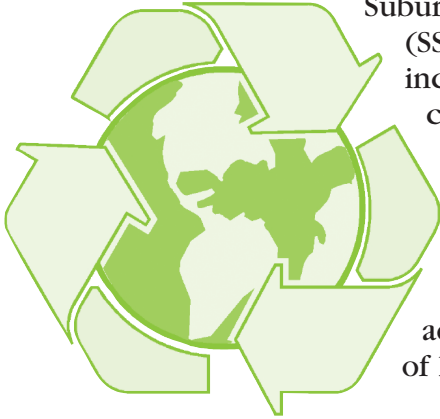


## New SSWD Policy Makes Sustainability a Guiding Principle

Meeting today's needs without compromising the future is the idea behind sustainability. Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) is incorporating that concept into day-to-day operations as well as long-term planning under a new Sustainability Policy recently adopted by the Board of Directors.



The policy makes sustainability a guiding principle for the District and when practical and prudent, calls for SSWD to reduce its impact on the environment by conserving energy and water, reducing waste and pollution, and promoting recycling and use of alternative energy sources. It formally recognizes that SSWD has a responsibility to support a sustainable community through its business practices and to make decisions that are cost effective and does not unfairly burden the ratepayers.

Among other things, the policy calls for SSWD to consider long-term and cumulative environmental

*("New SSWD Policy" continued on reverse side)*

## District Puts Green Concepts into Action

SSWD is a certified member of the Sacramento Sustainable Business Program, a partnership aimed at encouraging businesses and government facilities in Sacramento County to re-think their business practices to reduce their impact on the environment.

To become a certified sustainable business, an organization must implement measures and practices in categories such as:

- Energy conservation
- Water conservation
- Pollution prevention
- Solid waste reduction
- Green building

SSWD was the first water utility to be certified as a Sacramento Sustainable Business. It has taken a number of steps to make its administrative office on Marconi Avenue "green" - including adjusting

*("Green Concepts" continued on reverse side)*

## Free Water Friendly Landscaping Workshop

We heard your requests for more information on conserving water in your yard. SSWD is pleased to offer another sustainable landscaping workshop and tour of the beautiful Antelope Gardens. Whether you are an avid gardener or just a beginner, you will learn

practical tips on conserving water and energy, including design and maintenance practices that reduce pesticides, green waste and water pollution, while using a river-friendly landscaping approach.

Sign up for this FREE workshop and receive:


- Water-Wise Gardening compact disc
- River-Friendly Landscaping Guidelines
- Recycled plastic 3 gallon bucket
- Water efficiency kit



*("Free Water Friendly Workshop" continued on reverse side)*


*("New SSWD Policy" continued)*

impacts in all decisions, use resources efficiently and, when possible, reduce demand for natural resources. It also calls for SSWD to act locally to reduce global environmental impacts by embracing programs that promote sustainability and by educating customers and employees on sustainability efforts.

Promoting sustainability will be a top priority for SSWD in the coming years. SSWD customers are encouraged to read more about the District's Sustainability Policy and other programs and policies at [www.sswd.org](http://www.sswd.org). 

*("Green Concepts" continued)*

thermostats to reduce energy use, choosing recycled products and soy-based inks, and encouraging employees to spare the air.

SSWD also has adopted a Sustainability Policy (see article this insert) that makes sustainability a guiding principle in all business practices and decisions. More on the District's "green" efforts can be found at [www.sswd.org](http://www.sswd.org). 

*("Free Water Friendly Workshop" continued)*

**Reservations are required.** To reserve your seat, you must contact Linda Higgins by Friday, March 21, 2008 via:

- 1) The on-line form under "Feature News" at [www.sswd.org](http://www.sswd.org)
- 2) E-mail at [lhiggins@sswd.org](mailto:lhiggins@sswd.org)
- 3) Calling 679.2890

**No drop ins!** Space is limited and this workshop is expected to fill quickly. Avoid disappointment by registering early.

**Saturday, April 5, 2008**


**9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** (light refreshments)

**SSWD Antelope Gardens**

**7800 Antelope North Road, Antelope**

**Register by**

**Friday, March 21, 2008** (no drop ins)

For information on this workshop, River-Friendly Landscaping, the Antelope Gardens or water conservation tips, please go to [www.sswd.org](http://www.sswd.org). 

Printed on recycled paper with soy ink.

Each ton of recycled paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.




## You Can Make a Difference

### Clothes Washer Rebate

Everyday actions can make a difference when it comes to promoting sustainability. Sacramento residents have many ways to reduce water and energy use, which helps cut back on climate warming emissions.

**Tip:** Time to buy a new clothes washer? Save water, energy and money on your utility bill by purchasing a more efficient washer. High-efficiency washers use about 60% less energy and 40% less water than conventional machines. Water- and energy-efficient clothes washers also produce less wastewater, use less detergent and cause less wear and tear on clothing.


Although some high-efficiency models cost more than standard machines, the savings on utility bills make them a good buy in the long run. Owners typically save \$50 to \$90 a year on their utility bills after installing high-efficiency models.

SSWD customers may be eligible for a rebate of \$50 and you may get up to \$125 from your energy company for the purchase and installation of a qualified high efficiency washing machine. For more information look under "Customer Services" at [www.sswd.org](http://www.sswd.org) or contact the Customer Service Team at 972.7171 during business hours. 

## Speakers Available for Your Group

At your request, SSWD staff is available to speak to neighborhood associations, clubs, organizations and community groups

**free of charge!**

Meters, ongoing capital projects, water quality, water supply and demand are just some of the presentation topics staff can address at your group gathering. Call Jan Gentry at 679.3974 during business hours to arrange a speaker for your next meeting or function. 





# Water Words

## Excerpts from SSWD's Regulations Governing Water Service

### Control Valve

A device used to control the flow of water.

### Curb Stop

A District Control Valve used to control water to a Service Connection.

### Meter

A device capable of measuring in either gallons or cubic feet a quantity of water delivered by the District to a Service Connection.

### Meter Setter

A prefabricated copper device constructed to house a water Meter.

### Point of Responsibility

- a. Metered Service: The connection point at the outlet side of the Meter Setter where a landowner's responsibility for all conditions, maintenance, repairs, use and replacement of water service facilities begins, and the District's responsibility ends.
- b. Non-Metered Service: The connection point at the outlet side of either a Curb Stop or an unmetered Meter Setter where a landowner's responsibility for all conditions, maintenance, repairs, use and replacement of water service facilities begins, and the District's responsibility ends.

### Service Connection

The water piping system connecting a Customer's System with a District water main beginning at the outlet side of the Point of Responsibility, including all plumbing and equipment located on a parcel required for the District's provision of water service to that parcel.



### Doing Some Yardwork? Call Before You Dig!

Before digging or trenching on your property, contact Underground Service Alert (USA) to avoid possible damage to underground utilities such as water, telephone, cable and sewer lines. Find out whether there are any dangerous underground utilities, such as electric or gas lines, in the area where you plan to dig.

USA provides a free underground facility damage prevention service. The purpose is to locate existing underground utilities. You must call USA at least 48 hours prior to digging. Once contacted, USA member utilities will mark or stake the

location of their facility using a specific color code for each type of utility, provide information or give you clearance to dig. As a USA member utility, SSWD marked over 3,600 water facility locations in 2007 for individuals who called for this free service.

Service lines are not always located in the street. Even the smallest job, such as setting fence posts or planting a tree, could cause underground utility damage. The person doing the digging is responsible for any damage to such facilities. Additionally, digging into a utility line such as an electrical line can cause power outages and serious personal injury. Everyone planning to dig should call USA at 800.227.2600 (Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.).