

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

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NEW \$75K GRANT TO ASSIST PWD CUSTOMERS WITH LANDSCAPE CONVERSIONS

Palmdale, CA – With the help of a \$75,000 matching grant from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Palmdale Water District (PWD) is encouraging its customers to reduce outdoor water use by converting grass to drought-tolerant landscapes.

Property owners interested in removing their lawns and replacing them with a xeriscape landscape can receive up to \$2,000 in cash rebates by completing PWD's 2020 Water-Wise Landscape Conversion Program (WWLCP).

"We are pleased to have additional funds to help customers who want to save water and save money," Resource and Analytics Supervisor Claudia Bolanos said. "We want customers to take advantage of the program this year while funds are plentiful."

The WWLCP serves as an incentive for cash rebates to assist PWD customers with the costs of converting their front lawns into drought-

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tolerant landscapes.

Creating a water-friendly yard can be as elaborate or as simple as the customer would like. To qualify for the program, customers can use native or drought-tolerant plants, mulch, decomposed granite, rocks, ungrouted stepping stones and permeable hardscape. Artificial turf is popular and is one of the options available for this program.

"Customers who are thinking about removing their lawn or installing artificial turf should call us to see what their options are before starting work," Water- Use Efficiency Specialist Robert Rosati said. "We are happy to help with recommending the best plants, shrubs and trees that do well in the AV. We have homeowners who have created beautiful front yards with drought-tolerant landscaping. PWD is one of only a handful of water agencies that offer this incentive."

Front lawns do not have to be green to qualify. However, customers must complete the application and receive approval from PWD before beginning work on a water-saving landscape. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/2FNl4Hs or call 661-947-4111.

Since 1918, the Palmdale Water District has provided high-quality water at a reasonable cost. We pride ourselves on providing great customer care; advocating for local water issues that help our residents; educating the community on water-use efficiency; and leading our region in researching and implementing emerging technologies that increase operational efficiency. For more information about PWD, visit <u>www.palmdalewater.org</u>.