Water Conservation at UC Irvine
Campus Irrigation and Recycled Water Use
Help Us Via "Text to Conserve"

We are acutely aware of the severe drought in California. Our campus has long been a leader in wise water use and conservation and we are committed to collaborating with the state and local communities to achieve short-term, emergency water use reduction and long-term water use efficiency in all aspects of operation and maintenance of the campus.

For more than 40 years, nearly all the water used to irrigate the main campus has been recycled water provided by the Irvine Ranch Water District. For normal control of irrigation, the campus uses a central control system that schedules irrigation based on evapotranspiration. This system enables wise water use by matching operation times to area-specific climate and water needs.

Recently, we reduced overall sprinkler run times by 30 percent. While this may result in some stress on our more sensitive plantings, it will result in a significant reduction in recycled water use by the campus.

In concert with feedback received from our campus community, we are increasing our regular testing and adjusting of sprinkler systems to reduce or eliminate runoff during operation.

Facilities Management is introducing more landscaping that features California native plants and uses the most efficient irrigation technology available (including drip irrigation in some areas). Our native plants are beautiful, perfectly adapted to our climate, and support the many native species of birds and insects so important to fully experiencing a sense of place. Be sure to look for the newest
and best in many new planting projects here at UCI.

While the campus is large and uses millions of gallons of recycled water, everyone can do their part in conserving water during this time of extraordinary drought.

Here is what you can do to help us conserve and reduce water use on campus:

- We encourage faculty, staff and students to report any water conservation concerns they may have by using "Text to Conserve." Text water@uci.edu and report the location of broken sprinklers, over-watering issues, and even under-watered areas on campus. Send photos if possible.
- Report any plumbing drips, leaks, excessive flushing, and failed equipment to the Facilities Management Service Desk at (949) 824-5444.

West Nile Virus Update

As you may know, the West Nile Virus is more prevalent in Orange County this year, with 53 cases and two confirmed deaths, according to an Aug. 28 report in the Los Angeles Times. West Nile is a mosquito-borne virus that has been found around the world and first hit the U.S. in 1999 in New York.

The large majority of people infected with the virus have mild or no symptoms. However, in rare cases the West Nile Virus can be more serious. To keep our campus safe, Environmental Health & Safety, Facilities Management, and the School of Biological Sciences are in constant contact with Orange County Vector Control. This group monitors mosquito counts in the San Joaquin Marsh on a weekly basis. Several years ago EH&S and FM hired a company that surveys our campus regularly to eliminate mosquito breeding locations such as standing water.

The best way to prevent the West Nile Virus infection is to avoid being bitten by mosquitos. It's recommended that you:

- Eliminate the presence of all stagnant water on your property.
- Make sure that your window and door screens are in good condition.
- Limit door activity at dawn and dusk.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and shoes when outdoors.
- Use insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of eucalyptus, or products containing IR3535.

For more information, visit the Orange County Vector Control District's website at www.ocvcd.org or Environmental Health & Safety's website at http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/safety/westnile.html

Recycling Update

Streamlining Ring Mall Bins
Facilities Management is simplifying its recycling bin system on campus to make it easier for you to participate in UCI's award-winning Zero Waste program. The new system will feature two, rather than three bins. Those formerly used to collect bottles and cans will be removed. Come October, you will see:

- 1 bin for landfill waste such as, used tissue and paper towels, uneaten food products, soiled food containers, and drinking cups containing liquid.
- 1 bin for commingled, recyclable waste such as bottles, cans, paper, cardboard and metal

The campus is even "recycling" the bins that will be decommissioned. They are being donated to the UCI Medical Center to help them organize a start up recycling program of their own.

**Estimating Your Job: Help Us Better Serve You**

Whether you're remodeling, installing new equipment, or both, the Facilities Management Trades Coordination Estimator is available to assist you with a timely and market-based estimate for your job. You and your organization can help us better serve you by thinking through exactly what it is you're wanting to have done before we schedule your on-site visit with the estimator. Depending on the nature of your job, it could involve carpenters, electricians, plumbers, movers, painters, and the sign and lock shops.
When you call to request a quote, you will be provided with a number of questions (view example here) you will need to answer before the walk-through. If you're installing new equipment, please provide all specifications for electrical, plumbing, etc. You can help by providing a drawing of the work you want done --adding a door or moving or installing cabinets, for example. No need to draw to scale! Another approach is to take photos of the existing space and draw your changes on the printouts. Trades Coordination does not provide design services, but can refer you to the Project Management group, which charges a small fee for this service. Most estimates for trade's coordination are free for jobs over $1,000.

The more we know about your job the more accurate your quote will be, and it is important that you or an informed representative of you organization be available for the scheduled walk-through. Initial follow-up requests involving "simple" amendments to the original quote are provided for free. Additional changes will result in delays and possible charges.


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**UC Irvine Receives Awards at the 2014 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference**

UCI earned two awards at the 2014 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference. Shown above with these awards are Anne Krieghoff, Facilities Management Sustainability Manager, and Wendell Brase, Vice Chancellor of Administrative and Business Services and Co-Chair of UC President Janet Napolitano's Global Climate Leadership Council.

Anne accepted the Innovative Waste Reduction Award for UCI's continued improvement in its landfill waste diversion from large-scale events. Starting out with a diversion rate of less than 5 percent, the campus's Zero Waste events now divert an impressive 90 percent of waste from landfills. At such events, trash receptacles are accompanied by recycling and composting bins. Students and volunteers stand next to the bins to educate participants about which bin their waste should go in.

Wendell Brase won the Sustainability Champion Award for his tireless efforts in promoting sustainability at UCI and across the UC system both nationally and internationally. This was the only individual award given at the conference.

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**Campus Improvement Projects**
Aged heating, ventilation and air conditioning units in UCI's Law and Education buildings were recently replaced to improve occupant comfort and reduce building energy use.

Problem with Gnats?

Facilities Management received numerous calls this summer regarding gnats, tiny flying insects that swarm in and around trash, both in and outside of campus buildings. These pests are drawn to food waste. The best way to get rid of gnats is to improve sanitation and remove the source. Below are some ways that we can work together to prevent and reduce these little pests:

- Avoid leaving food waste in office trash cans or in office areas
- FM has posted the trash removal schedule online for:
  - Office trash (removed twice a month)
  - Kitchen trash (removed twice a week)
- Trash cans that are soiled or have stains will be cleaned monthly
- Additional trash liners can be requested at no additional charge if occupants need to remove their trash from the building into the exterior receptacles
- More frequent trash removal is available on a recharge basis.

Please contact the Facilities Management Service Desk at (949) 824-5444 to request additional trash liners or trash removal services.
Need to know the hours of operation for different Facilities Management units? Check out our hours listed on our [webpage](#).

**Requesting a Facilities Management Service**

- You can contact one of our Customer Service Representatives (pictured above) at the Service Desk (949) 824-5444 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or
- Submit an online request (pictured below) to the [Facilities Self-Service Work Order Request System](#) (UCnetID is required).

In the event of an after-hours emergency, please call the Service Desk at (949) 824-5444 or Central Plant at (949) 824-5520.

The [Facilities Management Maintenance Funding Guide](http://www.fm.uci.edu/maintenance_funding_guide.pdf) can help answer questions regarding services we provide. This list differentiates between services that are centrally funded (paid for by state funds) for state-supported space and those services that are charged to the requesting unit. This list also provides a prioritization of services to help assist you in managing expectations for the work we provide. The Facilities Management Maintenance Funding Guide can be found at [http://www.fm.uci.edu/maintenance_funding_guide.pdf](http://www.fm.uci.edu/maintenance_funding_guide.pdf)