



Water Savings Initiatives

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

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Water Conservation Focus Areas

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

- **County-wide Facilities Management**
- **Ordinance 859 Water Efficient Landscaping**
- **Additional Research and Implementation**



Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design

LEED CERTIFICATION

- **Riverside County LEED Certification Policy H-29**

On February 10, 2009, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopted Policy H-29, requiring all new large County buildings to achieve LEED certification. We typically achieve Water Credits for:

- **WEc1 -Reduce potable water consumption for irrigation by 50%**
- **WEc3 - Building water use reduction – 30%**
- **SSc6.1 - Storm Water – Quantity control**
- **SSc6.2 - Storm Water – Quality control**

Our newer buildings already save in excess of 30% in water use.



Indio Law Building

LEED PLATINUM CERTIFICATION

- **Sustainable Landscaping; Drought Tolerant Native Plants**
- **Sub Metering**
- **Energy Star Rated Appliances**
- **Plumbed for future recycled water supply for landscaping irrigation**
- **Low flow fixtures throughout**



Palm Desert Sheriff Station

LEED GOLD CERTIFICATION

- Sustainable Landscaping, Drought Tolerant Native Plants
- Drip Irrigation Systems
- Weather Station to Control Landscape Irrigation
- Low Flow Toilets , Urinals, and Faucets
- Stormwater retention

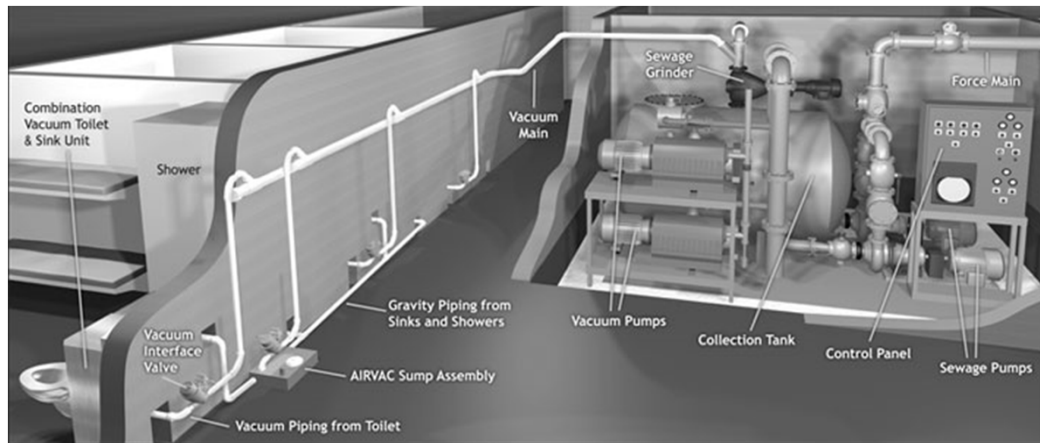


East County Detention Center

EXPECTED LEED SILVER CERTIFICATION UPON COMPLETION

- **East County Detention Center**

- Vacuum plumbing system uses 50% less water than even low flow fixed fixtures
- Potential savings of 380,000 gpd, or 141,500,000 gallons per year



EDA Facilities Management

VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Drip irrigation and plant palette retrofit
- Irrigation-time reduced by 45 percent
- Use of technologically advanced irrigation components, including weather stations
- Use of mulch and decomposed granite to reduce evaporation
- Participation in municipal and district water conservation programs
- Applying for grant opportunities for retrofit



Ordinance 859, Water Efficient Landscaping

Timeline of Updates



Adoption of Ordinance 859
Established water efficient standards for commercial, industrial & multi-family.

Set water budget of 80%

Ordinance 859.1
Amended to include Single Family Residential tract homes

Ordinance 859.2
Reduce water budget from 80% to 70%
Emphasis on recycled water
Soil Management
Smart Controllers

Ordinance 859, Water Efficient Landscaping

Proposed Major Changes

Reduce Annual Water Allowance

- **Current**: Water Budget allows 70% of a given area's Evapotranspiration Rate (ETo)
- **Proposed**: Reduce ETo allowance from 70% to 50%
Water savings on a typical lot: 30,000-40,000 gallons per year per 1,000 sq. ft. turf grass

Ordinance 859, Water Efficient Landscaping

Proposed Major Changes, Cont.

Limit Non-Functional Turf

- **Current**: Natural turf is commonly used in builder installed residential front yards
- **Proposed**: Prohibit use of natural turf in builder installed front yards
 - *Natural turf still allowed in subdivision functional use areas – parks, sports fields, etc.*

Ordinance 859, Water Efficient Landscaping

Proposed Major Changes, Cont.

Add Requirements for Recycled Water

- **CURRENT**: Landscape using recycled water is allowed 100% of water budget
- **PROPOSED**: Reduce allowance from 100% to 70% or as approved by local water district
 - *Further close coordination required with water districts based on individual recycled water supply availability*

Ordinance 859, Water Efficient Landscaping *Proposed Major Changes, Cont.*

No natural turf allowed for new commercial and industrial projects
(except for functional turf use areas)

No natural turf allowed in medians and parkways on public roads

- *The County stopped allowing turf in medians in 2009.*

Other Areas of Study and Implementation

- **County Facility Retrofit**
 - *Retrofit landscaping and fixtures when and where possible for older facilities*
- **Gray Water System Use**
 - *Potential use for outdoor irrigation*
- **Sub-surface Turf Irrigation**
 - *Pilot program at Spring Mountain Ranch in Highgrove*
- **Planning Setbacks**
 - *Consider extending front-yard usable space (porches, patios, etc.) through revised setbacks*
- **Promote Innovation**
 - **Work proactively with industry stakeholders to study long-term water conservation options**



Questions?

Thank you!