

Altman Plants Captures and Reuses Irrigation Runoff through an Innovative System of Managed Wetlands



Water Savings Incentive Program

CaseStudy

Altman Specialty Plants - Perris, CA

IMPACT

180
million gallons per year in water savings

80%
of irrigation run-off collected and reused

\$457k
in utility incentives



Canna Boxes

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Altman Plants, the largest U.S. horticultural grower, is helping revolutionize water management through an innovative reuse system at their nursery site. In collaboration with Clean Water3 and UC Davis, the grower developed a strategy with the goal of recycling 100% of their irrigation runoff.

The system utilizes vegetated wetlands to treat the water: removing harmful chemicals, balancing pH, and controlling salt content. Canna plants, barley hay, and goldfish work together to create a sustainable ecosystem that further breaks down pollutants and generates high-quality water for irrigation.

Along with infrastructure upgrades like high-efficiency nozzles and smart controllers, the wetlands system currently has an 80% reuse rate. The \$1 million project received \$457,000 in incentives from Metropolitan Water District and Western Water, and saves 180 million gallons annually.

Altman Plants showcases the viability of sustainable water management in horticulture, serving as a novel but repeatable industry example.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Decreases expenses, mitigates risks from future droughts, and lowers the environmental impact on Altman and its retail partners
- Proves that large-scale agriculture has potential for substantial water savings
- Provides opportunities to educate irrigators on ways to water plants more effectively



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



bewaterwise.com

PROGRAM CONTACT

For more information,
contact:

wsip@egia.org
(888) 645-3301