

# The Hydrant

CAPE SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

September 2017

Newsletter No. 131



## SUMMER IS STILL UPON US

And still an important time to conserve!

The Cape used 447,470 gallons of water in July, and we only had .64" of rain in June and July. YTD rain is 30% below normal rainfall.

Last July we all used 399,470. That's 48,035 less gallons of water.

This year we have 110 users who used less than 5,000 gallons this July. Yea Team!

Give yourselves a well-deserved pat on the back!

19 users used more than 5,000 gallons. Your challenge is to monitor your meter and inform guests and landscapers/gardeners of their need to conserve. Many thanks!

Happy Summer on the Cape! We are lucky to live in such natural beauty!



## How Much Water Does a "Drip" Waste?

A slow dripping faucet – a drip every 4 seconds, would amount to over 40 gallons a month: enough to completely fill your hot water tank or a bath tub. Just think: if everyone had a leak like that we would be wasting a lot of water. Do your part. Fix it.

## DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS

These are plants that require very little water beyond normal rainfall after they are established. To "establish" them requires hand-watering during the dry season for the first two or three years every two to three days, then they will survive with only drip irrigation, or in some years on the island, with normal rainfall.

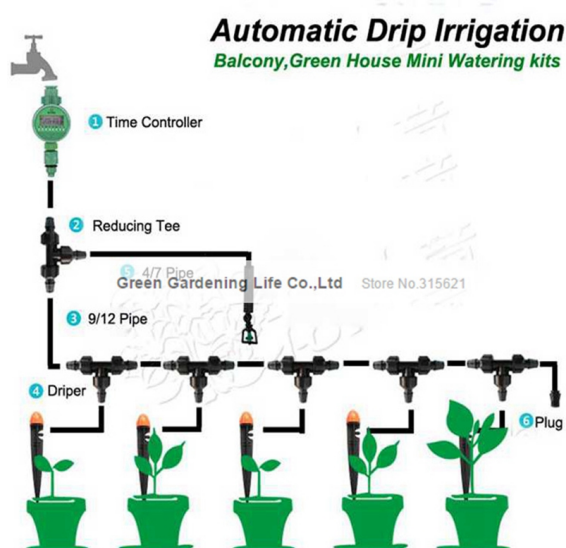
An excellent source of information about plants that do well in Washington can be found at : [www.snohomishcountywa.gov](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov) The Plant List . Choose the pdf file and find a great list of Drought Tolerant Plants at the bottom of the document. Further up the document is another list called Wet Winter/Dry Summer, which contains other drought tolerant plants.



## DRIP IRRIGATION

What is Drip Irrigation? This is the least wasteful way to water plants. It basically requires a timer,  $\frac{1}{2}$ " central lines to/through your bed(s), with  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch tubing to each individual plant, with an emitter at the end. For row-crops, trees, large deck planters, or raised vegetable gardens there is another delivery option. Rather than individual emitters for each plant, you can connect either  $\frac{1}{4}$ " or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " emitter tubing, which has an emitter every six inches. In the vegetable garden, you simply place a plant near each emitter, for a large pot or a tree, you encircle the pot or tree. You want to avoid watering the whole garden – that wastes water, and promotes weed growth. Just water the plants you want!

For ideas on how to design an efficient drip irrigation system I would suggest you order a free catalogue from Dripworks.com (800 522 3747.) Another good catalogue is available from urbanfarmerstore.com 800 753 3747. Garden centers and your local Master Gardeners can also point you to some good reference material. Let's save some water!!





## LOW FLUSH TOILET REBATES STILL IN EFFECT

We had 4 rebates given since the last newsletter went out. You can still get a \$75 rebate for replacing a high usage toilet with a low flush toilet? It will show as a credit to your water account. Just show the receipt and any info on the type of toilet you bought to Sherri, your water manager, by mailing it or emailing it.



Thank you to Susie Carey for doing the layout and design for this brochure.

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