Turf Replacement and Agricultural Efficiency Program

IRWM RAC Meeting
April 2, 2014

Michele Shumate
Water Resources Specialist

- Who we are and what we do
- City of San Diego and Water Authority Turf Replacement (Rebate) Programs
- Water Authority Agricultural Efficiency Program

What is the Water Authority?
- Wholesale water agency created by State Legislature in 1944
  - 24 member agencies
  - 35-member board of directors
  - Serves 3.1 million people and region’s $191 billion economy
- Mission is to provide safe and reliable water supply to member agencies
- Service area
  - 950,000 acres
  - 97% of county’s population

Turf Replacement Program - City of San Diego
- City of San Diego launched program September 2010
- Included rebates for:
  - Turf replacement – issued $500,000 in rebates
  - Micro-irrigation – issued $70,000 in rebates
  - Smart Controllers – issued $90,000 in rebates

Turf Replacement Program - Water Authority
- Water Authority launched program December 2012 using USBR funds; started using IRWM Prop. 50 funds September 2013.
- Issued over $180,000 in rebates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Rebates</th>
<th># Resid. Rebates</th>
<th># CII Rebates</th>
<th>Total # Rebates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Totals</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>97</td>
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SF: Square foot
Turf Replacement Square Footage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Project Area Limits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of San Diego</td>
<td>• Resid: 400* - 2,400 sq. ft. ($1.25/SF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• CII: 1,000 - 6,000 sq. ft. ($1.50/SF)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Authority</td>
<td>• Resid: 400 - 2,000 sq. ft. ($1.50/SF)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• CII: 1,000 - 6,000 sq. ft. ($1.50/SF)</td>
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* Front yard lawns with less than 400 sq. ft. are eligible if 100% of turf is replaced.
SF: Square foot

Program Eligibility

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
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<tr>
<td>City of San Diego / Water Authority</td>
<td>• Funding on first-come, first-served basis.</td>
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<td>• Property must be within Water Authority and City service area.</td>
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<td>• Converted areas must have existing live turf and operational, in-ground irrigation system.</td>
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<td>• Projects using artificial turf or invasive plants are not eligible.</td>
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City of San Diego Participant

Before

After

Water Authority Participant

Before

After
Agricultural water use efficiency audits
Agricultural assessment
Agricultural research project

1. Supports the $5.1 billion annual value to San Diego’s economy
2. Goals:
   a. Improve system efficiencies and crop yield
   b. Identify water savings potential
   c. Provide site water budgets
3. 208 audits were grant-funded
4. Provides farmer a system evaluation report

Agricultural Assessment

- Identifies amount of land dedicated to agriculture
- Identifies future water demands for agriculture
- Results provided in the Water Authority’s Urban Water Management Plan

Agricultural Research Project

- Evaluates the optimal treatment level and irrigation practices that are required to obtain the most efficient use of recycled water on avocados
- Partners: Water Authority, Mission Resource Conservation District, San Diego Farm Bureau, City of Escondido, Escondido Growers for Agricultural Preservation
- Goal: Convert avocado groves from using treated water to recycled water

Stay in Touch with the Water Authority

Video & Slide Sharing
Mobile App
Social Media

Thank you!

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