

We Are Always
Working to
Keep You Safe
from Flooding

Meet the Water Specialist Keeping Sacramento Leak-Free



Lance Eicher

Lance Eicher has plenty of tips to share about how residents can reduce water use. It is a big part of his job as a water conversation specialist and lead of our Leak-Free Sacramento program.

The program assists eligible low-income and single family residential homeowners make water efficient repairs for free.

The goals are to promote the

benefits of fixing leaks, improve water and energy efficiency and to help those in need with their water and energy costs.

"It is an amazing program and I am so proud of our results," Eicher said. "We have been able to save a tremendous amount of water for very little cost. At the same time, we are helping residents in need who would otherwise have no means to do these kinds of repairs on their own."

Over the past year, Eicher has educated residents to reduce water use and detect leaks through virtual workshops and education events. He promotes our water conservation rebates and pointed out that the smart irrigation controller rebate is the easiest—and most underused.

"Converting to a smart controller is the biggest bang for your buck," he said. "You set it and forget it and can save 25 to 35 percent on irrigation water costs."

Storm Drainage Spotlight

How much do you know about our storm drainage system? It is made up of pumping stations, pipes, ditches, channels and levees. The aging system needs consistent maintenance and repair to continue protecting the City from flooding.

One major system component is a pump station. Pump stations help move stormwater from pipes to rivers, keeping water off streets and away from residences and businesses. The electrical gear in many is outdated and we need \$12.5M to fund rehabilitating them to ensure they are operational during large rain events.

Storm Drainage by the Numbers

How many pump stations does Sacramento operate?

A. 78 B. 50 C. 105 D. 215

Answer: C

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS



Join us at two free virtual workshops to learn

to water your plants and landscape effectively. Register online at bewatersmart.info/webinars.

How Much Water Does Your Landscape Really Need?

March 25, 2021, Noon to 1 p.m.

Determine how much water you currently use, how to create a water budget, ways to reduce your water use and more!

Drought Tolerant/Mediterranean Climate Gardens

March 31, 2021, Noon to 1 p.m.

Learn the best choice of plants to limit water use while achieving a beautiful garden or landscape year-round.

Water Smarter, Not Longer

Do you know your watering days? The spring watering schedule is in effect as of March 1. Be sure to water wisely and follow the guidelines!



Watering is allowed for:

- ✓ Car washing (with a shut-off nozzle)
- ✓ Drip irrigation system and soaker hoses
- ✓ Edible gardens or potted plants
- ✓ Hand watering
- ✓ New landscapes for 30 days after installation
- ✓ Smart controller systems (with restrictions)

BIG-TIME REBATES FOR BIG WATER SAVINGS

Department of Utilities offers rebates to help residents stay water wise. Check out what's available to reduce the cost of water efficiency upgrades to your home and landscape.

Outdoor Rebates



Smart Controller—Up to \$400

Smart controllers act like a thermostat for your sprinkler system by automatically tailoring your watering schedules to the actual site conditions.

Least used but biggest bang for buck!



Turf Conversion—Up to \$3,000 (\$1.50 per SF)

Replace your thirsty front, back and side lawns with beautiful, low-water-use plants and drought-tolerant landscape.



Irrigation Upgrade—Up to \$400

Prefer to keep your lawn? Upgrade your irrigation system to drip or high-efficiency sprinklers. Save even more by replacing your old irrigation timer.



Rain Barrel—Up to \$150 (\$0.75 per gallon captured, up to 200 gallons)

Install rain barrels and use water more efficiently by storing rainwater/run off to use during dry periods.



Laundry-to-Landscape—Up to \$100

Install a gray water system that routes water collected from your washing machine to a mulch basin for trees and bushes.

Indoor Rebates



High-Efficiency Toilets—Up to \$125

Older toilets are one of the largest water wasters! If yours is a pre-1992 toilet, replace it with a high-efficiency model to save water and money.



High-Efficiency Washing Machine—Up to \$125

High-efficiency clothes washers use about 40 percent less water and 50 percent less energy than conventional machines.

REBATE CHECKLIST

Rebates are only available to City of Sacramento water customers.

- ✓ Property owner or bill-paying tenant with written consent from property owner.
- ✓ Rebates and applications are not retroactive.
- ✓ Certain rebates require a pre-qualification visit and approval from water conservation staff before installation.

Visit SacWaterWise.com to review applications and eligibility requirements before purchasing appliances or equipment.

3rd St. Sewer Upgrade Nears Completion



Despite unique challenges presented in 2020, the 3rd St. Sewer Upgrade Project's expected completion is summer 2021. Contractors have installed a new 42-inch sewer pipeline, sewer manholes and combined sewer service connections and made modifications to existing drain inlets along 3rd Street from U Street north to the Sacramento Valley Station.

The upgrades are critical to fulfilling the vision of a redeveloped Railyards, one of the nation's largest infill development projects. The vibrant mixed-use extension will expand Sacramento's downtown office, retail, tourism, residential and government centers. We understand this type of work is impactful and appreciate the extensive cooperation by area property owners, residents, patrons and businesses.

Questions or want to stay informed? Email us at 3rdSt@CityofSacramento.org or call 916-808-5507 and visit cityofsacramento.org/3rd.

Mr. Leaky's Best Leak Detection Tips

Water leaks and drips can add up to significant amounts of water waste and higher costs on your bill. A leaky faucet at one drip per second can cost you around \$54 a year. Fix-a-Leak Week starts March 15. Check for leaks today!

Water Wise House Call

Want to check for water savings? We're here to help! A water conservation specialist can walk with you through your property to help find ways to save water. Call 311 or (916) 264-5011 to schedule today!



Track Water Use by App

Download **EyeOnWater** to track your water use and get notified about leaks and other water wasting issues. This app and online platform allow you to look for ways to use less water and make informed decisions about water efficiency in your home.

