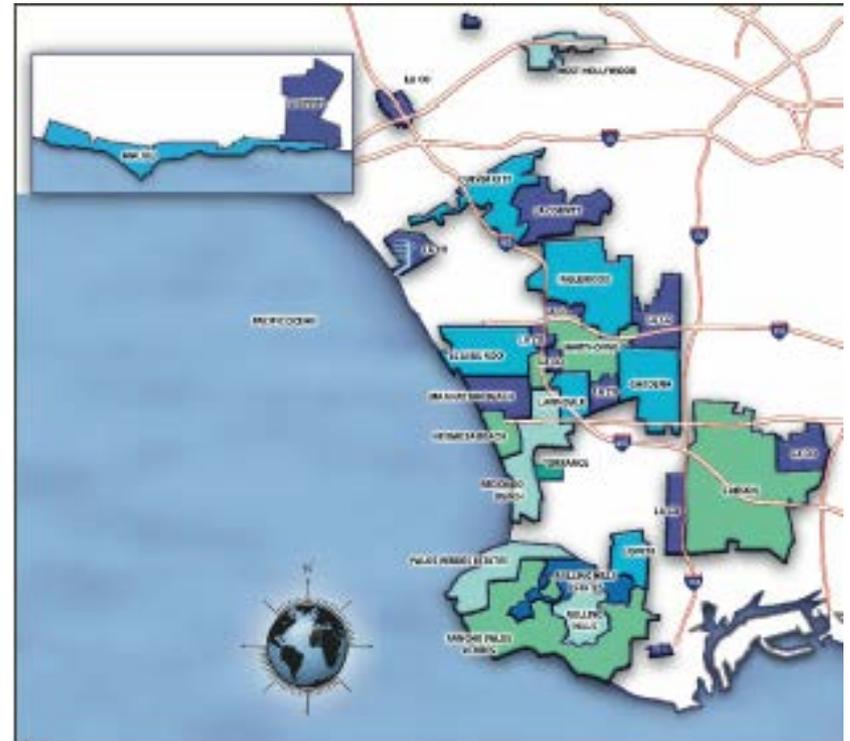
Co-Presented by:

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



Now What?



"The Missing Link"

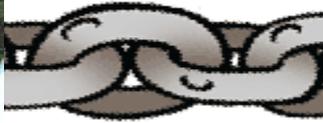


- Resources?
- Help?
- Where do I start?

Now What?



Before



After

Where do I start?

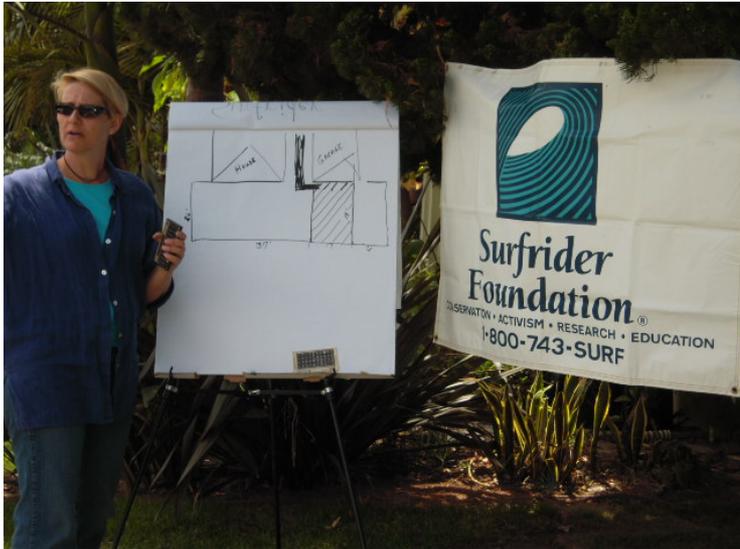
What resources are available?

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)

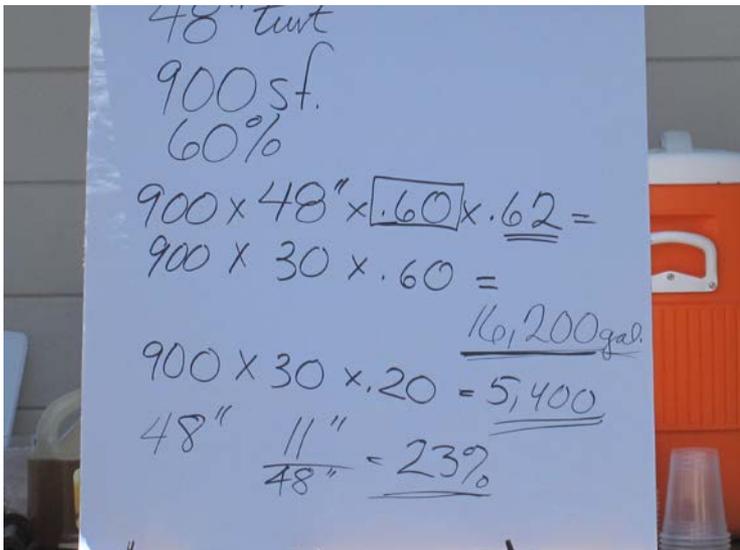
Site Assessment H.O.W.



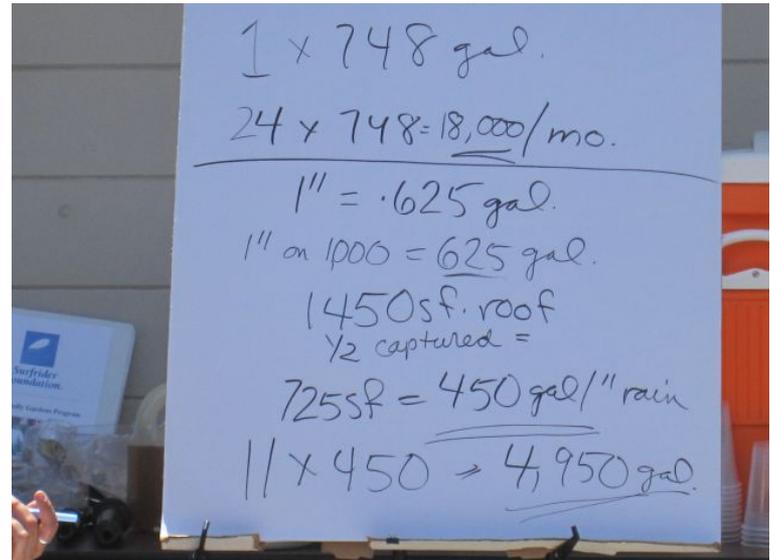
Measure The Site



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”

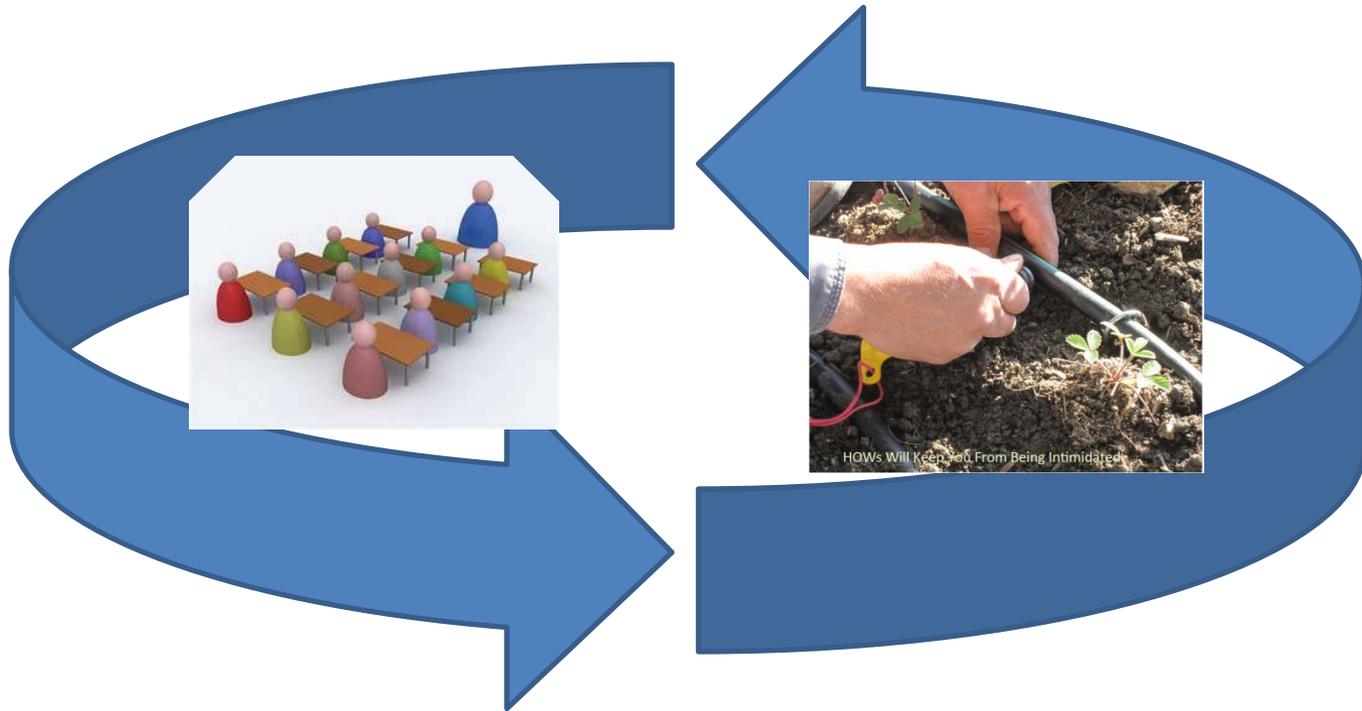
Annual Water Use Water Efficient Garden vs. Traditional Lawn

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 navigation bar includes "Most Visited", "Getting Started", "Latest Headlines", and social media links for "http://seattleof...", "Blogs", and "Surfrider Found...".

The main content area features a banner with the text "OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDENS" and the "SURFRIDER FOUNDATION" logo. To the right of the banner is a red button labeled "SUBMIT A REPORT". Below the banner is a green box containing the following 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.

Below the green box is a navigation menu with the following items: HOME, REPORTS, SUBMIT A REPORT, CONTACT US, INSTRUCTIONS, ABOUT OFG.

The main feature is a map of the United States with several red circular markers indicating the locations of Ocean Friendly Gardens. The markers are concentrated in the western United States, particularly in California, and one is located in the central United States (Colorado). The map includes state names and major cities. A "Filter Reports By" dropdown menu is visible in the top left corner of the map area, and a "How to Report" help icon is in the top right corner.

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.