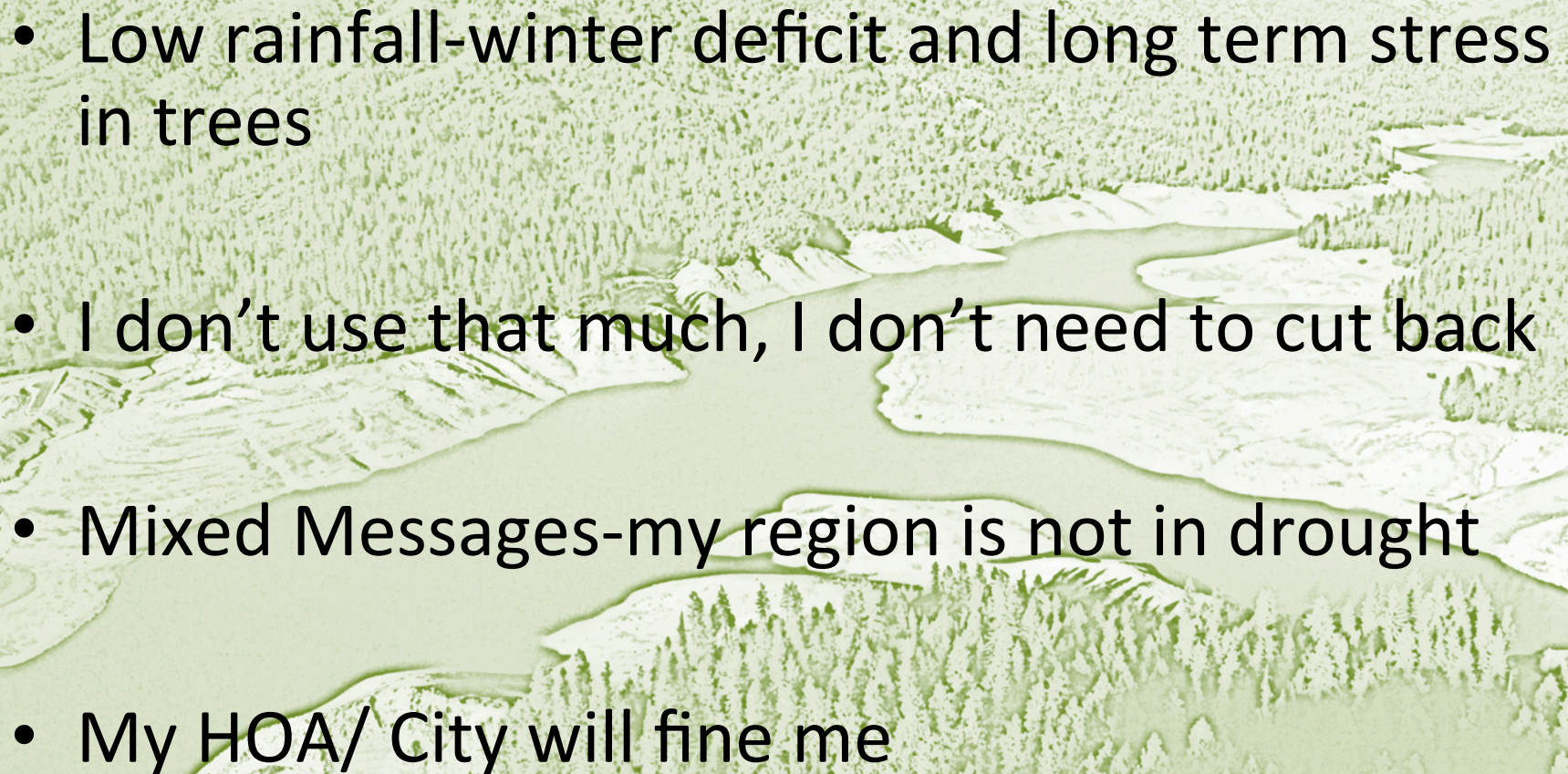




Urban Landscaping in Time of Drought

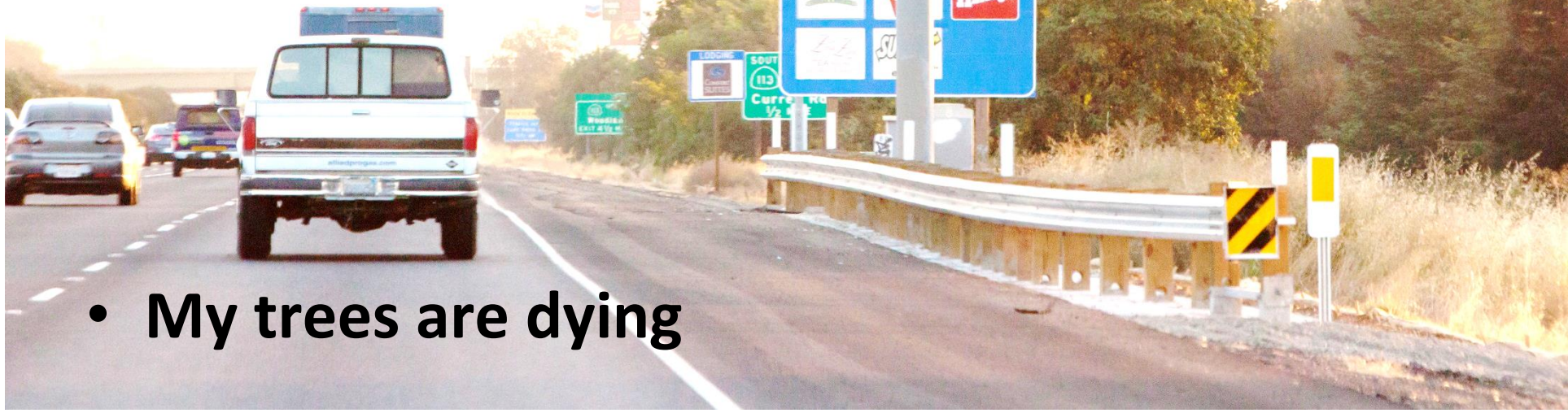
Julie Saare-Edmonds, CA
Dept. Water Resources

- 
- An aerial photograph of a wide river valley. The river flows through the center, surrounded by lush green forests. In the background, there are several mountain peaks under a clear sky. The overall scene is a natural, scenic landscape.
- Low rainfall-winter deficit and long term stress in trees
 - I don't use that much, I don't need to cut back
 - Mixed Messages-my region is not in drought
 - My HOA/ City will fine me

- Blame- the “*insert user here*” uses all the water



- My property values/ business will drop
- Uncertainty-will it end or will last another year
- El Nino.....



- My trees are dying

EO B-29-15

- Drought Emergency declared 1/17/2014
- Drought Emergency continued 4/25/2014
- 4/1/2015 Governor Brown orders:
 - 25% reduction of water use (statewide average) including CII, campuses, golf courses
 - DWR leads a statewide initiative to replace 50 million Sq ft of turf (lawns)
 - No potable water use on medians



- New irrigation with potable water must be drip or microspray
- Water suppliers must report to the State Water Board monthly
- DWR shall update the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance



Turf Replacement Initiative

- <http://www.water.ca.gov/turf/>

The screenshot shows the California Department of Water Resources website. The header includes the CA.GOV logo, the text 'CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES', and navigation links for HOME, NEWSROOM & EVENTS, ISSUES, and ABOUT US. A search bar and location indicators for DWR and California are also present. The main heading is 'California 2015 Turf Replacement Initiative'. Below this, the section is titled 'Replacing California's Lawns'. The text explains that outdoor landscaping is the largest use of water in a typical California home and that the ongoing drought reinforces the need for water conservation. It mentions Governor Brown's Executive Order on April 1, 2015, which directed the replacement of 50 million square feet of turf with drought-tolerant landscapes. The page includes an 'Announcements' section about a public meeting on July 2, 2015, and a 'Turf Initiative Overview' section. A sidebar on the right contains a navigation menu with links to Home, Upcoming Events, Proposition 1 Overview, DWR Drought Homepage, Water Use Efficiency Homepage, April 1, 2015 Executive Order, and Save Our Water. There is also a 'Contact' section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

Rebate information coming soon

Residential and Commercial, Industrial and Institutional

Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance Update

- AB 325 1990
- Updated again in 2009
- Extreme drought conditions initiate current update
- Water budget is decreased placing a larger emphasis on trees and shrubs
- No emphasis on non-living elements (hardscapes and artificial turf)



The Executive Order explicitly required an update of MWELO to include:

- Efficient Irrigation Systems
- Graywater reuse
- Stormwater capture
- Reducing the amount of turfgrass in new landscapes
- Reporting by local agencies annually

Drought Workshops

- Through drought emergency funding, many workshops are being held throughout state for homeowners and professionals
- CUWCC, UC Davis, CNPS, G3, Ecolandscape, and more
- Contact WUE@water.ca.gov for information about hosting or attending a workshop or the turf rebate program



Tree Survival

- Tree survival was on our radar from the beginning
 - Drought workshops (14 during spring/summer 2014) with UC Davis, UCCE and Ewing Irrigation emphasized the need to irrigate trees
- DWR, UC Davis, Sac Tree Foundation, UCCE
 - collaborated in news conferences, media alerts and education materials
- Urban Releaf and Save Our Water (DWR & ACWA)
 - Getting the message out statewide on the importance of saving the urban forest



**Save Our Water
and Our Trees!**
saveourwater.com/trees

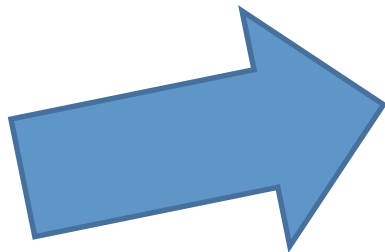
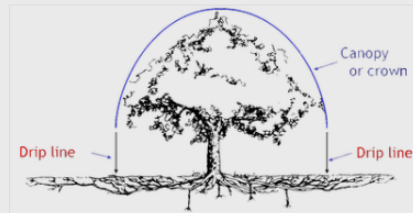


Photo by Ellen Zagory

Tree Ring Irrigation Contraption (TRIC)

The California drought has residents concerned about how to save water. In fact, some homeowners have opted to turn off their outdoor watering system, and it's not uncommon to see brown lawns. However, not watering a landscape means that many trees will slowly decline in health and could die. While lawns and flowers are easily replaced, a large shade tree takes many years to become established.



According to Sacramento Tree Foundation's *Greenprint: A Regional Urban Forest Initiative*, trees clean air and water, reduce stormwater runoff and conserve energy. They also improve public health and increase property values. Therefore, during drought conditions, these trees should be the top priority to receive landscape water.

Upcoming Events

Drip, Drip, Drip... Irrigation Management Workshop - Sacramento

Aug 26, 2015

Truth or Myth - Neonicotinoids and their Impact on Pollinators

Sep 09, 2015

[See more events](#)

News

San Jose Drought Workshop Presentations & Handouts Now Available!

Jun 18, 2015

Lake Tahoe Drought Workshop Presentations & Handouts Now Available!

Jun 08, 2015

[More news...](#)

Featured

NEW! Rotary System Irrigation Contraption (RSIC)

NEW! Landscaping Resources During Drought

NEW! Landscape Irrigation Scheduling

[Results from Kurania Irrigation Trial Available](#)

Contact and Questions

- Julie.Saare-Edmonds@water.ca.gov
- 916.651.9676

