

Day of Science and Service

May 8, 2014

On May 8, 2014, be a scientist for the day! Create a buzz. Get outside, record your observations, share your pictures and tell us what's happening in your community. Join the University of California in a one-day statewide science project and tell us what you see. Your answers will help build a healthier future for you and your community. Explore further at beascientist.ucanr.edu

How are you conserving water?

People, animals and plants all need water to survive, yet we have less than 1% of the earth's water available for our use. And our water supply is diminishing. This year's record California drought conditions mean that now, more than ever, every drop counts.

The average household uses 30% of its water outdoors for landscaping and gardening. Inside the home, the majority is used in the bathroom. Just shortening your daily shower by a minute or two can save as much as 700 gallons of water every month!

Pool your knowledge.

On May 8, 2014, we're asking you to tell us what you are doing to conserve water.

Have you started to take shorter showers? Invested in low-flow faucets and toilets? Let your grass go brown or swapped it for drought-tolerant landscaping? If you're a farmer, do you use new, higher-efficiency irrigation technology?

Visit beascientist.ucanr.edu to learn more about this project and record your observations.

The Facts

- 2013 was the driest year in California's recorded history.
- Californians currently use an average of 196 gallons of water per person per day, including all business operations other than agriculture.
- The average bath uses 40 to 50 gallons of water, whereas a 10-minute shower with a low-flow showerhead uses only 15 gallons.
- A single drippy faucet wastes more than 20 gallons of water per day!
- If everyone in the state reduced her or his water consumption by 10 gallons a month, California would save a total of 4.56 billion gallons every year.





How are you conserving water?

On May 8, 2014, be a scientist for the day!

Maybe you already are conserving water; maybe you aren't. Either way, we want to know about it—and remember, in a survey like this there's no wrong answer. Your answers will help create a clearer picture of what all of us are doing—and can do—to protect our water resources.

Build a more secure future for *you* and *your community* in five simple steps:

STEP 1

On May 8, 2014, go online and visit the map at beascientist.ucanr.edu/water.

STEP 2

Enter your ZIP Code or zoom to your current location on the map.

STEP 3

Click on your location.

STEP 4

Use the online checklist to select all of the ways you are conserving water.

STEP 5

Attach a photo showing how you're conserving water!

Sample web form

Your email (optional):

Age:

- Under 13
- 13-17
- 18-29
- 30-59
- 60 or over
- Decline to state

How are you conserving water in your...

Household

- Shorter showers
- Shutting off water while brushing teeth
- Using water-saving appliances
- Fixing leaky appliances and fixtures
- Other _____

Garden

- Applying mulch
- Using drought-tolerant plants
- Collecting rainwater
- Using compost
- Watering efficiently
- Other _____

Landscape

- Watering less
- Planting drought-tolerant plants
- Aerating lawns
- Capturing and reusing runoff
- Using greywater
- Collecting rainwater
- Watering efficiently
- Other _____

Farm

- Using drip/micro irrigation
- Scheduling irrigations for water efficiency
- Changing to drought-tolerant crops
- Deficit irrigation
- Managing soil
- Other _____
- I'm not conserving water.
- I want to conserve but I don't know how.

