



# SANTA CLARITA VALLEY LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS CONSERVATION CHECKLIST

More than 70 percent of the Santa Clarita Valley's (valley) water use is used for gardening purposes. By making changes to daily operations, landscapers can help ensure a reliable water source in coming years.

The Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) is constantly working to help educate valley landscape contractors on ways to reduce water waste. Make a commitment to water conservation today by following the checklist below.



- Use mulch as often as possible. Adding a two-inch layer of mulch to plant beds will reduce the temperature of soil and dramatically reduce evaporation, as well as improve weed and erosion control.

- Educate your clients on the benefits of installing rotating sprinkler heads and smart sprinkler controllers.

- Set your clients sprinkler system to run so that approximately one-half inch of water is applied uniformly. Don't forget to adjust irrigation timers with the seasons. An average spray irrigation system needs only to run three times per week in the summer and once per week in the winter to keep grass healthy.



- During each visit check to make sure all sprinklers are working properly and are aimed correctly. If there is any water run off, sprinkler timers should be adjusted.

- Inform clients about the benefits of incorporating drought-tolerant plants in their yards and grouping plants with similar water demands together.



- Become an expert on water-saving alternatives by taking classes and getting involved with professional landscaping organizations. There are countless ways to obtain your own water conservation education. CLWA offers a Landscape Education class on the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. – noon with topics ranging from "Soils and Fertilizers" to "SCV Trees." By becoming the expert in your local area.