

Safety First!

The City of Corona and DWP are committed to providing high quality services to our residents in an injury-free environment. At DWP, we make safety our top priority. All City and DWP employees are required to complete safety training based on their job classification. DWP offers more than 50 different seminars, talks, and hands-on training courses on safety-related topics. We are proud to report that our staff has completed over 4,000 hours of safety training. Plus, DWP has a Safety Committee that meets bimonthly to discuss safety concerns and collaborate on ways to improve safety at different sites and facilities throughout the City. Our staff rotates through the Committee, so all employees have an opportunity to serve.

We'd like your help to keep the City safe! We encourage you to keep an eye out for any unsafe conditions, such as loose manhole covers or broken meter box lids and report them immediately to (951) 736-2234. Thank you for doing your part to keep Corona safe!



Expanding Reclaimed Water Service



Reclaimed water is an important part of the City's water supply portfolio. The City of Corona is committed to increasing our use of reclaimed water because using reclaimed water instead of drinking water (potable water) allows us to save our higher quality potable water for uses such as drinking, bathing and washing our clothes. The

Corona Department of Water and Power secured over \$1 million through Title XVI to help fund expansion of our reclaimed water distribution system to Stagecoach and Butterfield Parks and along Masters Drive. Title XVI funds are distributed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation for water reclamation and reuse projects that improve water use efficiency, create additional sources of water, provide a drought-resistant water supply, and reduce reliance on water transfers. This expansion allows DWP to increase our use of reclaimed water for irrigation for parks, HOAs and businesses.

Remember, reclaimed water is safe for use in irrigation, not drinking, and is always indicated with purple pipes and plumbing. For more information on our reclaimed water system, visit us online at www.discovercorona.com/dwp or call us at (951) 736-2234.

Check.

Check for leaks.

Twist.

Twist and tighten connections.

Replace.

Replace leaky parts.



Fix a Leak Week

March 12-18, 2012

Are you for water? www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak
www.discovercorona.com/dwp

City of Corona Department of Water & Power

Winter 2012



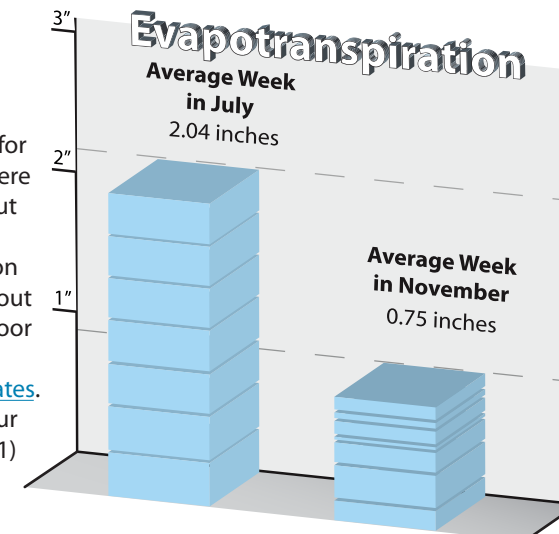
Building Your Outdoor Budget With Evapotranspiration

Evapotranspiration (ET) is the loss of water to the atmosphere through two processes: evaporation from soil and plant surfaces, and transpiration from plant tissues. Transpiration is water that is pulled up by the plant through roots into the plant's vascular system and then released into the atmosphere.

ET is an indicator of how much water crops, lawns, gardens and trees need for healthy growth and productivity. Only the amount of water that is lost needs to be put back into the soil, anything extra is considered waste. To calculate your outdoor water budget, we receive ET data from the Department of Water Resources' California Irrigation Management Information System, or CIMIS. The CIMIS program uses a network of 120 automated weather stations throughout California to accurately measure and record weather data on a minute-by-minute basis.

ET can be difficult to understand. Think of it like building blocks; each day we add a block of ET onto the stack for that month. Some days the ET is higher and some days it's lower, so the size of the blocks changes. To help make it clearer, take a look at the ET for a typical week in July and a typical week in November.

As you can see, the water required during July is more than twice the amount needed in November. ET for the whole year is 56" on average here in Corona. This area averages about 12" of rain a year which means we have to apply about 44" of irrigation water each year. To learn more about evapotranspiration and your outdoor budget, visit us online at www.discovercorona.com/tieredrates. If you need help staying within your water budget, please call us at (951) 736-2234 to schedule a free landscape check up.



Corona Department of
Water & Power

755 Corporation Yard Way
Corona, CA 92880

General Information

(951) 736-2234

After-hours Emergencies

(951) 736-2234, press 1

Business Hours

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
Closed Fridays

Visit us online at

www.discovercorona.com/dwp

Power Outage?



Don't forget to check the settings on your irrigation controller! A power outage may cause your controller to default to the factory settings which may cause your sprinklers to water more than is necessary. For more information or for assistance programming your controller please call (951) 736-2234.

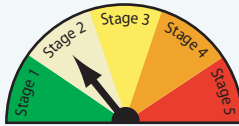
What's Up With Groundwater?

Groundwater Overdraft

Half of the City's water supply is provided by groundwater. There are three groundwater basins from which the City pumps: Temescal Sub-Basin, Coldwater Sub-Basin and Bedford Sub-Basin. Most of the City's groundwater comes from the Temescal Sub-Basin. In 2008, the City prepared a Groundwater Management Plan which found that the Temescal Sub-Basin is in **overdraft**. Groundwater overdraft occurs when more water is being withdrawn from the basins than will be naturally replenished over time.

Because we rely on this sub-basin for a large percentage of our water supply, the City will be maintaining the Stage 2 Water Alert under the Water Conservation Ordinance. The guidelines for Stage 2 include:

- Odd addresses may water on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday.
- Even addresses may water on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.
- Watering must be done after 8:00 p.m. or before 10:00 a.m. on your designated days.
- Sprinklers may run up to 20 minutes total per station each watering day; we encourage cycle-and-soak watering - see the next page for more information on cycle-and-soak watering.
- Restaurants may not serve water to customers unless specifically requested.



Remember, the following rules apply at all times:

- Leaks and sprinklers must be fixed in a timely manner.
- Water may not run off your property.
- Water may not be used to wash down hard surfaces.
- You must use an automatic shut-off nozzle when washing your car. Call us at (951) 736-2234 to request a free nozzle!

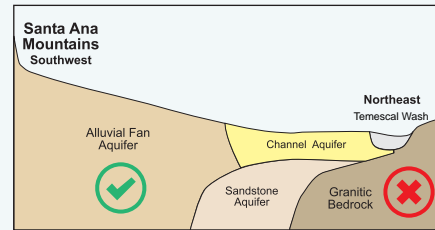


Oak Street Stormwater Retention Basin

Planning for Groundwater Recharge

The City has been actively working on plans to capture more rainwater from storm events to recharge our groundwater aquifer; a process known as "groundwater recharge." We recognize that using storm water for recharge is a great long-term tool to increase the reliability of our water supply, as imported water sources are subject to many factors beyond our control, especially cost. Groundwater recharge takes time and careful planning in order to get the most "bang for our buck," especially in developed areas like Corona.

The City is working on large-scale groundwater recharge, but it must be in the right place to be cost-effective. Many areas of Corona are unsuitable for recharge because of geology and location. For example, the alluvial fan formed in North Corona eons ago has the best potential for groundwater recharge. This area is bound by the Temescal Wash and runs from the Prado Dam to Magnolia Avenue. However, many areas in Corona are unsuitable for any sort of recharge. For instance, the McKinley area



is granite and parts of South Corona and Eagle Glen are clay. Water won't soak through granite and water soaks into clay very slowly.

Groundwater recharge is not a quick process. If we were to percolate water today into the Oak Street Stormwater Retention Basin located along Chase between Oak and Mangular, it would take seven years to filter down to our groundwater basin.

DWP has partnered with Western Municipal Water District and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to prepare a Recharge Master Plan for the Temescal groundwater basin. Expected to be completed by June 2012, the Plan will explore the potential for recharge within the City; including appropriate sites for recharge and estimated volume of water available for recharge.

How can you help? Remember, we all need to use water efficiently. It's a good practice to keep an eye on the weather report and remember to turn off your sprinklers when rain is predicted and leave them off for several days following a rain event.

HELP! My Sprinklers Won't Turn Off!

Has this ever happened to you? You walk out in the morning to get the paper and the sprinklers appear to have been running all night; you go to the sprinkler controller and turn it to "Off" with no luck. Nothing is more frustrating than sprinklers that seem to be haywire! **What you're experiencing is a "stuck valve."**

If you have an automatic sprinkler timer, here's how it works:

- The sprinkler controller is "the brain" of the system. It takes information and sends it to the valves through wires; similar to the way our brains send signals to our bodies through nerves.
- When the valve receives a signal from the controller it opens, allowing water to flow through the valve to the sprinklers.
- When the timer is done watering that station, it sends a signal to the valve to close.

Sometimes valves get "stuck" in the open position. Water continues to flow to the sprinklers no matter what the timer says. When this happens, the best thing to do is turn off the water to the irrigation system at your irrigation shut-off valve (if you have one). Look for your irrigation shut-off valve by the

Typical Shut-Off Valve



street in a green plastic box or up by your house. If you don't have an irrigation shut-off valve, you will need to turn off the water at the meter. Be sure to shut the water off on your side of the meter; this will be the valve that is closest to your house and farthest from the street. Remember to use caution when using your valves, particularly if they look old or worn out.

Sometimes turning off the water will force the valve to close; leave the water off for a few minutes and turn it on again. If the sprinklers don't start up immediately the valve has closed. The best thing to do then is turn your irrigation timer to "Off" until you can have the valve repaired or replaced. **Do not unplug your controller!** Since the valves are no longer listening to the controller, unplugging it won't solve the problem and may cause you more headaches. You may lose all your settings and the timer may default to factory settings.



Typical Irrigation Valve

Unfortunately, turning the water off doesn't always close the valve. If you turn the water back on and the sprinklers start running again, you may have to leave the water off until the valve can be repaired or replaced. If you have questions please feel free to contact our Water Resources group at (951) 736-2234, or talk to your landscaper. You can also visit our landscape partners to learn more about irrigation valves and common irrigation problems. A list of our landscape partners is available at www.discovercorona.com/dwp/conservation. Once you've made a repair, be sure to fill out a Variance Form to request a one-time water budget adjustment. Variance Forms are available by calling (951) 736-2321 or online at www.discovercorona.com/tieredrates.

Cycle-and-Soak

"Cycle-and-soak" is a great method for efficient watering in Corona. The soil in Corona can be very hard which makes it difficult for water to soak in deep. That's why we use the cycle-and-soak method. What is cycle-and-soak? It's easy! First you run the sprinklers through a cycle, then you let the water soak into the soil, then you run through the cycle again. For example, if you have four stations on your timer you could run them like this: Start at 5:00 a.m., run each station for 5 minutes, ending at 5:20 a.m., let the water soak in until 6:00 a.m. and start the cycle again.

Watering in increments gives the soil time to soak up water. Once the ground has absorbed water from the first round of watering, water again about an hour later. The moist soil allows water to travel even deeper, creating a healthier lawn with a deep root zone. If you water too long at one time, the ground reaches a saturation point and water flows into the gutter. Think of the soil like a cup. It only holds so much water at one time; if you try to add more it just runs off. The same is true of soil! Once the soil is saturated, it can't hold any more water which means that any water added after that point will run off. Your grass isn't getting anything from that water but you're still paying for it! Set your sprinklers to a cycle-and-soak schedule to eliminate wasted money and water. For assistance setting your timer with this method, please call (951) 736-2234 to schedule a free landscape check-up.

