

Customer Spotlight

Water Management and Conservation
Seaside Highlands Homeowners Association

gachina
landscape management



Ongoing Maintenance: Gachina Landscape Management

Location: Seaside, California

Landscape Area: 21 Acres (6 acres turf, 15 acres shrubs & ground cover)

Maintenance Years: 2006 – Present

Renovations Performed: 2012 & 2013

Landscape Upgrades: Turf Removal & Installation of Drought Tolerant Plants

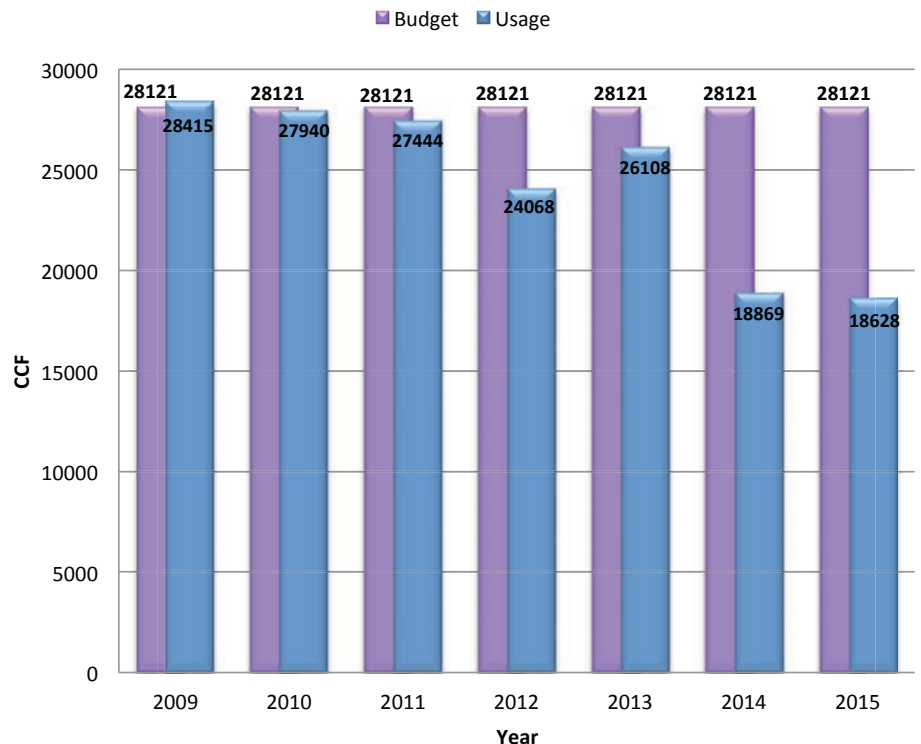
Irrigation Upgrades/Water Conservation: Installation of 7500 new nozzles & Superior Water Management

Seaside Highlands Achieves Consecutive Years of Decreased Water Usage

Seaside Highlands is a beautiful residential community of 380 homes surrounded by greenbelt lawns, bay views, cypress groves, a premier golf course, and is situated along California's scenic skyline between Monterey and Pebble Beach.

Seaside Highlands decided to get serious about their water usage after many years of exceeding their water allocations and increasing water prices. Gachina worked with Seaside to tackle their water usage and landscaping needs while maintaining Gachina's commitment to cost effective solutions, environmental stewardship and sustainable landscaping.

Water Usage vs. Budget



How Gachina reduced water 12% in 2012

Gachina performed significant irrigation upgrades, turf conversions and water conservation efforts to reduce water usage by **12%** in 2012.

- Mapped landscape irrigation meters.
- Researched and charted past water usage.
- Worked with Marina Coast Water District.
- Replaced **7,469** nozzles with low mist and matched precipitation nozzles to reduce water output.
- Analyzed yearly rainfall and turned off the system when it rained.
- Established run times based on historical ET (Evapo transpiration) for all 38 irrigation controllers, adjusted monthly.
- Monitored water meters weekly.
- Turf conversions - replaced turf with drought tolerant plant material.
- Cut water to mature, established shrubs.



How Gachina reduced water 28% in 2014

During record breaking drought conditions, our team was able to lower water usage by **28%** while maintaining the landscape at a high quality level.

- Decreased front yard watering by 25% - decreased from 4 days a week to 3.
- Monitored actual ET vs. historic ET and made adjustments accordingly.
- Adjusted station run times based on microclimate (sun/shade).
- Checked soil moisture levels using a hand held moisture sensor monthly and adjusted accordingly.
- Monitored the system for leaks, run off, etc.



Consecutive years of record low water usage

Water usage remained low in 2015 by continuing to convert overhead spray to drip, providing a dedicated irrigation technician to the site and unremitting management / adjusting of the system and controller. Gachina Landscape and Seaside Highlands are committed to water conservation while maintaining the sites' natural beauty.



Enriching the life of everyone and everything we touch.