

## IRRIGATION EVALUATION

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# Want to Save Money and a Precious Resource?

## A free evaluation of your outdoor water system will help you save **WATER!**

The Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD) provides free help to property owners who are interested in conserving their natural resources. Farmers, homeowners, and businesses of the greater Riverside area may sign up for free irrigation evaluations or other resource information. Evaluations are provided for all types of landscapes and agriculture that utilizes any type of irrigation system.



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The RCRCD's Irrigation Water Management (IWM) Mobile Lab auditor evaluates irrigated sites with operational systems. Irrigation systems are tested for uniformity and efficiency of water delivery. Soils are tested for nutrients.

An irrigation auditor analyses system effectiveness, looking for problems, such as uneven water distribution. The auditor considers site conditions including:

- ◆ plant water requirements
- ◆ timing of irrigation
- ◆ weather data
- ◆ maintenance
- ◆ soil type and micro nutrients.

## Water-saving Recommendations

The land user is provided a final report which explains maintenance needs and recommends potential improvements that could increase irrigation efficiency and save money.



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# Does your system need a check-up?

## Is water reaching the intended plants?

- ◆ If applied too broadly, water is wasted on adjacent surfaces, such as sidewalks, streets, or parking lots. Over spray may be the result of incorrect spray adjustment or arc selection.
- ◆ If applied too deeply, water moves below the root zone.
- ◆ If applied too quickly, water may runoff the surface before it can infiltrate into the soil. Runoff often causes erosion, which creates sediment, a pollutant to local waterways.



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## Is water applied evenly and uniformly?

- ◆ Inefficient water use is often the result of leaky, clogged, or worn components or incorrectly installed pipes and sprinklers. Well-designed systems become less effective when mismatched replacement parts are used.
- ◆ Water pressure is measured to determine its affect on sprinkler and emitter output. “Misting” may indicate that pressure is too high, while a doughnut shaped water pattern may mean that pressure is too low.



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**For more information or to request an evaluation, please contact:** Jose Iniguez 951-683-7691 (ext. 208) [iniguez@rcrcd.org](mailto:iniguez@rcrcd.org) or [russell@rcrcd.org](mailto:russell@rcrcd.org)



Our staff is certified through the Irrigation Association to be water conservation managers and irrigation auditors.



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