



**Daylight Savings Time
ends on
Sunday, November 4th**

**Adjust your
irrigation times!**

As the days get shorter, so should the irrigation times for your landscape. Even if we don't get rain in the fall, less light means your landscape needs less water. When storms become frequent, turn off your irrigation completely.

Check to see if all your sprinkler heads are all functioning when the system is on, and check for damp spots in your yard when it's off, as this can indicate a leak. Clear debris from your gutters and downspouts to prevent overflow and keep the water draining properly. Put a diverter on the end of your downspout so water accumulates in your yard and percolates into the soil rather than going to the storm drains.

Compost

A layer of compost protects plants and enriches soil, as well as reducing the amount of water your garden needs during the fall. The compost you applied during the summer months has likely decomposed, so fall is the time to apply more.

**Plant Native
Californian Plants**

Fall is a great time to plant native Californian plants. The winter rains will help them get established by next summer.

*"We forget that the water cycle
and the life cycle are one." »
Jacques Cousteau*

Keeping Our Local Groundwater Basin Sustainable

In September 2014, the governor signed a series of bills passed by the Legislature requiring development of plans to manage the groundwater basins under the state to avoid "undesirable results."

The move was in response to excessive pumping during the drought that caused a decline in water tables and intrusion of salt water into coastal aquifers.

Undesirable results are as follows:

- Chronic lowering of groundwater levels
- Significant/unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage
- Seawater intrusion (not applicable here)
- Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality
- Land subsidence that substantially interferes with land uses
- Depletions of connected surface water with impacts on beneficial uses

The Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Bautista basins have been designated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as medium priority groundwater basins, recognizing that they are important sources of water supply, have been well-managed, and are not critically over-drafted. For medium-priority basins such as these, Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) must be completed by 2022 and demonstrate sustainability by 2042.

The GSP will build on existing management:

- Management of local groundwater
- Development of local surface water supplies
- Importation of Central Valley Project water
- Water recycling and water conservation
- Monitoring
- Collaboration with local agencies
- Annual Groundwater Reports

The San Benito County Water District has assembled a Technical Advisory Committee to assist the District in their development of the GSP. The committee is comprised of city and county representatives, growers, land use experts, local water agency representatives and a representative from the Farm Bureau. The District will also be holding public workshops this fall to get input from the community at-large. For more information on the Sustainable Groundwater Act and to register to receive updates on this process go to the San Benito County Water District website at: www.sbcwd.com

Everyone who uses groundwater; which includes all residents in San Benito County, should recognize the vast importance of basin sustainability for today, and for our children, their children, and the generations beyond.

**Water Resources Association
San Benito County
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Representing the City of Hollister, the City of San Juan Bautista, Sunnyslope County Water District, and San Benito County Water District.

WRASBC FREE Services & Rebates:



Turf Removal Rebate

LOCAL FUNDING DEPLETED FOR
TURF REMOVAL REBATE
STATE FUNDING IS AVAILABLE. GO TO:
SAVEOURWATERREBATES.COM

Landscape Hardware Rebates

The Water Resources Association has rebates on hose timers, rain sensors and MP Rotator irrigation nozzles and sprinkler bodies with pressure regulators. 50% rebate (up to \$100) on qualifying products.



Free Water Wise Landscape Plans

The Water Resources Association has FREE water wise landscape plans. Three different garden design concepts (\$500 value). Installing a water wise garden will save water and money, plus they require less maintenance time.

Home Water Survey (Our most popular service!)

The Survey includes: irrigation check, suggested watering schedule, **leak check**, showerheads and faucet aerators, high-quality hose nozzle, water softener assistance

Water Softener Assistance and Rebate Program

The water quality has improved dramatically in the Hollister Urban Area since October 2017. Water softeners are no longer needed! Rebates are available for those customers transitioning to an offsite regeneration service or demolishing their self-regulating water softener that uses salt or potassium. Rebates: \$250-\$300.



Toilet Program (Free Toilets or Rebates)

Customers that have toilets that are 1992 or older qualify. These older toilets use from 3.5—7 gallons of water for each flush. New toilets flush from 1.28—1.6 gallons per flush. The Water Resources Association has free toilets or a \$75 rebate is available when you purchase your own.



Green Business Certification:

The WRASBC is working together with the San Benito County Chamber of Commerce, San Benito County Integrated Waste Management and PG&E to assist, recognize and promote businesses and government agencies that volunteer to operate in a more environmentally responsible way.

Additional Programs:

A Water Conservation Specialist is available to give presentations at schools, Service Clubs & local community organizations. Learn about the Water Cycle, our local water supply and water issues locally / state-wide. Fieldtrips to the reclamation plant and water treatment plant can also be arranged.

- **Special Rules & Conditions apply, call for details. Rebates are subject to available funds**

San Benito County Fair & Video Contest

The San Benito County Fair is from Thursday, October 4th to Sunday, October 7th 2018 at the Bolado Park.

Come by our booth in the Pavilion to learn about our programs and rebates to assist you in using water efficiently. Water Conservation is a way of life in San Benito County. Are you doing your best to conserve this precious resource?

We will also be unveiling the guidelines for the WRASBC 2019 Video Contest. We are looking for high school and college students who live in San Benito County to make a water conservation video. Inspire others to save water by making a short news-cast, skit, animation, commercial or even a music video. The winning films will earn fabulous prizes. 1st place prize is a \$1,000, 2nd place \$500 and 3rd place \$300. Entries are due by March 4, 2019. The winning videos and runner-ups will be shown at a movie theater in Hollister for an Oscar night type awards ceremony during May 2019, which is Water Awareness Month