# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com



## Cashing in on Lotto Fever for Fix a Leak Week

Water Smart Innovations 2012 October 4, 2012

Amy McNulty Irvine Ranch Water District

> IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

- Background
- Program Design & Implementation
- Participation Rates
- Water Savings
- Program Highlights & Improvements
- Questions



### Water, Wastewater, Water Recycling, Urban Runoff

California Special District governed by a publicly-elected Board

IRWD customer base:

- Residential population: 340,000
- Daytime population: over 500,000
- Service connections: 101,600

IRWD service area:

- 181 square miles (20% of Orange County)
- All or part of **six** cities and unincorporated county:

Irvine Tustin Orange Lake Forest Newport Beach Costa Mesa







### Why did EPA create WaterSense?

EPA realized that managing water supplies was becoming an increasingly important issue to local markets around the country. Through this national program, local water utilities, product manufacturers, and retailers will work with EPA to encourage the use of water-efficient products and practices among consumer and commercial audiences.

#### What is the goal of WaterSense?

The main goal of the program is to decrease indoor and outdoor nonagricultural water use through more efficient products, equipment, and programs. With its recognizable label, WaterSense helps consumers easily identify water-efficient products in the marketplace while ensuring product performance and encouraging innovation in manufacturing.

Certification Irrigation Professionals Products



Partners Product Partners Promotional Partners

Specifications & Standards New Home's Specifications



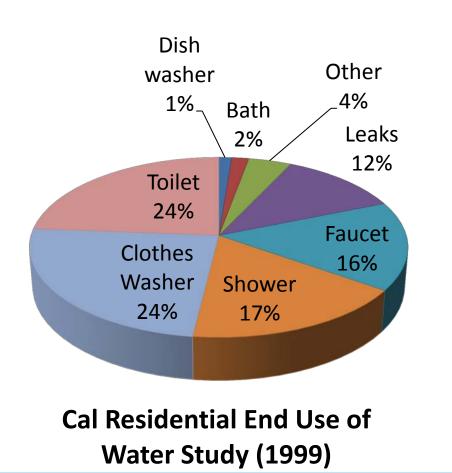


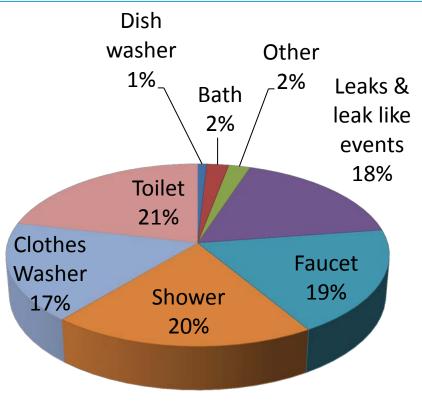
- Promotional Partner since 2008
- 2010 EPA contest for Fix a Leak Week
  IRWD did not win but...
- New Idea: Reimburse customers for leak repair costs





### Indoor Residential Water Use





### CA Single-Family Water Use Efficiency Study (2011)

# Program Design & Implementation





# IRWD Rate Structure & Leak Adjustments

|               | Rate   | Percent of | Allocation         | 10 ccfs  |
|---------------|--------|------------|--------------------|----------|
|               | (ccf)  | Allocation | Usage 50<br>(ccfs) | Cost     |
| Low<br>Volume | \$0.91 | 0-40%      | 4                  | \$3.64   |
| Base Rate     | \$1.24 | 41-100%    | 6                  | \$7.44   |
| Inefficient   | \$2.76 | 101-150%   | 5                  | \$13.80  |
| Excessive     | \$4.70 | 151-200%   | 5                  | \$23.50  |
| Wasteful      | \$9.80 | 200%+      | 30                 | \$294.00 |
|               |        |            | Total Bill         | \$342.38 |



## Program Design

| Year   | 2010  | 2011  | 2012                                |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Reimbursement<br>Level                                 | \$200   | \$50  | \$100                               |
| Process  | All leak<br>adjustments<br>automatically<br>entered | All leak<br>adjustments<br>automatically<br>entered | Entry form<br>required for<br>entry |
| Additional<br>Incentive to<br>Participate              | Conservation kits for all entries                   | None  | None                                |
| Entry<br>Requirements<br>(other than<br>eligible leak) | None  | None  | Entry Form                          |



- Repair Documentation Finance Department
- Promotion Methods Public Affairs
  - Website
  - Lobby banner
  - On hold messages
  - Bill Inserts
- Entry Processing Customer Service

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IRWD Fix a Leak Week 2012

**Official Entry Form** 

IRWD Billing Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City:  $\underline{TRVINE}$  \_\_\_\_\_\_  $\underline{72620}$ 

Total cost to repair leak: \$243,00

Type of Leak?

o Sprinkler Leak (ie. Landscape)

X Toilet Leak

o Pipe Leak (ie. Underground)

Other. Please explain \_\_\_\_\_\_

Who made the repair?

o Myself

X Plumber or other Professional

o Friend/Neighbor

o Other. Please explain

Please attach copy of your receipt\* and submit to IRWD before March 18th.

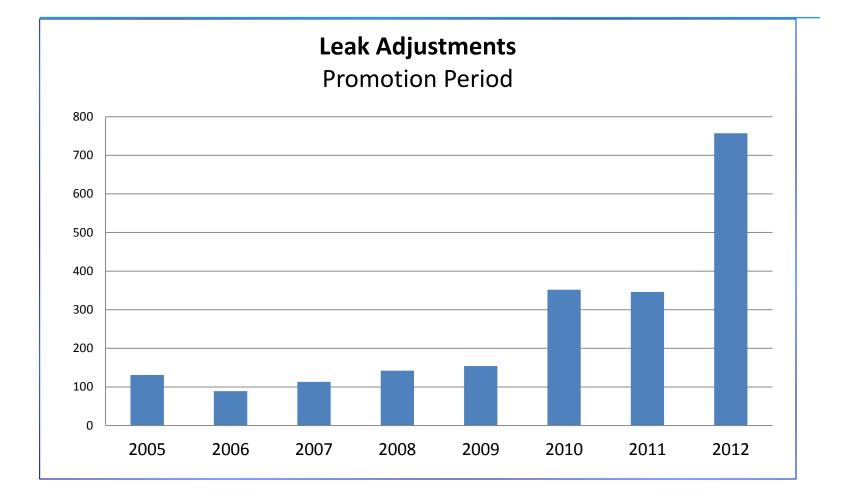
Fix a Leak Week 2012

Fax: (888) 514-8350

# Participation Rates

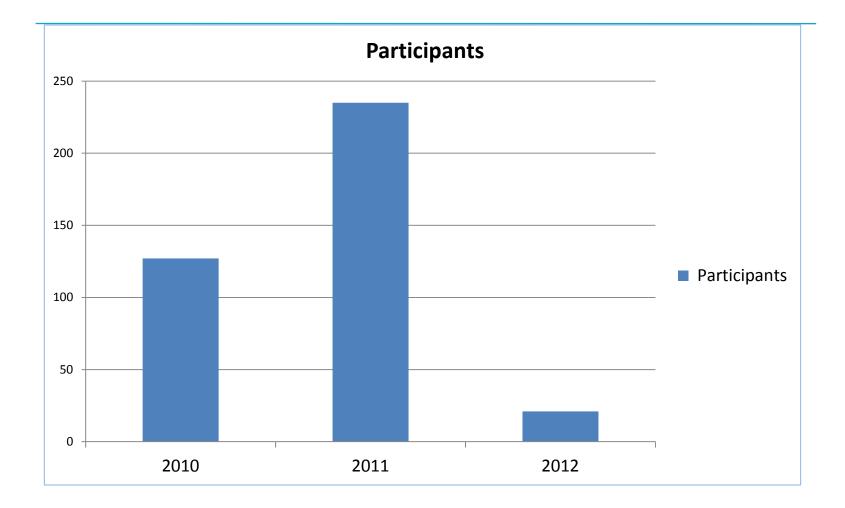






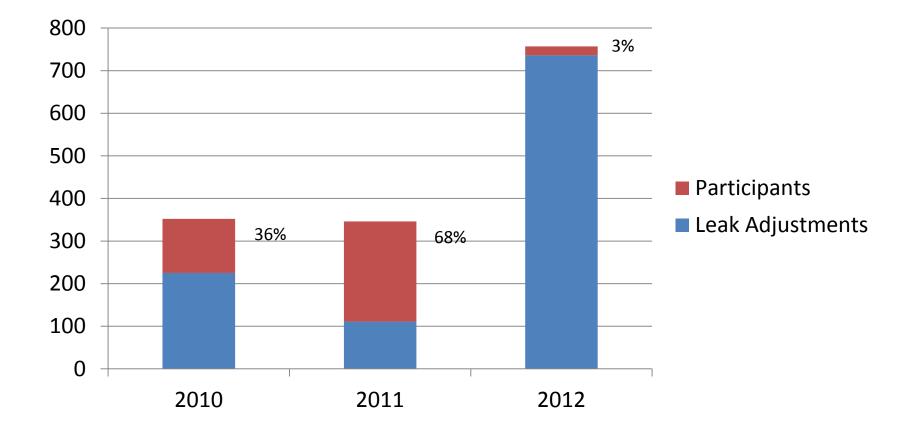


### Participation Rates





### All Leak Adjustments





|                  | Qty | Self<br>Repair | Professional | Average Cost                   |
|------------------|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Toilets          | 7   | 5              | 2            | \$13 DIY<br>\$164 professional |
| Sprinkler Valves | 2   | 2              | 0            | \$112                          |
| Pipe             | 11  | 0              | 11           | \$880<br>(range \$200-\$2486)  |
| Pipe Irrigation  | 2   | 2              | 0            | \$30                           |
| Faucet           | 2   | 0              | 2            | \$60                           |

# Water Savings





## Water Savings

|      | Pre<br>Repair<br>Usage | Post<br>Repair<br>Usage | Savings (ccfs) |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 2010 | 3962                   | 1949                    | 2013           |
| 2011 | 5460                   | 3030                    | 2430           |
| 2012 | 471                    | 203                     | 268            |

# Program Highlights & Improvements





- Structured as a drawing controls cost
- Flexible Budget
  - Primary cost is marketing
- Flexible Duration
- Multiple Winners
  - Winners drawn until budget exhausts
- Enables Data Collection
  - Customer emails
  - Leak data



- Provide incentive for all entries
- Operate the program for longer
- Send targeted bill inserts to high use customers
- Advertise to plumbing community
- Revise entry form
  - How long has the leak been present?
  - Would you have fixed the leak without this program?
  - How much water do you estimate fixing the leak saved?



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