

May 2010 Team of the Month

The Year Round Landscape Irrigation Rulemaking Team

Team Members:

- Jesus Rodriguez
- Jennifer Bokankowitz
- Jan Sluth
- Beth Ross

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For over a two year time period which started in 2007 and concluded in 2009, this team worked diligently with dozens of utilities, nursery growers, homeowner representatives and the environmental community to craft a water conservation rule to permanently reduce the amount of water being used for landscape irrigation.

This team led more than 8 public workshops, numerous small workgroup meetings, and a dozen presentations to the Governing Board which resulted in the development of rule language that was ultimately approved by the Governing Board without challenge. In addition to seeing the rule through Board adoption, this team also worked throughout the Christmas holidays to resolve last minute issues and concerns raised by the legislature's Joint Administrative Procedures Committee.

In association with the rule, this team developed a companion Water Conservation Partnership program to facilitate cooperative water conservation efforts with utilities and industry groups. As a result of the rulemaking team's efforts, the entire District has moved from an era where residents could irrigate their lawns 7 days a week, to a new era with an enduring water conservation ethic that provided for no more than 3 days per week of irrigation.