



# STORM WATER TRAINING

## LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION

### **ADJUST LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS TO PREVENT OVERWATERING**

- Regularly observe irrigation systems in action to identify overspray issues and leaks.
- Monitor rainfall, or install moisture sensors, to ensure irrigation is reduced during rainy periods.



### **MODIFY LANDSCAPING TO REDUCE RISK OF RUNOFF**

- Install low water-use landscaping to reduce irrigation needs.
- Install drip irrigation to deliver water directly to the plant base.
- Create a buffer strip (DG, xeriscaping, etc.) between landscaping with high water needs (i.e. grass) and paved surfaces, so that sprinklers can be set back from pavement and overspray can be absorbed.

### **REASON FOR ACTION:**

Irrigation runoff is not permitted to enter the storm drain system per the municipal storm water permit issued by the San Diego Regional Board. Excess irrigation water may contain pesticides, fertilizers, and dirt, and can pick up trash and other debris as it flows across paved areas. These pollutants are harmful when washed into local waterways. Municipalities are required to reduce irrigation runoff, and may look to put more pressure on school facilities to do the same. Schools can do their part to be good neighbors, improve water quality, and even save money by reducing irrigation runoff.