

Hayden Lake Irrigation District



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Your 2019 Irrigation Assessment is enclosed with this newsletter. For those of you who only have irrigation with us, this is the only bill you will receive this year unless you go over your allotted amount of water.

The assessment invoice provides the option of paying the full yearly amount or making two installment payments. If you elect to pay the total amount indicated on the invoice, a second installment payment would not be necessary. If your statement shows an amount in parentheses () in the first installment, you do not need to make a payment at this time. However, there may still be an amount due for your second installment. You can elect to pay the second installment payment by December 20th or wait until the June

20th deadline.

Per Idaho State Code (law), Irrigation assessments not paid by 5:00 pm on the given dates will become delinquent and may be subject to penalties, and interest. Please include the top portion of the assessment with the total payment or first installment. Any past due balance is included in the first installment and must be paid.

The second portion of the invoice should be included with your second installment (if paying in two installments) due on or before June 20, 2019. If you choose to pay your irrigation assessment in two installments, *it is your responsibility to remember the second payment*. You will not receive another statement for the second half assessment. The bottom portion of the bill is for your records.

If the two halves are not, equal this means your account had a credit or past due balance when the bill was generated. If it was a past due balance and you paid the amount, please contact the District office to determine what is due.

What is the Irrigation Assessment?

Hayden Lake Irrigation District was formed in 1910 from the Interstate Irrigation Company. Being an Irrigation District, Idaho Code (law) determines how we charge for irrigation. That method is the Irrigation Assessment. The assessment is levied against all parcels within the District boundaries. Levy and Collection of Assessments are defined in Idaho Code Title 43—Irrigation Districts, Chapter 7 (2017). Payment of the assessment provides water to the parcels during the irrigation season. The US Bureau standard allocation is 326,000 gallons of water per acre, or portion of an acre foot per portion of acre based on the parcel or lot size. So this means if you have a 1/4 (.25) acre parcel you would receive 1/4 of 326,000 gallons, or 81,500 gallons. This water is provided during the future (2019) irrigation season and is in addition to the domestic allocation, if that is received.

For those parcels with separate irrigation meters, please keep in mind, each meter has its own allotment. It is the property owners responsibility to manage the water use from the individual meters. You could exceed your allotment on one or both meters so be careful.



You Can Prevent Frozen Pipes

Frozen pipes aren't just an inconvenience. An average of a quarter-million families have their homes damaged and their lives disrupted each winter because of water pipes that freeze. An eighth-inch crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, destroying floors, furniture, and personal property. Both plastic and copper pipes can burst.

BEFORE THE COLD HITS:

DISCONNECT garden hoses and, if practical, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house. If you have a hose bib vacuum breaker, be sure the water is drained. **INSULATE** pipes in crawl spaces and attics. These exposed pipes are most susceptible to freezing. Remember:, the more insulation you use, the better protected your pipes will be. **SEAL** leaks that allow cold air inside where pipes are located. Look for air leaks around electrical wiring, dryer vents and pipes. Use caulk or insulation to keep the cold out and the heat in. With severe wind chill, a tiny opening can let in enough cold air to cause a pipe to freeze.

HEAT TAPE or thermostatically-controlled heat cables can be used to wrap pipes. Be sure to use products approved by an independent testing organization, such as Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and only for the use intended (exterior or interior). Closely follow all manufacturer's installation and operating instructions.

WHEN THE MERCURY DROPS: **OPEN** cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.

IF YOU ARE AWAY: **SET** the thermostat no lower than 55° F and ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to make sure it's warm enough to prevent freezing, or...

SHUT OFF and drain the water system. Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it will be deactivated when you shut off the water.

IF THE PIPES FREEZE: **DON'T TAKE CHANCES.** If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and open the cabinet doors. Try thawing with a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe. If it doesn't thaw quickly, call a plumber. If you detect that your water pipes have frozen and burst, turn off the water at the main shut-off valve in the house; leave the water faucets turned on. Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shut-off valve is and how to open and close it. **WE DO NOT RECOMMEND** leaving water running. While this can be an effective way to prevent freeze-ups, you could end up with high excess water charges. The District will not adjust excess water charges.

NEVER try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame. Water damage is preferable to fire damage.



Fire Hydrant & Meter Access

We would like to ask our customers to help the local firefighters and yourselves by clearing the bushes, trees and snow away from fire hydrants and meters. After a significant snowfall or after the snowplow goes through your area, please check your meter box and a fire hydrant, if you have one on or near your property, for snow build-up and debris. If the hydrant looks inaccessible to firefighters, please pitch in and keep the area clear. There should be a 5ft. path around the hydrant. If the meter is inaccessible to the District, repairs and shut-offs will be difficult. In the event of an emergency, every second counts. We want to ensure quick and easy access for firefighters and our technicians. Thank you.

Water Meters

The District has noticed an increase in buried and damaged meter boxes, lids and meters. Please help keep costs down. Below is a list of what you can do to help:

- Keep meter box lid clear. Light snowfall is a great insulator in the winter, but please do not pile excess snow.
- Do not burry meter boxes under grass, bushes, rocks, barks, trees, ponds, etc.
- Do not open the meter box lid - letting out heat can cause the meter to freeze.
- Be careful when plowing or mowing not to damage the meter box and lid.
- Do not add/modify anything inside the meter box. Do not add or remove soil from the box.
- Do not plant trees, bushes or shrubs within a 10-foot radius of the meter box.
- Do not turn on/off the meter, please call the office to have it scheduled and we will come out. With the exception of emergencies, we do require 24-hour notice.

We appreciate your help, thank you!

METER OBSTRUCTION

