

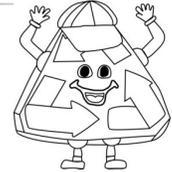
City of Highland

Weekly Report



July 30, 2015

Repete's Wisdom of the Week



Tips For Watering Your Garden During The Drought

California and other states are seeing unprecedented droughts. Water conservation efforts are in full swing, but how will that affect your summer garden? Watering your garden while there is a drought going on can be difficult. The soil can become very dry, and that may make it difficult for water to get to where it needs to go in your garden if you aren't watering properly. Of course one of the best options is to choose plants that are native to your area as they will grow the best, but that doesn't always offer a nice variety of options when it comes to vegetable gardens. If you want to grow your garden as planned while conserving water, there are a few things you can do to help your garden thrive during the drought.

Make (or Buy) Soaker Hoses — Soaker hoses are the best way to go if you would like to be sure that the water you are using is getting *into* the soil and to your plants' roots rather than running off. There are many varieties that can be bought in the store as well as many ways to make one yourself. You can use an old hose by poking holes every six inches and making sure that something is on the end that will block the water flow. This design will allow the water to drip out evenly. Be sure to not make the holes too large, and when the water is turned on, make sure it's on a low setting so you allow it to drip out rather than spray out of the holes.

Collect Rain Water — Collecting rain water is a great way to not only respect the earth and reuse the water it already gives us, but also an excellent option for gaining access to water during droughts. Keep a few garbage cans or other large clean barrels somewhere in your yard, especially at the ends of the gutters. These barrels will collect water when it does rain. If you live in an area where it's common to have droughts in early summer, be sure to put those barrels out as soon as spring starts to begin collecting water. Of course this water will not be very clean, especially if it's being run through gutters, so it will not work for drinking or cleaning, but it will work perfect in your garden during a drought.

Re-Purpose Wasted Kitchen Water — You may find that while making dinner or doing dishes, you let the water run for a period of time while waiting for it to get hot. Why not utilize this water that is just going down the drain? Using sink basins, you can collect this water and add it to your rain barrels outside. You can also use water that was used for boiling things as it will not hurt the plants at all. Utilize any water that you may be wasting by collecting it. You could even place bins in your shower to collect water that would otherwise go down the drain.

Mulch the Soil — To help your soil retain the water you are able to feed it, it's important to mulch in as many areas as possible. Mulch will help the soil retain more water rather than allowing the sun to dry it out. You can use a variety of materials as mulch, including straw, newspaper, grass clippings, burlap bags and more. When done right, mulch can minimize weed growth and increase your yield too! For more home and gardening tips visit: www.earth911.com

ADMINISTRATION

Emergency Preparedness - Earthquakes. One of the most frightening and destructive phenomena of nature is a severe earthquake and its terrible after effects. An earthquake is the sudden, rapid shaking of the earth, caused by the breaking and shifting of subterranean rock as it releases strain that has accumulated over a long time.

For hundreds of millions of years, the forces of plate tectonics have shaped the earth, as the huge plates that form the earth's surface slowly move over, under and past each other. Sometimes, the movement is gradual. At other times, the plates are locked together, unable to release accumulated energy. When the accumulated energy grows strong enough, the plates break free. If the earthquake occurs in a populated area, it may cause many deaths and injuries and extensive property damage.

The 2011 East Coast earthquake illustrated the fact that it is impossible to predict when or where an earthquake will occur, so it is important that you and your family are prepared ahead of time.



The following are things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your property in the event of an earthquake:

- To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communication plan
- Fasten shelves securely to walls
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china in low, closed cabinets with latches
- Fasten heavy items such as pictures and mirrors securely to walls and away from beds, couches and anywhere people sit
- Brace overhead light fixtures and top heavy objects
- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections. These are potential fire risks. Get appropriate professional help. Do not work with gas or electrical lines yourself
- Install flexible pipe fittings to avoid gas or water leaks. Flexible fittings are more resistant to breakage
- Secure your water heater, refrigerator, furnace and gas appliances by strapping them to the wall studs and bolting to the floor. If recommended by your gas company, have an automatic gas shut-off valve installed that is triggered by strong vibrations.
- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations. Get expert advice if there are signs of structural defects
- Be sure the residence is firmly anchored to its foundation
- Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products securely in closed cabinets with latches and on bottom shelves
- Locate safe spots in each room under a sturdy table or against an inside wall. Reinforce this information by moving to these places during each drill
- Hold earthquake drills with your family members: Drop, cover and hold on



For more information about disaster preparedness, please visit www.ready.gov

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

HIGHLAND IMPROVEMENT TEAM



The Highland Improvement Team will take a summer hiatus during the months of July and August. Our next scheduled HIT cleanup will be on Saturday, September 19th from 8:00am to 12:00pm (noon).

The Highland Improvement Team needs VOLUNTEERS to join our team. Volunteers of all ages are welcome! Everyone and anyone is always invited to join us...come out and support the Highland Improvement Team and see what we are all about! If you would like to do your part to beautify the community of Highland...Volunteer with the Highland Improvement Team!

Contact Volunteer Services for more information at 909-864-6861 extension 203.



BLOOD DRIVE

Highland hosted its first "Guns & Hoses" blood drive this past Monday. This friendly competition between our local Fire and Police departments proved to be a HUGE success! Our last blood drive was very low, bringing in only a little over 20 donations. We are happy to report that the drive this past Monday brought in 63 potential donors! We were able to collect 52 blood donations with only 5 deferrals. This is double our goal set by LifeStream.

Final count: Police 34, Fire 29! It was neck and neck all day. Thank you to all that came out and supported this fun community competition and for donating much needed blood for our community.

Remember, unlike other blood banks, LifeStream is proud to say that all blood collected at our drive this past week will be used in Highland and surrounding communities. Blood is not sent outside of our local region. LifeStream is the only blood bank contracted to supply blood to our local hospitals.

Please contact Volunteer Services if you would like to sign up to help with the committee or to become a donor. Volunteer Services can be reached at 909-864-6861 ext. 203 for more information.

FINANCE

Commercial Business License Applications

There was one new commercial Business license for the week of 7/27/15 to 7/30/15— I love Sushi located at 7750 Palm Avenue, Highland CA.

Calendar of Events

August 4, 2015

6pm -Planning Commission,
Donahue Council Chambers

August 6, 2015

5pm - Historic and Cultural Preservation Board , Donahue Council Chambers

August 11, 2015

6pm - City Council Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

August 12, 2015

3pm— Street Naming Committee ,
Donahue Council Chambers

August 13, 2015

5pm - Community Trails
Committee, Donahue Council
Chambers

August 18, 2015

6pm - Planning Commission,
Donahue Council Chambers

August 25, 2015

6pm - City Council Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

September 1, 2015

6pm- Planning Commission,
Donahue Council Chambers

September 8, 2015

6pm—City Council Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

September 10, 2015

5pm - Community Trails
Committee, Donahue Council
Chambers

September 15, 2015

6pm - Planning Commission,
Donahue Council Chambers

September 22, 2015

6pm - City Council Meeting ,
Donahue Council Chambers



Summer

Created by: Elena Rodrigues