

## **Sustainability at Sunnylands**

Constructed in the early 1960s, the historic estate was designed at a time when natural resources in the desert were thought to be limitless. Today, Sunnylands strives to be a leader in sustainability within the community. The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands is committed to environmental sensitivity.

As part of this commitment, Sunnylands developed a Green Vision Program adhering to the following statement: Environmental responsibility is a core value of The Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands. Embracing creative and innovative solutions is central to the Sunnylands culture. We strive to be a leader in implementing sustainable practices to meet our current needs without compromising the environment for future generations. Sharing our environmental experiences with the public broadens the impact of our actions.

The 2012 Sunnylands Center, designed by architectural firm Frederick Fisher and Partners, received a LEED Gold certification. The rating system consisted of five categories:

1. Sustainable Sites: Encourages strategies that minimize the impact on ecosystems and water resources.
2. Water Efficiency: Promotes smarter use of water, inside and out, to reduce potable water consumption.
3. Energy & Atmosphere: Promotes better building energy performance through innovative strategies.
4. Materials & Resources: Encourages using sustainable building materials and reducing waste.
5. Indoor Environmental Quality: Promotes better indoor air quality and access to daylight and views.

Between 2009 and 2016, Sunnylands removed 60+ acres of turf from both the historic landscape and outside of the pink wall to reduce water use. At this time, Sunnylands also renovated the original 1960s irrigation system and replaced it with an updated system that allowed for scheduled watering, drip irrigation, sectional watering, and other contemporary, irrigation components.

Sunnylands overseeds only 51 acres of the estate rather than the full 200 acres. Overseeding areas on the golf course and the lawns adjacent to the historic house allows for an enhanced visitor experience by highlighting important design elements and architectural sightlines from the house. Sunnylands continues to limit water use in areas not deemed essential for the visitor experience.