THE NEXT EVENT

CI Deep Sea Fishing Trip

- Friday, August 26
- Story on Page 5

CI MEMBERS INVITED!

18TH ANNUAL SFV CHAPTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Thursday, September 22
- Angeles National Golf Club, Sunland
- Registration Form on page 13

BASS, Bonito, Rock Cod and Yellowtail are among the species we will be angling for off the Channel Islands on Aug. 26.
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STATE AND LOCAL EVENTS
SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CHECK WITH A BOARD MEMBER FIRST

Aug. 26  Second Annual Channel Islands Chapter and
Friends Deep Sea Fishing Trip, 5:00 a.m.
Channel Islands Sportfishing
4151 Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Sept. 22  SFV Chapter Golf Tournament
Angeles National Golf Club, Sunland
CI Members invited!

Oct. 26  CI Chapter visit to Lotusland

Nov. 3  SFV Chinese Auction, 6:30 p.m.
Hot Wok Chinese Restaurant
9135 Reseda Blvd., Northridge
CI Members invited!

Nov. 16-19  CLCA State Convention, Paso Robles Inn,
Paso Robles

Board Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at
noon unless otherwise noted. Locations vary.

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Busy Balance of the Year Ahead

There may be no rain, but there certainly is a flood of events and activities in store for our CI Chapter members and friends.

Chapter Fishing Trip Aug. 26
Fish on, as the expression goes. That’s because our CI Chapter and friends Deep Sea Fishing Trip is just a few days from now on Friday, August 26. You can read all the details on page 5, but the important thing is that the event is almost sold out. Only five spots left at press time. Call Dan Dvorak (310) 480-7803 if you want to join our group.

SFV Golf Tournament Sept. 22
We always have a good group of CI members attend this regional golf tournament. Golfing is at Angeles National Golf Club in Sunland, and is always a lot of fun. The dinner will be held across the street from the course at Bright View Tree Company. New name, same bunch of great folks sponsoring the delicious dinner. (See Registration Form on page 13 of this issue.)

CI Visit to Lotusland Oct. 26
This is a new one for our Chapter, and we are all looking forward to the CI Chapter’s visit to Lotusland. This is the Santa Barbara area historic estate of Madame Ganna Walska and the site of several beautiful and unique gardens. The TENTATIVE date for this is Thursday, October 26. (See story below.)

State Convention in Paso Robles Nov. 16-19
It’s not too early to start planning to attend the CLCA Convention at the Paso Robles Inn on November 16-19. The Convention is packed with activities — mostly fun, some business — and is also a place to take the family if you can work out their schedules.

CI Chapter Christmas Party
This December classic event is usually a luncheon and includes a fun-filled white elephant gift exchange. Details are yet to be worked out, but you know it will be a blast.

So, how’s that for a busy rest of the year! See what you’ve been missing. Don’t miss out. Plan to attend some or all of these fantastic events. We’ll see you there. — Brandon

SAVE THE DATE

CI Chapter to Visit Lotusland October 26

Details to the CI Chapter’s visit to Lotusland, the historic estate of Madame Ganna Walska and current location of a non-profit botanical garden, are still being worked out. But it is a good time to write down the TENTATIVE date of Thursday, October 26 in your calendar. If there’s a change, we’ll let you know.

Lotusland’s uniquely designed landscape gardens are situated in Montecito, a residential community near Santa Barbara. Their address 695 Ashley Rd, Santa Barbara, CA 93108; (805) 969-9990.

Ganna Walska Lotusland is a 37-acre botanical wonder containing over 3,000 subtropical and tropical plants from around the world. It is one of the great gardens of America, created by Ganna Walska who owned the property from 1941 until her death in 1984.

The site now features 25 gardens, and is home to several extraordinary collections including rare cycads, cacti, palms and euphorbias. Additional gardens feature ferns, aloes, lotuses, water lilies, bromeliads and their newest additions, the palmetum and insectary garden. Theme gardens include the blue garden, theatre garden, and a Japanese garden.

More specifics regarding the Lotusland visit will appear in this newsletter as soon as available. —
Fish On! CI Chapter Fishing Trip Set for Friday, August 26

• Only Five Spots Left!

The Second Annual Channel Islands Chapter and Friends Deep Sea Fishing Trip is almost here. Set for Friday, August 26, there are only five spots left at press time. CI members and friends who sign up (AND PAY) will enjoy a full day of fishing in the Channel Islands. Right now there are yellowtail, white seabass, calico bass and rock cod currently being caught.

The group will meet around 5:00 a.m. at Channel Islands Sportsfishing, 4151 Victoria Ave., Oxnard, CA 93035; (805) 382-1612. They will be boarding the Erna B, a beautiful 50’ vessel that offers a full galley serving hot food. The boat will depart at 5:30 a.m. and will return to the dock about 4:00 p.m.

Cost for this fantastic fishing experience is only $90 per angler. NO spots will be held “with payment to follow.” SPONSORSHIPS are available at $250 each, and include one fishing spot per sponsorship. Donations of fishing related items, such as hats, sunglasses, lip protection, sunscreen, etc. will be gladly accepted.

Don’t forget, the event is limited to the first 22 people to sign up and pay. With only five spots left, you’d better give Event Chair Dan Dvorak a call today to reserve your space(s), or to become a Sponsor of this FUN fishing trip. He can be reached at (310) 480-7803. Make checks payable to Channel Islands CLCA and mail C/O Dan Dvorak, 660 36th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266…but call Dan first!

Important Policies
• Photo ID required for all passengers. California fishing licenses are required for all anglers 16 years of age and older.
• Your ice chests, glass containers, and alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the boat.

• Passengers are subject to search before entering the boat.
• Licenses, fishing tackle, food and beverages, fish filleting and gratuities are additional.
• Fishing tackle is available for rent if you do not have your own.

So, don’t miss the boat! Join us for a day of fun, sun and fish stories on August 26. We’ll see you there.

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Keep Those Air-Cooled Engines Running  From Taryl’s Tech Tips, GreenIndustroPros.com

Air-cooled engines are just that, air-cooled. Clogged cooling fins will result in overheating which usually results in valve guides coming loose, valve seats coming out of the head, and blown head gaskets. In most cases, you find this out when it actually happens – because there are really no warning signs. That’s why it’s important to remove the engine shroud to inspect and periodically clean the fins around the cylinder heads.

A lack of maintenance and keeping the fins clean will result in costly repairs and the loss of income due to repair downtime. If your machine is down, it can’t make you money!

A good practice for commercial users and even homeowners would be to once a year remove the engine shroud and clean the cylinder fins. I suggest doing it before the mowing season starts; this way you can see if “Fluffy the Rat” has set up house under your engine shroud over the winter. This is a common problem we see and a major reason for overheating. Now (July–August) is also a good time to check things over; you’ve been running hard for several months and conditions are likely getting a bit dustier this time of year.

You can clean the fins different ways. You can use a Shop-Vac or an air compressor with an air nozzle. You can use a pressure washer followed up by an air nozzle or even a handheld gas blower to blow the excess water off. This all depends on how clogged up the fins are. If you do it periodically, you should only have to use a Shop-Vac or an air nozzle. If this practice is beyond your skill level, then ask your local repair shop to do this for you.

BONUS MID-SUMMER TIP: Know Your Model and Part Numbers

Again, remember that in the commercial lawn care business, time is money. Don’t take for granted that your dealer knows what machine model you have, much less some random part number for a replacement part you’re in need of. Have your model and serial numbers handy. Better yet, if you have an illustrated parts manual, find what parts you need, copy down the part numbers, and hand the dealership counter person your list with the quantity of what parts you’re after. If you don’t have an illustrated parts manual, there are websites that offer free parts look-up. This way you save time at the dealership parts counter – and there’s no confusion as to whether you are receiving the correct parts.

Taryl Dactal is the zany YouTube small engine repairman with more than 10,000 subscribers. He has 38 years of experience in the small engine repair industry and is the owner of Tim’s Bonanza Service in Demotte, IN. Find him on YouTube by searching “Taryl Fixes All.”
News and Information from the WCIRB

Resource for Your Workers’ Comp Questions

Submitted by Dan Dvorak, Landscape Contractors Insurance Services

The WCIRB News and Notes features timely answers to workers’ compensation questions from insurers, agents and brokers, and others. Editions are issued bi-weekly and past editions are stored in the Learning Center of http://www.wcirb.com. (WCIRB is the Workers’ Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau.)

Helpful Resources for Employers

Workers’ compensation insurance is complex and can be daunting for employers in California. Many employers commonly seek assistance to understand how their business is classified, how their experience modification is calculated, what should be expected at the final audit of their policy, what to do if they have a dispute with the insurer or the WCIRB, and other questions about the California workers’ compensation system.

Agents and brokers play an important role in educating employers, guiding them through the many aspects of workers’ compensation insurance. The WCIRB has resources to assist with educating employers and answering many of their common questions. The Employers page on WCIRB.com (www.wcirb.com/employers) provides extensive informational and educational resources that agents and brokers and insurers can access and share with employers. Below are some of the resources available and ways the WCIRB can help if further assistance is needed.

The WCIRB has resources to assist with educating employers and answering many of their common questions.

Time Cards, Audited Payroll and Classification Inspections

Information on the following topics is available at WCIRB.com

- USRP Time Card Recordkeeping Requirements
- The Impact of Audit Compliance on Experience Rating
- The Purpose of Classification Inspections and Test Audits and What to Expect

Free Policyholder Ratesheet Requests

When an employer has a question or is unclear about their experience modification, they can request a free copy of their experience rating worksheet (ratesheet) and see the payroll and claims information used in the calculation. To get a free ratesheet, employers can complete the Policyholder Information and Free Ratesheet Request form on WCIRB.com.

Dan Dvorak can help with the process for clients and non-clients. He can be reached at (310) 480-7803.

Dan Dvorak
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The Toro Company’s board of directors has elected Richard M. Olson to the position of president and chief executive officer, effective November 1, 2016. Olson, a 30-year veteran of the company, has served as Toro’s president and chief operating officer since September 2015 and was elected to the company’s board of directors in January of this year. Toro’s current chairman and chief executive officer, Michael J. Hoffman, will continue to serve as chairman of the board.

Olson joined Toro in 1986 as a manufacturing process engineer. He has held various positions in operations and engineering including manager of advanced manufacturing, commercial engineering program manager, director of Shakopee plant operations, and managing director of northern manufacturing operations. In 2010, he was named general manager of Exmark and was appointed vice president, Exmark in 2012. The following year Olson was named vice president, international business before being elected group vice president, international business, micro-irrigation business and distributor development in June 2014.

Reflecting on the coming changes, Hoffman stated, “Serving our employees and customers as Toro’s chief executive officer has been the greatest privilege of my career. Our employees’ and channel partners’ passion for the business and relentless commitment to our company and brands have enabled us to accomplish much together. Looking forward, I am pleased and confident in passing the responsibilities of chief executive on to such a strong and tested leader as Rick Olson. His extensive experience, intelligence and commitment to our company’s core values make him an ideal candidate for his new role.”

Hoffman joined Toro in 1977 and served the company in various service, sales and marketing roles before holding a series of key executive positions across the company’s commercial and residential businesses. He was elected president in October 2004, chief executive officer in March 2005 and chairman of the board in March 2006. Hoffman has served on the board of directors of Donaldson Company, Inc. since 2005. Mike also currently serves on the board of overseers of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Olson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial technology from Iowa State University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management. He serves on the boards of The Toro Foundation and the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute.
Beginners Guide: Using Plant Species Factor for Watering

By Richard Restuccia, Jain Irrigation

Different plants placed in the same landscape may have different water requirements. This is easy to understand when comparing a cactus to a fern. But when comparing African daisies (Osteospermum) to Lavender (Lavandula) it is probably not so easy to tell. Plants use water differently and they all don’t respond to weather the same way. As a result, before selecting plants for your landscape it is important to use a plant species factor to understand how much water we need and also how best to group our plants to maximize water use.

Plant Species Factor

The easiest way to understand evapotranspiration (ET) is to think the opposite of rain. ET is the amount of water that evaporates from the soil and plant surface plus the amount of transpiration through the plant. Temperature, solar radiation, humidity and wind velocity all affect ET on a daily basis. Knowing when plants need water and knowing when they are full is the first step to a healthy thriving landscape. ET is almost always discussed in terms of a reference crop, alfalfa or grass. When it is reported today’s ET was .2 or this week’s ET was 1 inch consider this is for alfalfa ETr or grass ETo. The plants in our landscapes may need more or less water depending on several factors, one important factor being the plant species.

Reference ET is a measurement of water use for a specific grass or crop. The plants we plant often times will respond differently to weather and water than alfalfa or grass. This is where the plant species factor becomes important. Knowing your plant species factor allows watering for a specific plant. By multiplying the reference ET by the plant factor we determine the water requirement of the specific plant. The book, Landscape Plants for California Gardens – An Illustrated Reference of Plants for California Landscapes by Bob Perry, Professor Emeritus Cal Poly Pomona University, has the most comprehensive database of plant factors for California landscapes. It even breaks it down by zones in California.

Hydrozone

One of the best water conservation strategies we can use is grouping plants with similar water requirements in the same areas of our landscapes. This is called hydrozoning and it is important because we set our irrigation controller run times based on the water requirement of the plant needing the most water. Going back to the original example – if we had a cactus and fern growing in the same area of our landscape being watered in the same zone, the cactus would receive way too much water in order to keep the fern alive.

One of the many benefits of drip irrigation is the ability to water a variety of plants on the same zone by running tubing through the landscape and using different emission devices for each separate plant. As an example you could use a .5 gph emitter for the cactus and a 4 gph emitter for the fern and not overwater as much. You can still practice this same concept when establishing hydrozones. Precision irrigation methods are developing more each day as we understand the value and cost of water. In addition, precision irrigation helps create healthy beautiful landscapes.

There are many factors to consider to determine how often and how long to water your landscape. At times the amount of information to evaluate seems overwhelming. Four times a week for 20 minutes will probably keep everything alive, but the financial cost of water and what this does to the landscape or worse yet, your paying customer’s landscape, is just not worth it. Taking extra time to carefully calculate and consider all the factors will pay back in both dollars saved and a more aesthetically pleasing landscape. After all, the landscape is our signature on our homes.
**Five Causes of Drought**  
By Richard Restuccia, Jain Irrigation

The “new normal” of water management across the United States suggests we need to consider the regions we live in are either heading into a drought or coming out of a drought. California is in a mega drought and most data indicates water is becoming more available. Georgia is heading into a drought.

For the past year things have been getting worse and according to the U.S. Drought Monitor today over 30% of the state is in a severe drought. This is nothing like the drought of 2008 when Atlanta was days away from running out of water, but as cycles go, they are headed into a drought and it’s hard to say when it will end. Ohio, who has been in a sports championship drought and moving out of it is headed into a water drought.

### Five Natural and Human Causes of Drought

1. **Land and water temperatures cause drought.** As overall temperatures increase more water evaporates and severe weather conditions increase. Landscapes and crops need more water to survive and overall the demand for water increases. This is why it is so important to consider changes in ET when discussing water savings. You might be using more water or less water depending on weather conditions.

2. **Air circulation and weather patterns also cause drought.** Key events like El Niño or La Niña help contribute to drought in areas. All the water we ever had we have today and it is stored in the air or on land. Weather patterns move the water in the air around. This is constantly changing.

3. **Soil moisture levels also contribute to drought.** When soil moisture is depleted there is less evaporation of water to create moisture available to plants in areas.

4. **Drought can also be a supply and demand of water issue.** When a region is growing rapidly the demand for water can exceed the supply. When weather conditions, temperatures or air patterns push a region toward a drought the demand for water by people can offset or worsen the situation depending on how the region reacts. Excessive irrigation is an excellent of people contributing to a drought.

5. **If the timing of water doesn’t match the agricultural season** you may have too much water when you don’t need it and too little when you do need it. Proper storage and collection of water is key to counter balancing this cycle and clearly in the scope of human management.

Severe droughts also impact the migration of people. As countries continue to protect their natural resources people will move to water. The amount and timing of the movement can contribute to water issues not previously felt before.

With the acceptance of the concept – we are either moving into a drought or out of a drought – we have to be more process oriented in our approach to drought. We have the knowledge of how to combat drought. We understand the need, and have to take on the array of issues old and new to ensure a healthy water future for the United States and the world.

*If you enjoyed this article please consider subscribing to my blog and following me on twitter @H2oTrends.*

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**Netafim USA Secures U.S. EPA WaterSense Label for Smart Irrigation Controllers**

Netafim USA, a leading provider of innovative drip irrigation solutions for the landscape and agriculture industries, announced that three of its NLC web-based irrigation controllers have been awarded the WaterSense Label by the United States Environment Protection Agency (EPA). The NLC-100S Conventional, NLC-100D Decoder and NLC-100S Hybrid will all carry the WaterSense label, a highly-coveted endorsement that comes only from rigorous third-party testing and verification according to the WaterSense program’s stringent criteria for water efficiency and performance. Only those controllers that meet or exceed the standards, including a 20 percent or more reduction in water use, are awarded certification.

Setting a new precedent for landscape water-use efficiency, Netafim Landscape Controllers (NLC) are powerful, multi-function landscape controllers expressly designed to maximize the water efficiency of any landscape, while reducing the time, labor and costs incurred when expanding a system into new areas of the landscape. NLC controllers determine the unique watering needs of a specific landscape by incorporating both historical and current weather data as well as real-time data from soil moisture sensors that monitor the amount of moisture available to plants in each zone.

Developed for use in a variety of configurations from basic residential systems to large-scale commercial applications, the conventional (NLC-100S Conventional) converts a conventional system to a water-efficient remote management system, while the 2-wire decoder-based (NLC-100D Decoder) can control up to 100 stations with wire runs of up to 16,000’. The Hybrid (NLC-100S Hybrid) model combines the advantages of a conventional and decoder system, allowing retrofitting of an existing controller and

*Continued on page 14*
San Fernando Valley Chapter CLCA

Presents

2016 – 18th Annual
Memorial Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 22, 2016

9:00 a.m.  Registration
10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  Putting Contest
11:00 a.m.  Shot Gun Start

Hosted by: Angeles National Golf Club
Format: 4-Person Scramble
Includes: Green Fees, Cart, Lunch and Dinner
Awards: 1. Longest Putt  2. Shortest Drive
3. Closest to the Pin  4. Longest Drive

For more information please contact:
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**Smart Irrigation**

**Netafim USA Secures U.S. EPA WaterSense Label,**
continued from page 12

the addition of multiple valves to an existing system without the need for additional labor or cost intensive rewiring and retrenching.

“This is a great endorsement for water-efficiency and performance, and we are honored to have three of our controllers carry the WaterSense label,” said Mauricio Troche, Director of Landscape, Netafim USA. “This label reaffirms Netafim’s core values and business goals that have focused on developing water-efficient irrigation products to help decrease water use and reduce strain on water resources and infrastructure for more than 50 years. We look forward to a continued partnership with the EPA in educating irrigation professionals as it relates to sustainable landscape applications.”

The EPA’s WaterSense program seeks to help consumers make smart water choices that save money and maintain high environmental standards without compromising performance. Products and services that earn the WaterSense label have been certified to be at least 20 percent more efficient.

Netafim USA, based in Fresno, Calif., develops and manufactures low volume irrigation systems for landscape, turf and agriculture. Netafim offers an extensive range of irrigation solutions for water-efficient landscapes, including controllers, Techline tubing, filters, water meters, controllers and valves, point-source emitters, hydrometers and other products for complete dripline system installations. For more information go to www.netafimusa.com.

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