



Quarterly E-News

Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership Newsletter Summer | 2025

Eco-Friendly Garden Tour Success!

Thanks to our hard-working garden hosts, the 2025 Eco-Friendly Garden Tour was a great success! It featured 19 gardens, including 14 new gardens, and over 3,600 registrations. Some hosts provided garden education and inspiration for as many as 400 visitors. The tour showcased the beauty of sustainable landscaping styles, with a focus on low water use plants, efficient irrigation practices, and rainwater and graywater systems.

Garden Sense, Zero Waste Marin, Home Ground Habitats, Daily Acts, Sonoma County Master Gardeners, California Native Plant Society, and Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency all participated in the tour, providing valuable education and inspiration to participants of the tour.



If you would like to include your garden or know of a garden that would like to participate in the 2026 tour, please email us at savewater@scwa.ca.gov.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Is Your Yard Climate-Ready?

Climate-ready landscapes are designed with climate change in mind. By selecting low-water use plants, implementing rainwater harvesting, and following fire-wise principles, your yard will be better equipped to withstand drought, floods, and fires.



[Click here to learn more](#)

Summer Money Saving Tips!

Looking for ways to lower your water bill this summer? Here are some water and money saving tips:

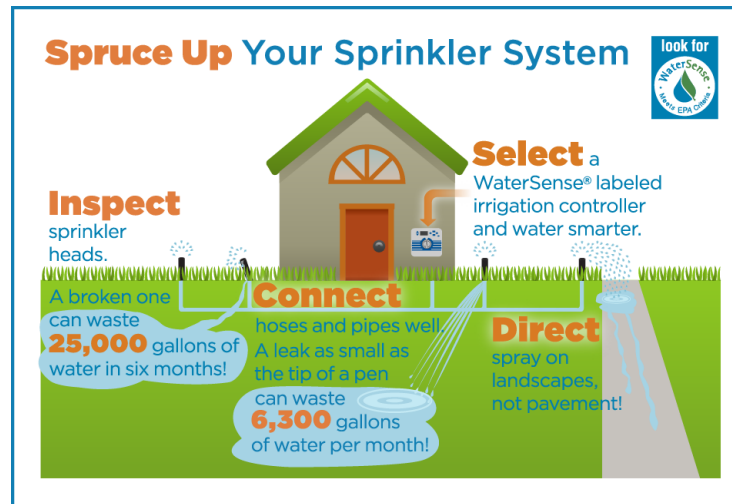
1. Cover your pool. Pool covers can reduce water evaporation by up to 95%! Plus, [there are rebates available](#) if you receive your water from City of Santa Rosa, City of Petaluma, North Marin Water District or Marin Water.
2. Convert your lawn to low water use plants. In summer a 1,000 sq-ft lawn uses 5,000 gallons of water per week. Changing to a low water use landscape reduces your water usage by 70%! [Check with your water provider for rebates](#).
3. Switch to drip irrigation. Drip irrigation is the most efficient way to water your plants by applying water slowly to the root zone. [Check with your water provider for rebates](#).



July is Smart Irrigation Month

Celebrate Smart Irrigation Month by sprucing up your sprinklers for the summer irrigation season!

First, check for leaks or breaks in your irrigation system. Simple repairs can save thousands of gallons of water and save money on your water bill. Set your irrigation controller to the automatic weather adjust mode or enter a customized schedule from our [Irrigation Scheduling Tool](#).



Need help with your irrigation system?

- Download a [free guide](#) to finding and fixing leaks from EPA WaterSense.
- Check with your water provider for a [free Water Smart Home Survey](#).
- Hire a [Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper](#).
- Contact the Master Gardeners for a [free Garden Sense consultation](#).

[Click here to learn more about Smart Irrigation Month!](#)

Upcoming Events:

Free event

Santa Rosa Water's WaterSmart Expo 2025:
Wednesday, June 25, from 5 to 8:30pm at the Wednesday Night Market in Courthouse Square



Join Santa Rosa Water for the free, family-friendly WaterSmart Expo. The Expo will host interactive booths demonstrating the best ways to save water year-round. Come learn how to be WaterSmart this summer!

- Pick up **FREE** water-saving devices



- Ask an expert about sustainable landscaping
- View graywater and rainwater harvesting demonstrations
- Discover native and low-water-use plant displays
- Learn how to check your toilets for leaks
- Register for the WaterSmart Portal to track water use online

This event will take place on Wednesday, June 25, from 5 to 8:30pm at the Wednesday Night Market in Courthouse Square.

[Click here for more information](#)

Bug-Tastic 2025 Marin County Fair:
July 2nd-6th at the Marin County Civic Center

Marin's 2025 County fair will shine a spotlight on bugs, the small, often under-appreciated critters that, among other things, pollinate plants and keep our soil healthy.

Try your hand in this year's special competitive exhibit: bug hotels! Bug hotels make an excellent addition to a wildlife-friendly garden, providing living space for the small creatures who are necessary in a healthy ecosystem. Win \$15 and a ribbon if your entry is judged first place!

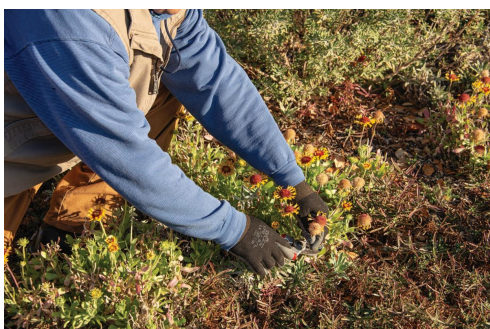
The fair is, as always, committed to sustainability and strives to foster a love of nature in its participants. Marin Water will be a sponsor of the fair this year. Stop by one of their water filling stations for a refreshing drink!



This event will take place July 2nd-6th
at the Marin County Civic Center.

[Click here for more information or to purchase tickets!](#)

Town of Windsor Sustainable Saturdays:
Saturday, August 2nd from 10:30am-12:30pm at the Windsor

**Maintenance of Native Landscapes:**

You've planted your native pollinator garden, or native plant landscape. Now, how do you maintain it? April Owens, Landscape Architect, will explain how landscape maintenance for pollinators differs from traditional landscape.

Join us for an hour long workshop at the Windsor Senior Center followed by a trip to the Michael A. Hall Pollinator Garden for some hands-on gardening.

The event will take place on Saturday, August 2nd from 10:30am-12:30pm at the Windsor Senior Center.

[Click here for more information](#)

Sonoma County Fair - "Hot Dogs and Cool Cats":

August 1st-10th at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds

The Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership will have a low water use garden demonstration in the 2025 Sonoma County Fair's Garden Courtyard. The Garden Courtyard, the fair's gardening hub, is adjacent to the south entrance to the Hall of Flowers. Come visit us to see our demonstration and learn more about low water use gardening.

While you're there, make sure to stop by the booths run by Sonoma County Master Gardeners and the Sonoma County Beekeeper's Association, who will be there to answer questions regarding sustainable gardening practices. Enjoy the fair!



The 2025 Sonoma County Fair will take place August 1st-10th.

[Click here for more information or to purchase tickets!](#)

Free event

Sunday, September 14th from 1-7pm at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts



The Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by tabling at the Fiesta de Independencia at the Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa on Sunday, September 14, 2025! Come by our booth for water saving tips and devices.

This event will take place on Sunday, September 14th from 1-7pm at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts.

[Click here for more information](#)



California American Water - Larkfield · City of Cloverdale · City of Cotati · City of Healdsburg
Marin Water · North Marin Water District · City of Petaluma · City of Rohnert Park · City of Santa Rosa
City of Sonoma · Sonoma Water · Valley of the Moon Water District · Town of Windsor

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