



EBMUD
WATER WEDNESDAY

Goodbye Grass Hello Garden!

Transform your lawn into a beautiful, resilient garden with tips, takes, and rebates!

Wednesday
August 17, 2022
6 pm

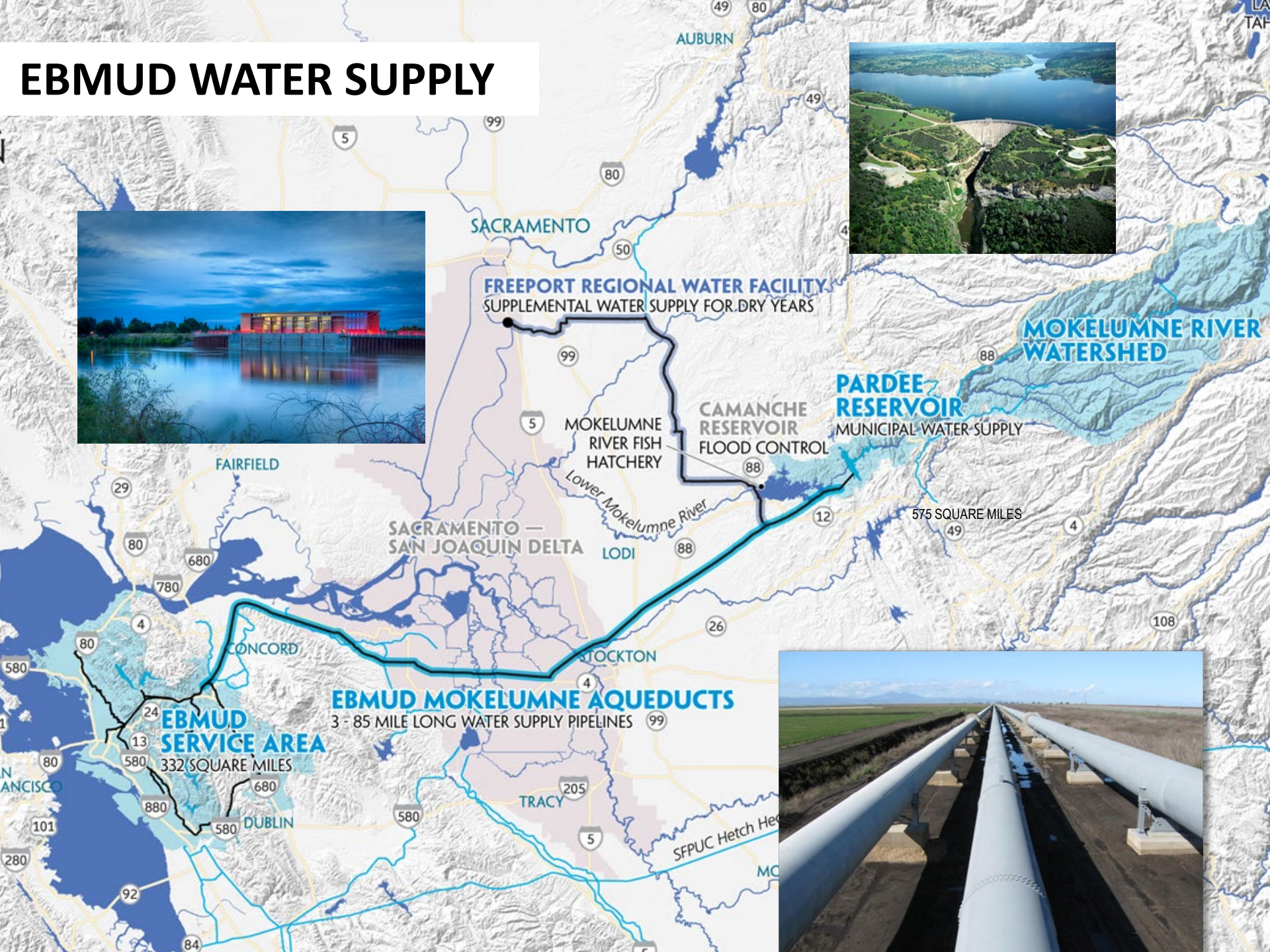
Register @ tinyurl.com/29n7vajb

Agenda

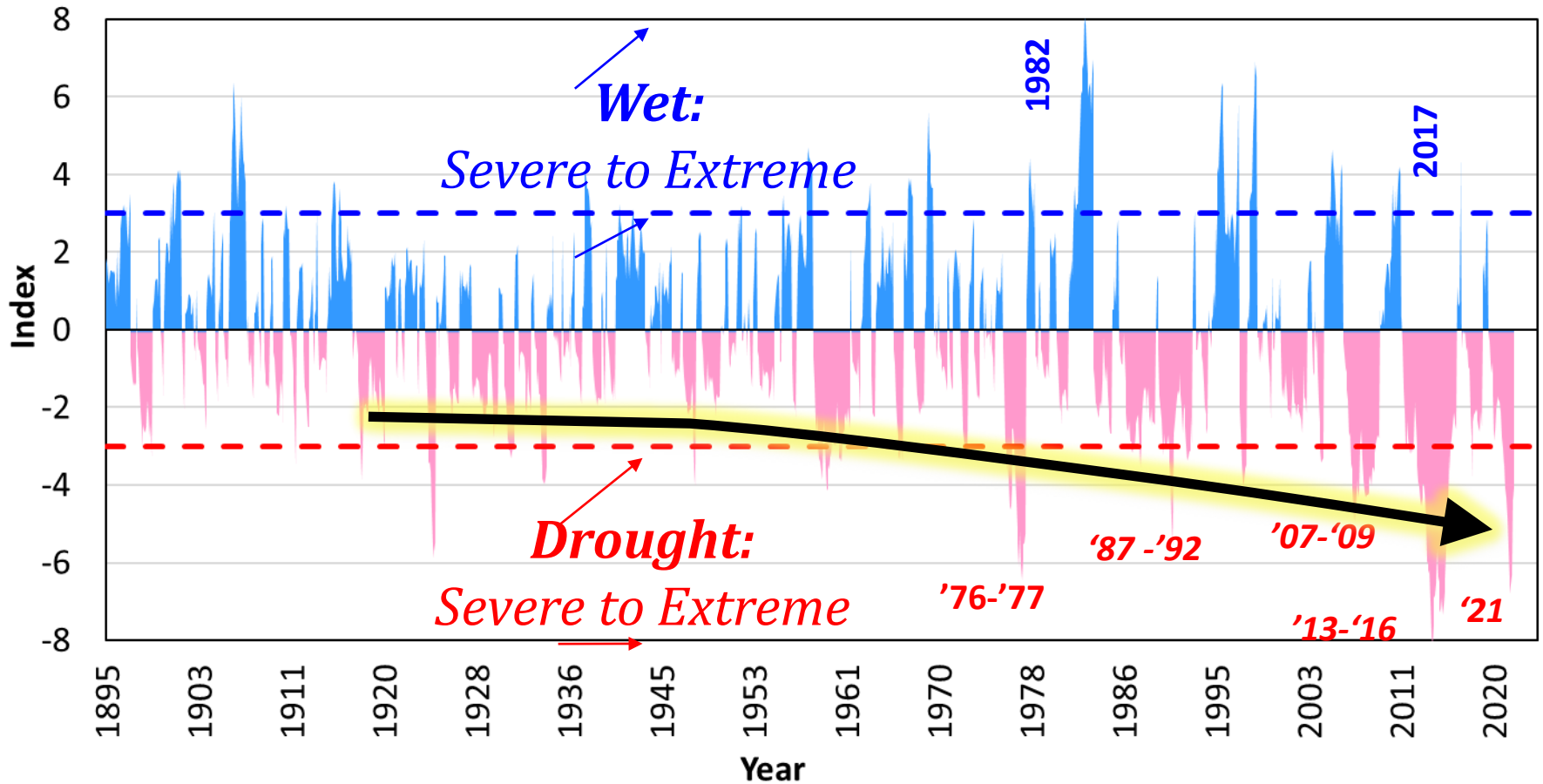
1. EBMUD water supply and drought restrictions
2. Multi-benefits of water conservation
3. EBMUD rebates
4. Sheet mulching
5. Irrigation basics
6. Planting resources
7. Q and A



EBMUD WATER SUPPLY

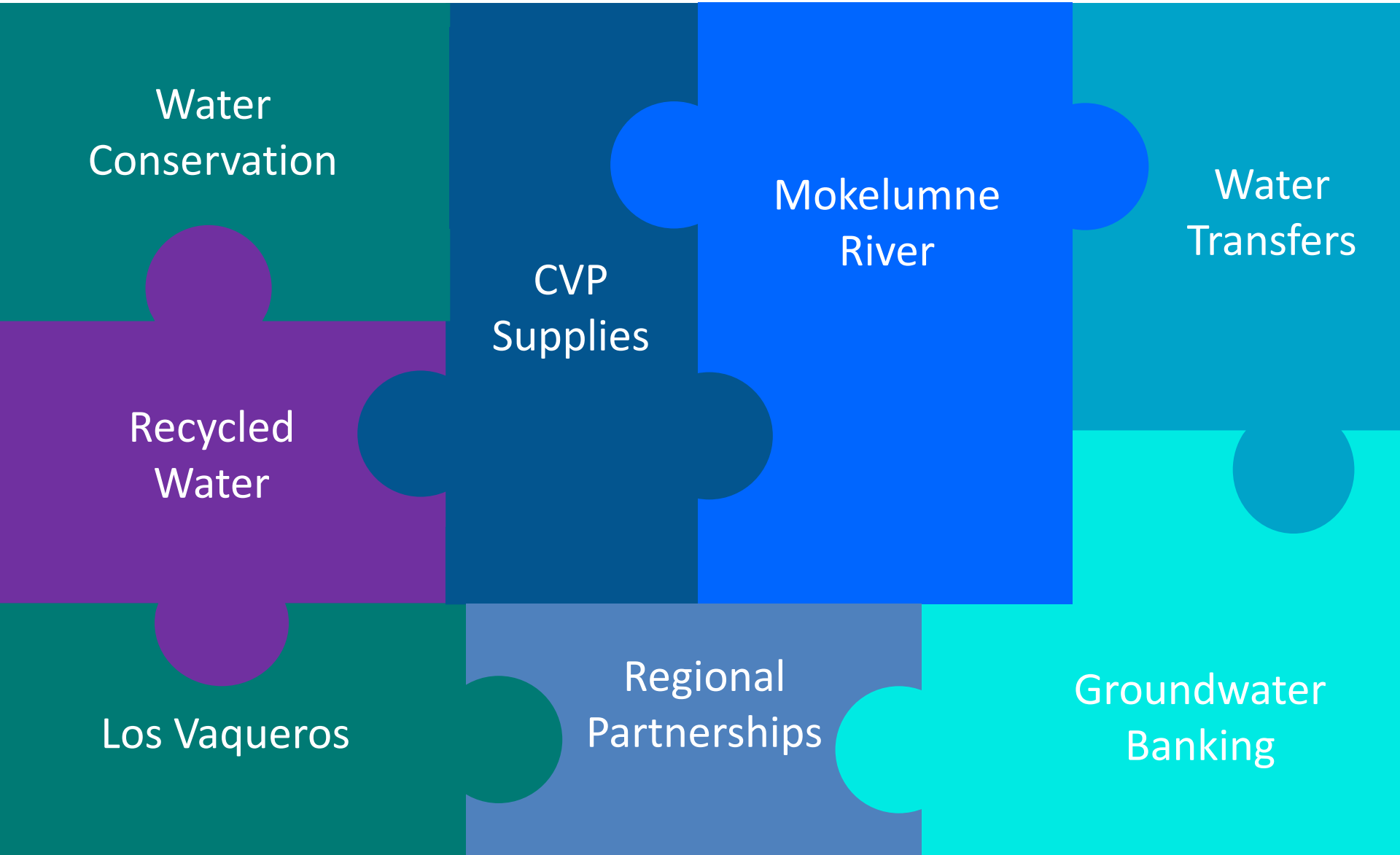


Uncertainty with Existing Water Supplies



Droughts are getting more severe and more frequent.

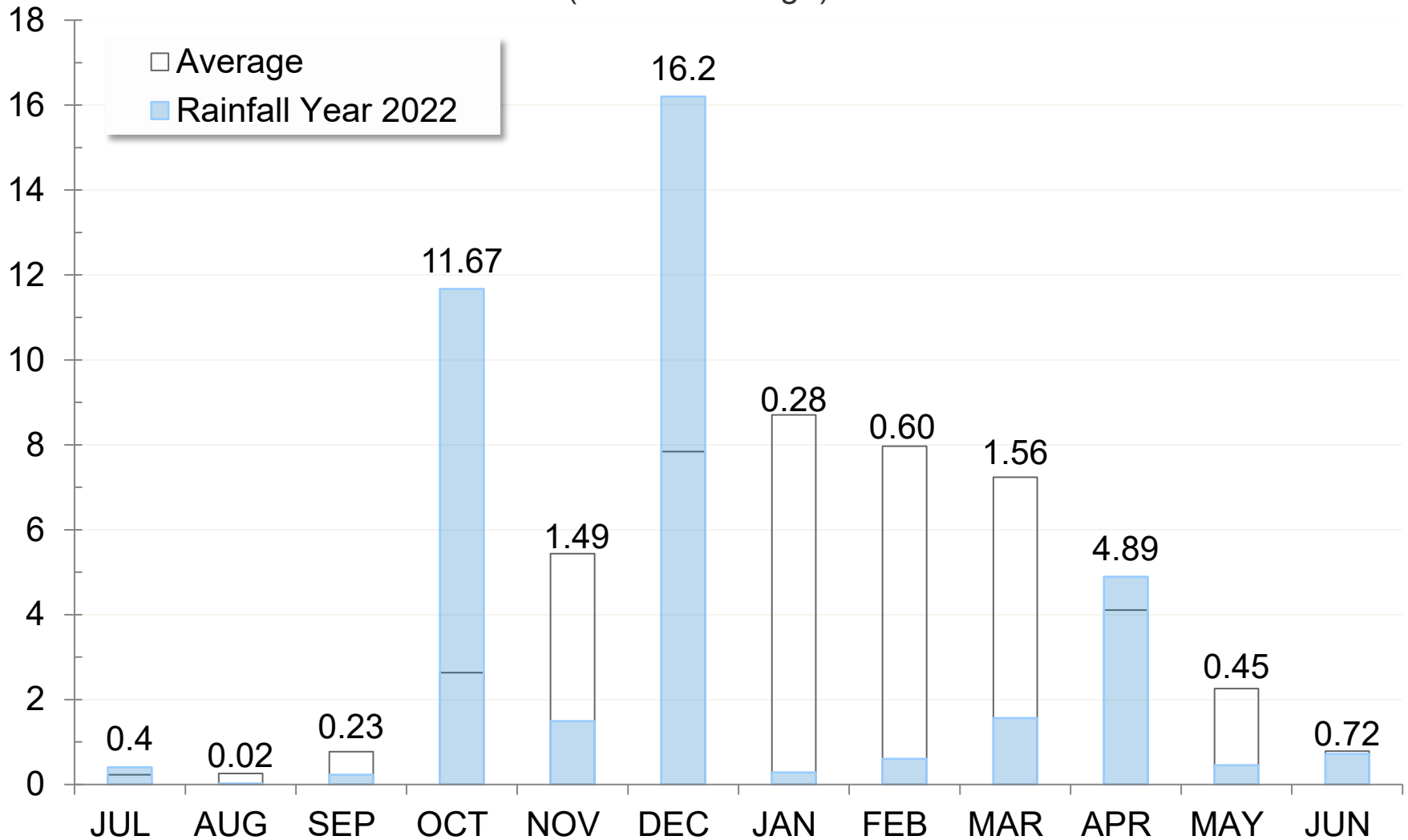
Long-Term Water Supply Planning



Mokelumne Precipitation

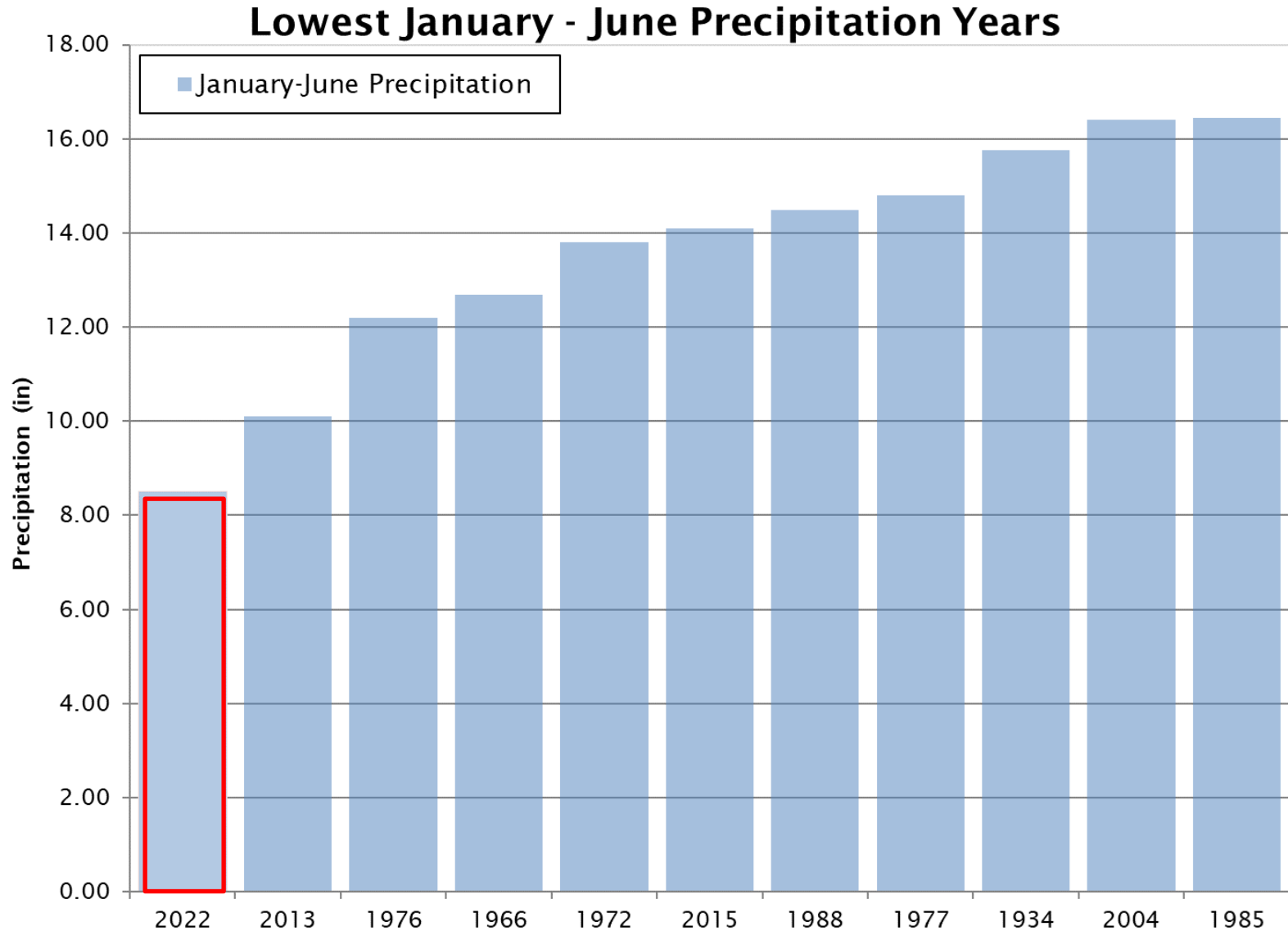
Rainfall Year 2022

Rainfall Year 2022 Total: 38.51" (80% of Average)



Water Supply Projections

Rainfall Year 2022





Board Actions

1. Declare a Stage 2 drought
2. 10% mandatory reduction
3. Restrictions on water use
4. Excessive Use Penalty Ordinance
5. Purchase supplemental supplies

WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

Irrigation



Don't irrigate more than three times per week



Only irrigate before 9 AM or after 6 PM



No irrigation within 48 hours of measurable rainfall



No irrigation that causes runoff

Other



No filling decorative fountains that don't recirculate



Don't use water to wash down sidewalks, driveways, etc.



Use a hose with a shutoff nozzle to wash your car



Restaurants and bars only provide water upon request



Hotels must ask if patrons want their linens and towels washed daily

Multi-benefits of Water Conservation





Landscape Rebates

up to \$2,000 for residential properties
(up to \$15,000 for commercial properties)

A photograph of a residential yard with a stone path, various plants, and a house in the background. The image is used as a background for the text overlay.

Standard Lawn Conversion Rebate

\$1.25/sq. ft.

Low-water use plants

50% plant coverage

Drip irrigation or hand-watering

Mulch



****New Pilot** - Super Lawn
Conversion Rebate**

\$2.50/sq. ft.

All standard rebate requirements in addition to:

Majority CA native plants

Plant in cool season (Sept – Feb)

Apply compost

Sheet-mulch



Irrigation Rebates

Drip Conversion (\$0.25/sq. ft.)

High-Efficiency Sprinkler Nozzles (\$4 each)

Self-Adjusting Irrigation Controllers (\$100-1,000)

Pressure Regulators (50% of cost, up to \$125)

Irrigation Submeter (50% of cost, up to \$200)

EBMUD Rebate Process

To apply:

1. Review eligibility and download app at ebmud.com/rebates.
2. Submit completed app to waterconservation@ebmud.com.
3. Wait for pre-approval before starting work!*

After your application is pre-approved:

1. Complete your project within 6 months.**
2. Notify EBMUD of your project completion.
3. After the post-completion inspection by EBMUD staff, the rebate is issued as a credit on your water bill.

**Irrigation equipment rebates may install equipment without pre-approval if total rebate does not exceed \$200 and does not include drip irrigation conversion.*

***Super rebates will be given deadlines to account for restricted planting window.*

Lawn Conversion Checklist

- ✓ Lawn previously irrigated
- ✓ Project not yet started
- ✓ Plant min. 50% of area
- ✓ Low to very-low water use plants
- ✓ 3" of mulch
- ✓ No synthetic weed cloth
- ✓ No impermeable hardscape
- ✓ Drip irrigation or hand-watering















Check Out Water Savings

Water Efficient Landscape Design Calculator

Curious about how much water you can save by converting your lawn? Use this calculator to see potential water savings and benefits of sheet mulching!

Select your city:

--- Select --- ▼

Total lawn area to be converted:

(square feet)

www.lawntogarden.org/water-savings-calculator

Select City and Square Foot

Water Efficient Landscape Design Calculator

Curious about how much water you can save by converting your lawn? Use this calculator to see potential water savings and benefits of sheet mulching!

Select your city:

Oakland

Total lawn area to be converted:

1000 (square feet)

A **1,000** square foot lawn is estimated to use **32,736** gallons of water per year, based on your location.¹

To Determine Water Savings

Landscape type and size
Plant water use (WUCOLS)
Irrigation type
Sheet mulching

Landscape Type	Planting Area (sq. ft)	Water Use	Irrigation Type	Annual Water Use (gal)
Groundcover ▼	250	Low ▼	Drip ▼	2,273
Perennials ▼	250	Low ▼	Drip ▼	2,273
Shrubs ▼	250	Low ▼	Drip ▼	2,273
Trees ▼	250	Moderate ▼	Drip ▼	4,547
Lawn ▼		High ▼	Spray ▼	0
Annuals ▼		High ▼	Spray ▼	0
Total Area	1000		Total Water Use:	9,602

Sheet Mulching? Check box to see how much more water you can save by sheet mulching with cardboard, compost and mulch.

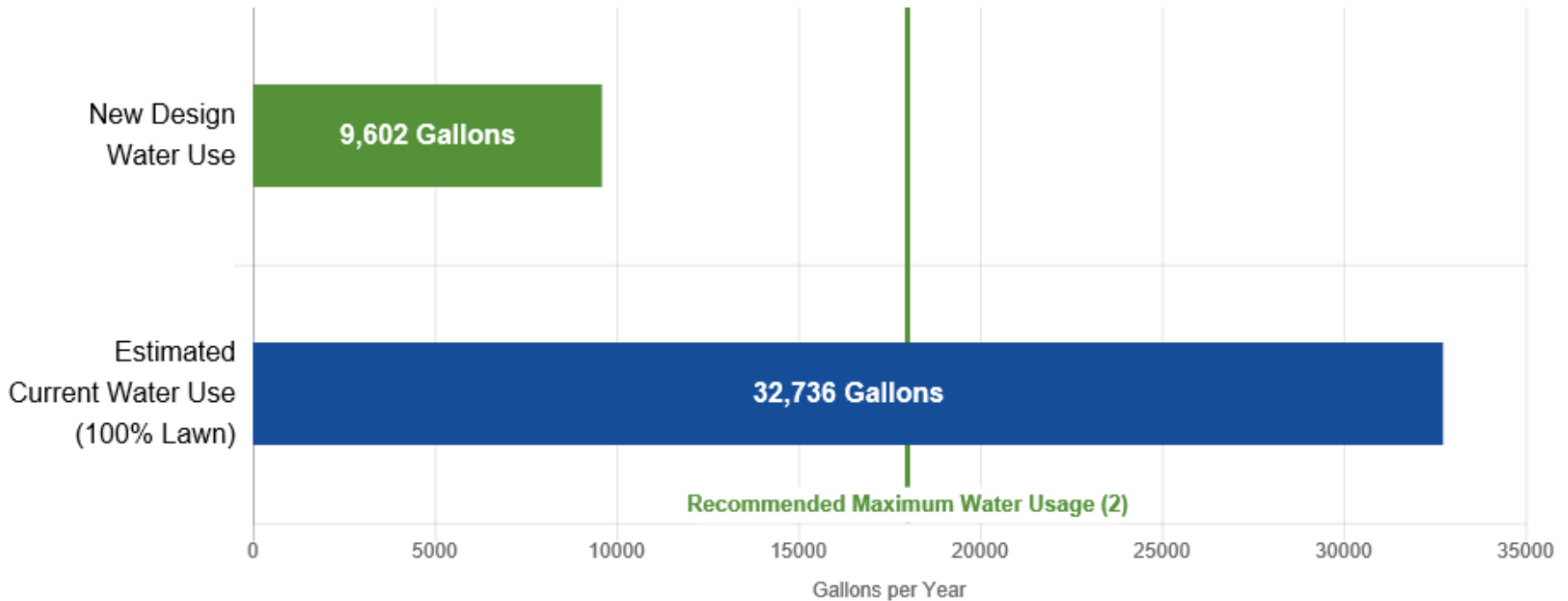
Water Savings from Sheet Mulch: 1,765

Before and After

Lawn: **32,736 gallons** annually

Water Efficient Design: **9602 gallons** annually

Estimated Annual Water Use for 1,000 Square Feet:



Sheet Mulching

Saves time, money and water

Builds healthy soil

Creates attractive climate appropriate gardens

Eliminates the need for grass and weed-killing herbicides.

Improve water retention in soil

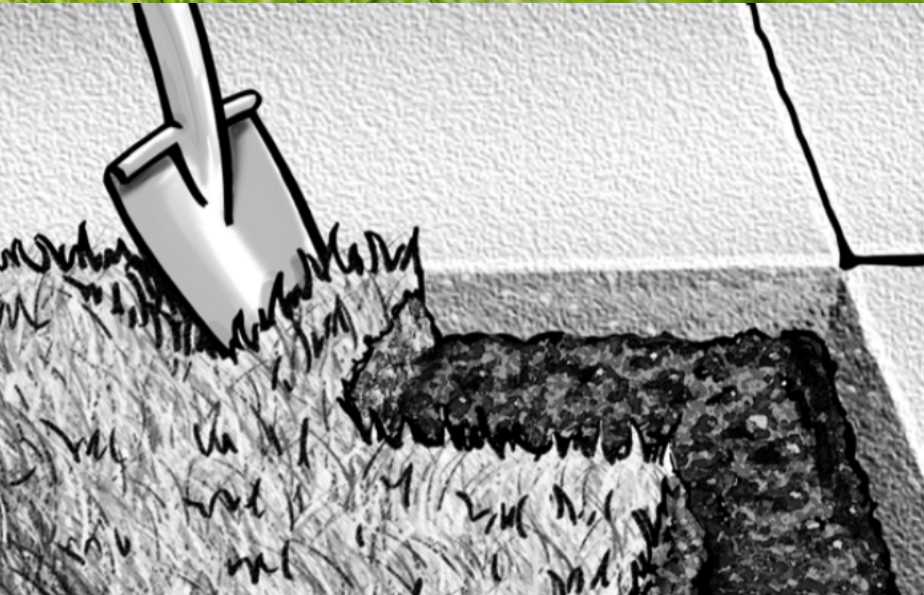
Enhance soil structure





Step 1: Prepare the Site

- Knock down or mow existing vegetation so it lies flat.
- Flag sprinkler heads
- Edge lawn to avoid run off and keep mulch on-site
- Make mounds with sod and soil from edging



Step 2: Plant Larger Plants

- Plant 5 gallon or larger plants
- Dig a hole
- Rough up the root ball
- Partially backfill the hole with soil mixed with compost.





Step 3: Weed Barrier

- 2 layers of cardboard
- Overlap piece by 6-8 inches
- Wet cardboard

Step 4: Compost and Mulch Layers

- 1-2 inches of compost
- 3 inches of mulch
- If main goal is weed suppression, than just add mulch





Step 5: Plant Small Plants

- Cut hole in the cardboard
- Dig hole as deep as root ball and three times as wide
- Keep mulch away from crown of plant

Hydrozoning

Group plants with similar water needs per zone (or valve).



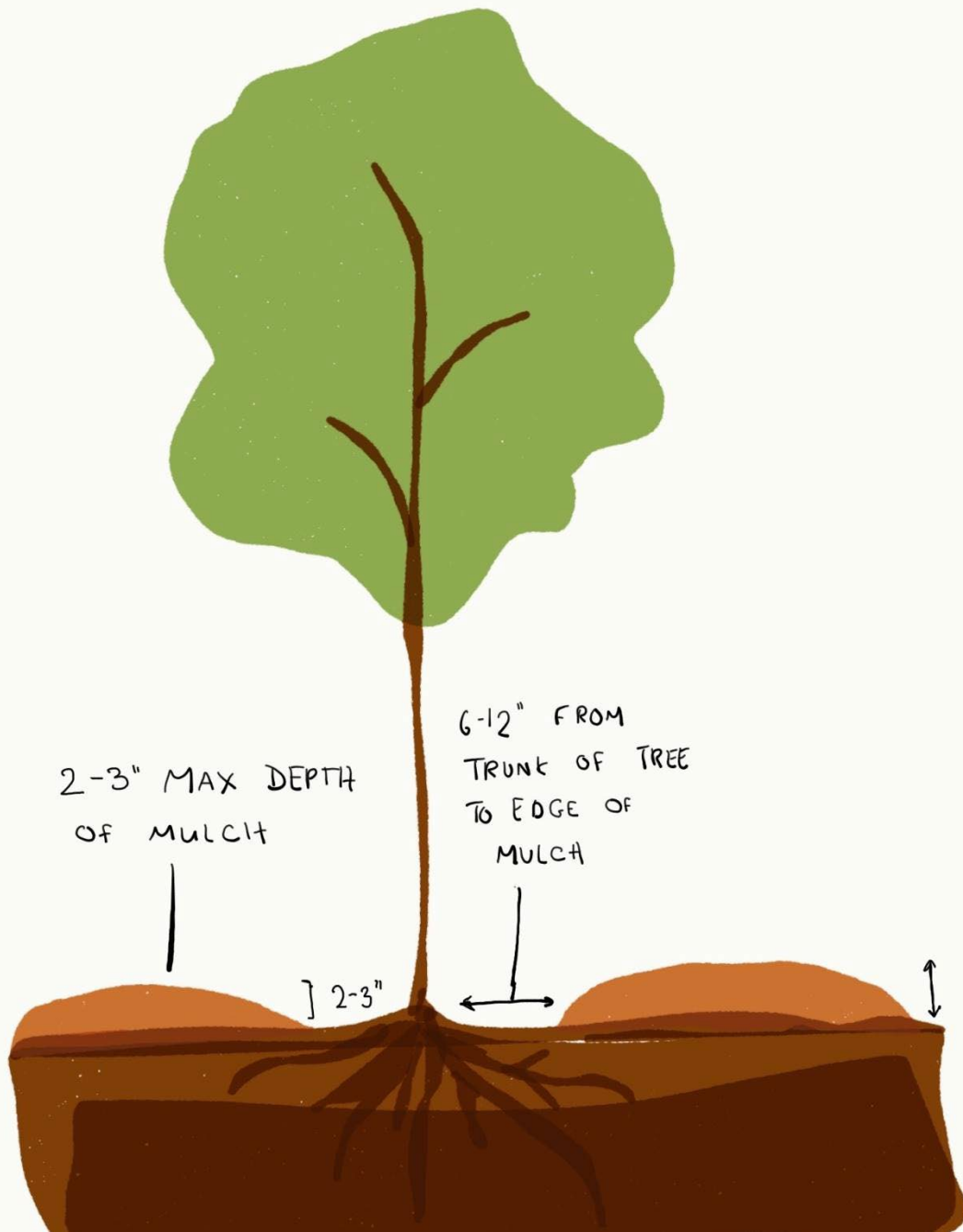
Irrigation Checklist

- ✓ Convert overhead spray to drip
- ✓ Drip conversion kits available
- ✓ Cap off spray heads
- ✓ Drip goes under mulch layer to protect tubing from the sun and reduce water loss



When mulching
around trees,
don't do this...





... do this

Mulch and Compost Coupons

- Provided by local nurseries
- Coupons for bulk or bags



Mulch

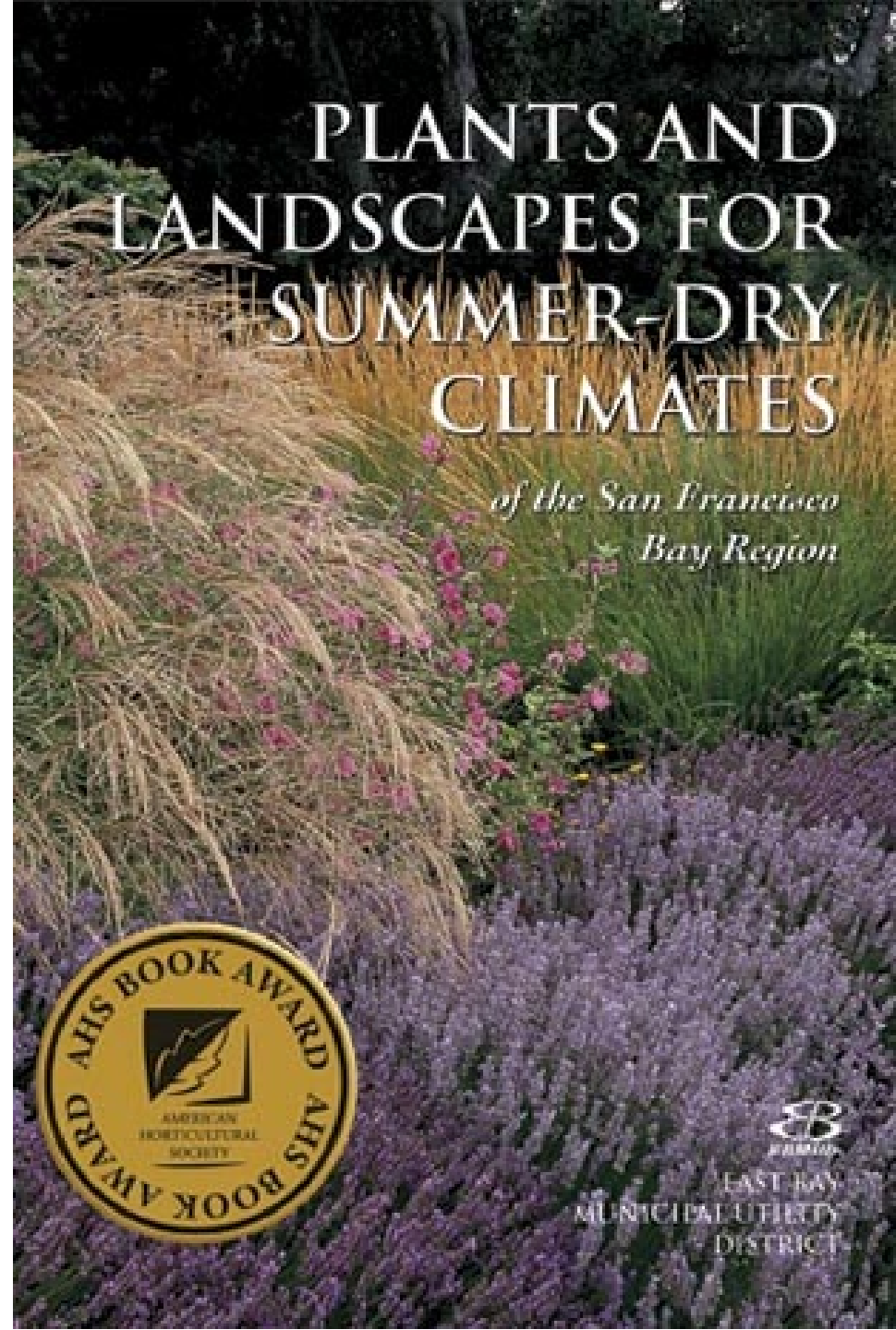
A gardener's best friend

Low Water Use Plants



Plant Resources

- EBMUD Plant Book
- EBMUD low water use plant list
- WUCOLS Database
- CNPS:
 - CalScape Garden Planner
 - Bloom Campaign



WUCOLS IV

Water Use Classification of Landscape Species

Plant Search Database

If you know exactly which plant you are interested in, you may search for it by name (partial names are OK, too). Otherwise, consider searching by plant type and/or water use.

[See WUCOLS List for All Regions](#)

City

Search for a city:

— or —

[Find a city on the map](#)

Plant Name

Water Use

- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate / Medium
- High
- Unknown
- Not Appropriate for this Region

Plant Type

- Gc** (Ground Cover)
- P** (Perennial)
- S** (Shrub)
- T** (Tree)
- V** (Vine)
- Ba** (Bamboo)
- Bu** (Bulb)
- G** (Ornamental Grass)
- Pm** (Palm and Cycad)
- Su** (Succulent)
- N** (California Native)
- A** (Arboretum All-star)

[Looking for Turf Grass?](#)

[Search Plants](#)

Hiring a Landscape Contractor

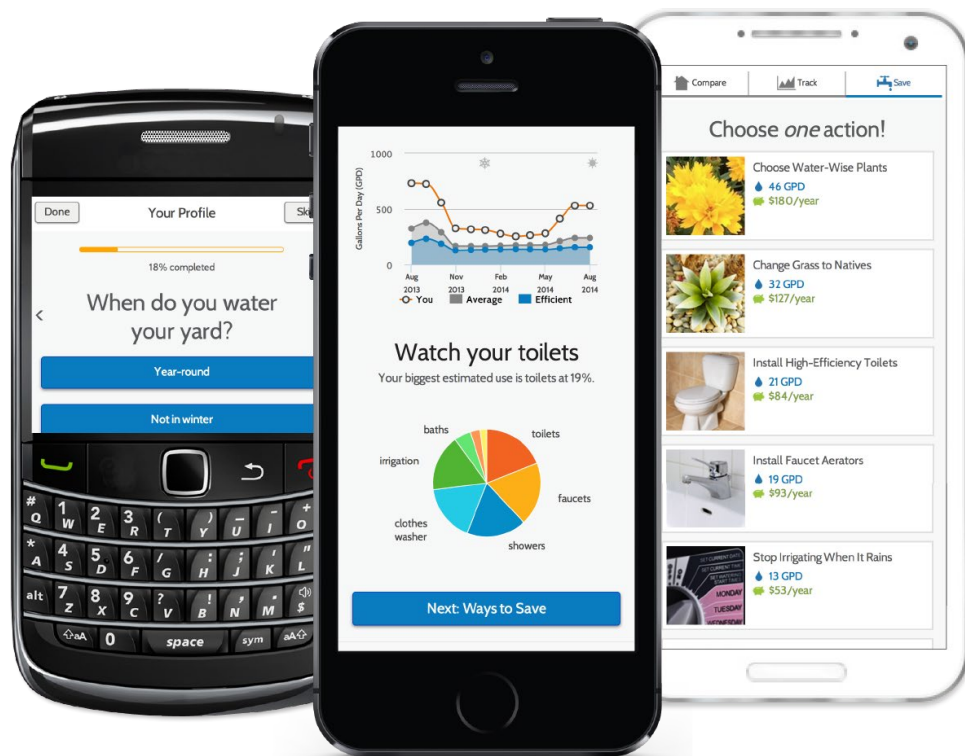
Directories of Certified Professionals:

- ReScape, CA
- Irrigation Association
- WaterSense
- Qualified Water Efficient Landscapers (QWEL)



Water Report Portal

- View water use, pay your bill, find recommendations all in one place
- Set leak alerts
- Track water use on your phone or tablet



Lawn to Garden Transformations

Submit before and after photos

Winners chosen for:

- Most Inspiring DIY Design
- Most Colorful
- Most Dramatic Change
- HOA Superstar
- Business Superstar

Vote on your favorites

Deadline to submit is
September 25



Upcoming Office Hours

Bring us your questions!

Landscape Rebate Office Hour

Bi-weekly Tuesdays, 12-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.

Smart Irrigation Controller office Hour

August 24, 12-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.



Summary

EBMUD water supply relies on snow melt.
Precipitation is below average.

EBMUD is in a Stage 2 drought with mandatory
water use restrictions.

EBMUD offers lawn conversion and irrigation
equipment rebates.

Sheet mulching is the foundation for a
water-wise garden.

Plant and design resources at
www.ebmud.com/watersmart.

Track your water use at
www.ebmud.com/mywaterinfo.



Questions?

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Water Conservation Representative