Half a typical home’s water usage is used to water the garden.

Converting sprinklers to drip uses 60% less water.
Convert the last sprinkler on the line (3 flags) to a tattletale sprinkler. Unscrew the spray head, install a Rain Bird PA 80 adaptor, and screw on a white PVC cap onto the adapter. When your drip system is running, this fake sprinkler will pop-up letting you know that the system is working properly. See Detail B; page 3.

Unscrew the top of the sprinkler in Step 4. Remove the insides of the sprinkler.

Replace with the Rain Bird Retro 1800 Kit, Marlex street elbow, and a Rain Bird Easy Fit Compression Tee and Adaptor. Note, if you have Toro or Brass sprinklers, you need to replace the entire sprinkler head with a Rain Bird 1800 sprinkler that comes with the Rain Bird Retro 1800 kit.

Find the other sprinklers with the flags and cap them;
- For Rain Bird and Hunter sprinklers -unscrew the tops and replace with the caps from the Rain Bird Retro 1800 kit.
- For Toro sprinklers—use Toro caps.
- For all other brands, you’ll need to remove the sprinklers and install PVC caps on the riser.

Take the drip tubing & push into the compression tee on both sides. Maximum of 300 feet per valve.

Make a grid with the drip tubing. See Detail D; page 4. You may need elbow compression fittings to make the 90° turn in the tubing. For trees wrap a drip line around the entire tree but leave at least 12” from the trunk. See Detail C; page 4.

Stake down the drip line every 3 feet with the galvanized stainless steel U hooks.

Flush the system. Remove the cap of the tattletale then turn on system to let the water flow then replace cap. Then tie-off each end of the drip tubing with the “figure 8” part.

Add 2” of mulch to cover the tubing and exposed soil.

Change the automatic timer – use the Santa Monica Watering Schedule as a guide. Visit www.sustainablesm.org/landscape.
Detail A
Valve Assembly for Residential Drip Irrigation System*

NOTE: All above-grade pipe and fittings must be of metal or Schedule 80, ultraviolet-resistant PVC.

Detail B
Drip Irrigation System Tattletale Flush Assembly

TFA Assembly for Linear or Grid Drip Installation

* Commercial and Multi-Family Properties should follow the recommendations at www.sustainablesm.org/landscape

City of Santa Monica 2010
These details are not to scale.
Detail C
Drip Tubing Around a Tree

NOTE A:
Drip tubing located approximately 1/3 to 1/2 the distance from the trunk to the edge of the rootball. See Note B.

Galvanized Wire
Hairpin Stakes
as required to keep emitters in proper relationship to tree

NOTE B: Space required number of drip emitters evenly around circumference of tree.

Drip Tubing

Compression End Cap
or End Clamp

Detail D
Linear Grid for Drip Irrigation

Offset first row of tubing from edge of planting area ___" according to mfgr’s instructions.

Drip tubing with emitters @ ___" spacing according to mfgr’s instructions.

Emitter Outlets
(not to scale)

Row Spacing = ___" according to mfgr’s instructions.

Offset emitters in adjacent lines

Edge of planting area