JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

GETTING STARTED
Go to www.Twitter.com to set up your new Twitter account and get started. Add a photo, background, and bio so other users know who you are and why they should follow you. Now you're ready to start tweeting! (Keep in mind your first tweets don't need to be ground-breaking, so feel free to practice.)

GOOD APPS TO USE
There are tons of great Twitter apps for smartphones. Some are free, others cost a couple bucks. A few that we like:

TweetDeck	HootSuite
Tweetbot	Twittelator

WHO TO FOLLOW?
You can search for users by their real name or by their Twitter "handle". Twitter will also make recommendations for you. Here are a few users we recommend:

@ValleyCrest	@h2oMatters
@CoronaTools	@MarGoH2O
@H2oTrends	@VCLD_TomD
@CLCABarbara	@CLCAJohn

REPLY, DM, RT, QUOTE
Reply: respond to another tweet, visible to your followers
DM (direct message): respond directly to Twitter user, only visible to that user
RT (re-tweet): send another user's tweet to your followers
Quote tweet: add comments to someone else's tweet before re-tweeting to your followers
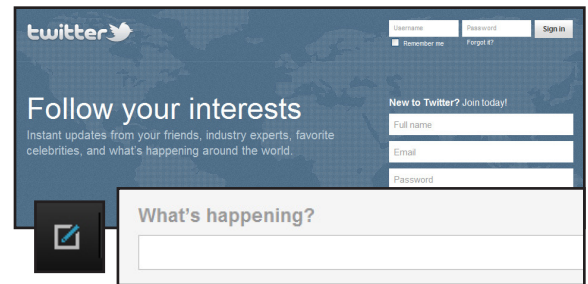
USING HASHTAGS
Hashtags (#) are how you follow topics. Include them with key words/terms in your tweets and search for them to find other users tweeting about subjects of interest. For example: #landscapechat, #treechat, #watermanagement, #tools, #LIS12. A popular hashtag will become a "trending topic".
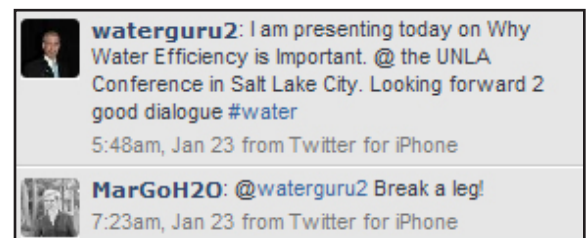
FOLLOWING A TWITTER CHAT
You can follow a chat by entering its hashtag in the search bar on Twitter.com or by using TweetChat.com. TweetChat allows you to easily monitor and chat about one topic while automatically updating the feed and adding the chosen hashtag to your tweets. You can also follow a chat on your smartphone by searching for the hashtag, but you may have to update and add the hashtag manually.
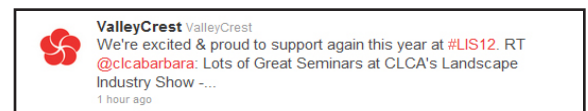
MANAGING YOUR TWITTER FEED
Twitter.com is the most basic way to manage your Twitter account online. If you want to manage multiple accounts, schedule tweets, or manage multiple social networks, HootSuite is a user-friendly all-in-one dashboard.
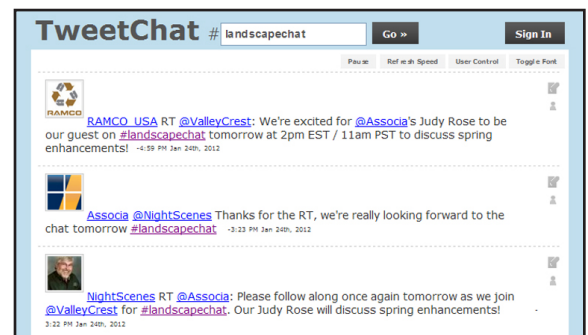

After setting up your account, compose a tweet by clicking on the small note pad icon or in the "what's happening" box
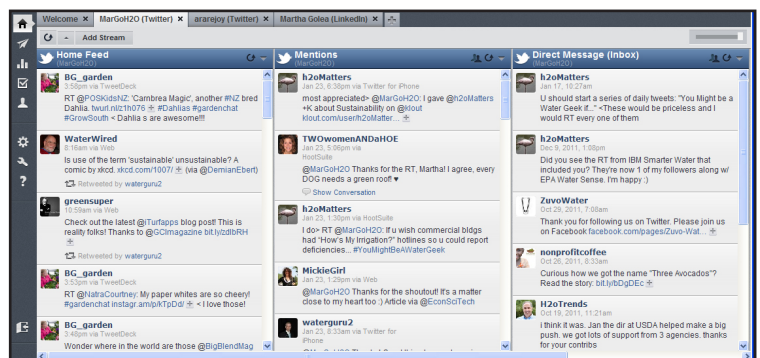

Conversation using replies, visible to followers of @waterguru2 and @MarGoH2O

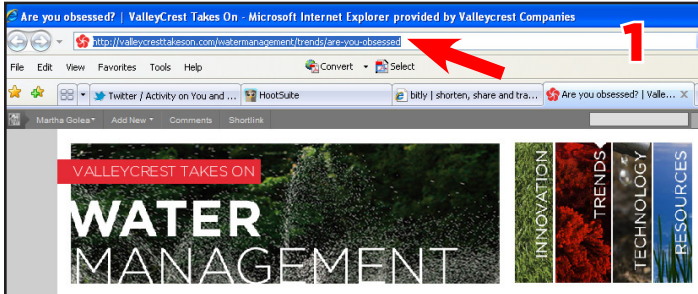@ValleyCrest re-tweets @CLCAbarbara
Also using hashtag #LIS12

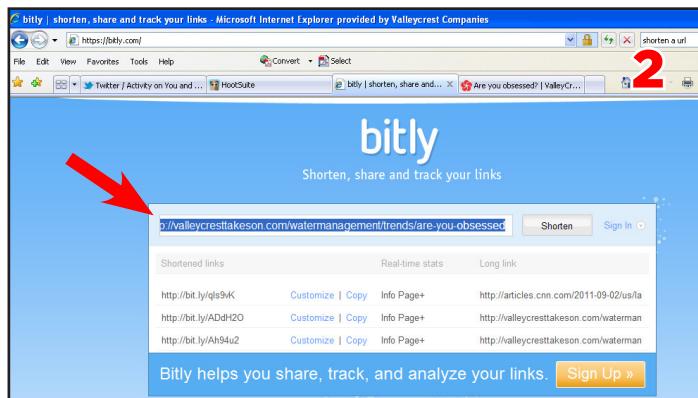TweetChat dashboard following #landscapechat
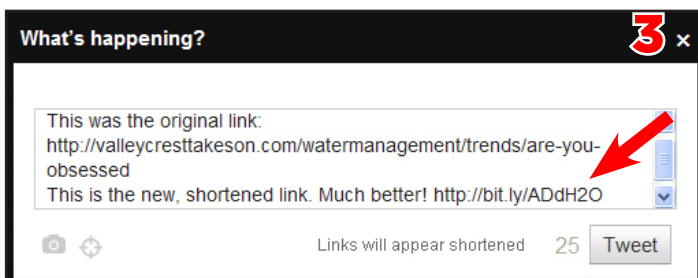

HootSuite dashboard

SHORTENING A URL

Long URLs (links) take up a lot of characters and limit your message. Twitter will automatically shorten your link, or you can use a tool like bitly to shorten your URL so you have more characters left to tweet.
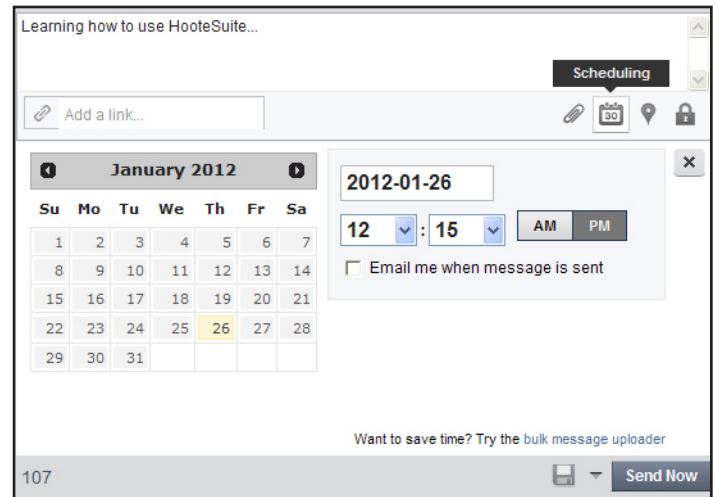

1. Copy the complete URL that you want to link

2. **Paste into** *bitly* to shorten the URL

3. **Paste the shortened URL into your new message**

Twitter training provided by Corona Tools and ValleyCrest Landscape Companies

SCHEDULING A MESSAGE

In HootSuite, you can compose multiple messages at once and schedule them to be automatically tweeted on the days and times you choose.
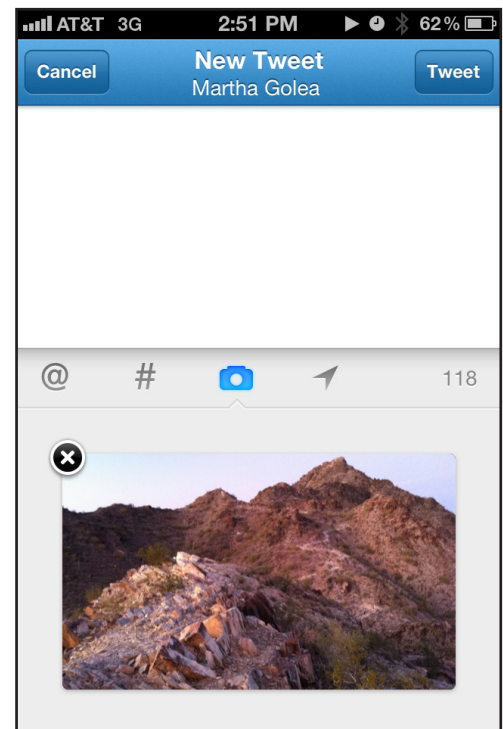

Scheduling a message in HootSuite

ADDING A PHOTO

Some smartphones allow you to tweet a photo directly from the photo/camera app, but if yours doesn't, you can add a photo to your message in the Twitter app.

To add a photo from any app or Web site, look for the camera icon. Note: The photo link will use some of your 140 characters.

Adding a photo in the basic Twitter app for iPhone 4