

FINAL WATER SAVINGS YEAR-END REPORT DUE TO
MODIFICATION OF SPRINKLER HEADS WITH “LITTLE VALVES”
IN ONE OF TWO MEDIAN STRIPS, CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES TRIAL NO. 2 – MATCHING MEDIANS

TRIAL PERIOD: OCTOBER 15, 2008 – OCTOBER 15, 2009

In October of 2008, Robert Gutierrez, Dennis Wake and Audrey Netsawang, senior landscape personnel for the Department of Public Works of the City of Los Angeles, California, permitted the changing out of 21 sprinkler heads in a newly-constructed median strip on Sherman Way located approximately one block east of Canoga Avenue. This particular median, hereinafter known as Area No. 3, is an almost identical match to another median, hereinafter known as Area No. 2, which is located one-half block to the east of Area No. 3. The two medians form the basis for the test which was to compare the water usage of a planter area watered with sprinklers containing LittleValves to an identical area without LittleValves.

Both medians are about 66 feet in length and 6’10’ in width. Each median is planted with trees and rose bushes in the center with low-growing shrubs on both sides and the ends of each median. There is no turf or ground cover.

The sprinklers heads were properly spaced about 6 - 7 feet apart. Each median has two valves – one for the spray heads and the other for a ‘Drip’ system for the trees. Each median has a dedicated controller from Dig Corp. that is solar-operated. Each median has a dedicated meter to provide the water.

All 21 spray sprinklers in each median were Rain Bird 6” pop-ups (Model No. 1806). Most of the nozzles were 8’ - ½ circle Rain Bird nozzles with 2 adjustable nozzles (VANs) at both ends.

The pop-up riser stems on the 21 sprinklers of Area No. 3 were changed out with Valvette Systems’ LittleValve replacement riser stems – Model No. POP610, which is Valvette’s replacement stem for Rain Bird’s Model No. 1806. The ½ circle nozzles were changed to Rain Bird 15’ and the two end nozzles changed to Rain Bird 18’ VANs.

The sprinklers in Area No. 2 were kept in their original condition making no changes of any kind.

Near the end of the trial in September, the nozzles in the LittleValve median, Area No. 3, were changed to side strips, which appeared to have been helpful. Two sizes of side strips were used: 5 X 30's from Hunter and 9 X 16's by Rain Bird.

Upon completing the conversion, it was immediately noticeable in Area No. 3 that all misting and most of the overspray from the sprinklers onto Sherman Way had been eliminated.

The watering schedule for both medians prior to conversion was one watering time of 8 minutes 3 days a week. (Monday-Wednesday-Thursday) Immediately after conversion, the watering days in both medians were changed to Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Also, the watering time in Area No. 3 was lowered to 7 minutes. Watering days were reduced to twice-weekly when the new twice-weekly water-day mandate went into effect in June.

During the course of the year, maintenance was performed on the systems two or three times. Water used during maintenance was also logged.

Year-End Final Results of

TRIAL NO. 2 – Two Medians on Sherman Way, Canoga Park.

TRIAL PERIOD: OCTOBER 15, 2008 – OCTOBER 15, 2009

**Comparison of Water Usage of Area No. 3 (LittleValves)
With Usage of Area No. 2 (Without LittleValves)**

NOTES: All figures are in Cubic Feet (7.48 gallons)
Water used during maintenance not included

Period	Area No. 2 Usage (w/o LittleValves)	Area No. 3 Usage (with LittleValves)	Difference in Cubic Feet	Water Savings Percentage
10/15 - 11/15/08	116.19	84.94	31.25	26.9%
11/15 – 12/15/08	208.07	88.16	119.91	57.6%
12/15 – 1/15/09	171.32	79.82	91.50	53.4%
1/15 – 2/15/09	63.68	31.32	32.36	50.8%
2/15 – 3/15/09	117.10	62.26	54.84	46.8%
3/15 – 4/15/09	146.39	93.79	52.60	35.9%
4/15 – 5/15/09	146.26	94.90	51.36	35.1%
5/15 - 6/15/09	181.71	141.11	40.60	22.3%
6/15 – 7/15/09	167.87	130.37	37.50	22.3%
7/15 – 8/15/09	189.83	157.08	32.75	17.3%
8/15 – 9/15/09	186.58	157.02	29.56	15.9%
9/15 – 10/15/09	<u>197.50</u>	<u>147.00</u>	<u>50.50</u>	<u>25.6%</u>
TOTALS:	1892.50 cu.ft. = 14,155.9 gallons	1267.77 cu.ft. = 9482.9 gallons	624.73 cu.ft. = Savings of 4,673 gallons	

Net Result: Average Monthly Water Savings of 34.16% or 389.4 gallons