

CONSERVATION CORNER



WE'VE HAD RAIN AND COOLER WEATHER, SO IS THE DROUGHT OVER? NOT AT ALL!

Throughout the months of November & December we have enjoyed a significant drop in temperatures and have seen some rain! This is good news in regards to our decade long drought, but by no means does this signal an end to the drought or the risk of running out of water. In fact, it will take us a combination of 2-5 years with higher snowpack, lower temperatures, higher rainfall, and less groundwater pumping, to bring our supplies to an average level. Luckily, we are forecasted to receive higher rainfall, unfortunately this will only help a bit. For a little perspective, our region is estimated to need over 300% of an average rainfall year to get back to average precipitation levels. The main reservoirs throughout the State of California are between 5%-50% of their historical average and all are significantly less than 30% of capacity. La Verne has always been an environmentally responsible community, as demonstrated by cooperation in reducing water consumption through droughts in the past. This drought has been no exception; our community achieved between 27-36% reductions in consumption from 2013 levels between May-October of this year. Unfortunately, complacency set in during the cooler month of November, where we only saved 9%, far below our state mandate of 32%. Remember that we're not out of the drought yet and probably won't be for some time. Please continue to save water as you did throughout the summer, we know we can do it!

CITY OF LA VERNE TURF REMOVAL AND WASTE MANAGEMENT BAGSTER REBATE PROGRAM REMINDER

Going into the rainy season is the perfect time to consider removing your lawn and planting a drought tolerant garden instead. The City of La Verne is still offering \$1.50 per square foot for turf removal. The program has a maximum rebate of \$2,000 per site. A \$35 rebate for using a Waste Management Bagster to help reduce the cost of a turf removal conversion is also available. Dumping costs are the responsibility of the customer. Please visit the water conservation rebate section of the website at <http://www.ci.la-verne.ca.us/index.php/services/environmental-programs/water-conservation-new/rebate-information> for more details.

CALIFORNIA FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE TRAINING

Please join us for a FREE waterwise gardening class to learn how to use a holistic approach to gardening, build a living soil sponge, rethink your site, putting the right plant in the right place, using rainwater as a resource and managing irrigation in your yard. We will be awarding raffle prizes and enjoying breakfast together at Three Valleys Municipal Water District on January 16th 2016 from 8:30am-11:30am. Please RSVP to cdechaine@tvmwd.com or by calling 909-621-5568. Hope to see you there!

