

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR CONTROLLER

PART 4

Five steps to a water smart garden



1) **Choose appropriate plants**

Consider CA natives and plants from mediterranean climates that can thrive in our dry climate (~13" in. of rain a year; Sunset Climate Zone 23). Limit grass to recreational areas only.

2) **Group plants** - Site plants with similar water, soil, and light needs together. These are called hydrozones.

3) **Irrigate efficiently** - Use drip irrigation or low-flow rotating nozzles (rebate available!) to deliver water directly to the root zone without the over-spray or runoff typical of conventional spray-head sprinklers. Use the watering index at www.bewaterwise.com.

4) **Water deeply** - Irrigate established plants thoroughly but infrequently to encourage roots to grow downward - shallow roots are susceptible to drought.

5) **Mulch** - A thick layer of mulch (3") preserves soil moisture and slows weed growth. Use organic types, such as bark and mulch.

For up to 50% off *Inland Empire Garden Friendly* plants, visit The Home Depot on October 15, 2011



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For more information: www.ieua.org & www.bewaterwise.com

Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario, and Upland; Cucamonga Valley Water District; Fontana Water Company; Monte Vista Water District; San Antonio Water Company; Chino Basin Water Conservation District; Chino Basin Watermaster; Inland Empire Utilities Agency