



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 10, 2014

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Inland Empire Utilities Agency Expands Turf Removal Rebate for Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Customers to Help Save Water

Inland Empire, California- Effective July 1, 2014, Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and its retail member agencies are offering \$3.00 per square foot of turf removed for commercial, institutional, and industrial customers throughout IEUA's service area. This enhanced incentive is being offered in response to Governor Brown's emergency drought declaration and call for reduced water usage.

"The increased financial incentives are being offered to encourage southern Californians to significantly reduce water usage at home and at work during this exceptional drought," said Terry Catlin, IEUA Board President. "Outdoor water use is a major source of waste, with over 65 percent of our region's water being used to irrigate landscaping."

The Turf Removal Rebate Program promotes the removal of high water-consuming turf with the installation of water efficient plants that grow well in the Inland Empire's climate, and high efficiency irrigation technologies such as drip irrigation. During this time of severe drought, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) has doubled their turf removal rebate from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per square-foot and IEUA has added an additional dollar to MWD's incentive, providing a total rebate of \$3.00 per square foot.

To qualify, customers must have grass in the proposed project area, install a new landscape that meets the terms and conditions for their city, comply with all applicable local laws, ordinances and other restrictions, and have never received a rebate for turf removal prior to this application.

For additional information on the rebate program guidelines, qualifications, and the application process, please visit www.socalwatersmart.com. Additional rebate programs are available at www.ieua.org.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 830,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland.

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