

Hayden Lake Irrigation District



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2020 Irrigation Assessment

2020 Irrigation Assessment	1 & 2	The 2020 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.
Under 1 Acre / No Separate Meter	1	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 is not 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 pay the second installment payment by December 20 th or wait until the June 20 th deadline.
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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, 2020. 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.

Under 1 Acre No Separate Irrigation Meter

If you wish to avoid paying the assessment, and your property is an acre or under with only one meter, you can opt out of quarterly billing and switch to a monthly billing cycle. You will need to fill out the Monthly Billing Agreement which can be found on the District website at Haydenirrigation.com, under the link Announcements, or you may come to the District office. Eventually, all accounts, under an acre, in the District will be switched to monthly billing but for most, it will not occur until November of 2020. If a customer wishes to switch now versus later, there would be no need to pay the 2020 assessment and the account will no longer receive an allotment of any kind; irrigation or quarterly. The account will be charged a base rate based on your meter size and charged only for the water used monthly. If this is something you would like to consider, the District would again refer you to the District website at Haydenirrigation.com. Under the Announcements tab, you will also find a link for Rate Study & Connection Charge Analysis which will explain the new monthly billing system and what you can expect for the monthly charges. Customers will find the monthly billing cycles to be a fair billing method since the customers pay for the water they use, much like the other water district's in the area.

Bond Election Results

The District is happy to announce the Bond Election was a success. District members appeared to show their support and vote in the election. The total tally of votes was 165; 129 in favor and 36 opposed the Bond. By majority vote, the Bond passed. The District will work diligently towards building the new elevated storage tank. The next step is the design and then the project goes out for bid. It is our hope, the tank will be up and running by December 2021.



You Can Prevent Frozen Pipes

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 leak/or allow up to 250 gallons of water flow in 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 AIR** 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.

STANDING WATER: Report large pools of water. Water coming out of the ground over night or snow melted in an area with water standing on top of the grass. If you see these signs, this can mean a ruptured in ground line.



Public Comment for Rate Structure



The District has been informed some of our members find the quarterly billing cycle confusing and requested a simpler billing method. The District listened and hired the services of FCS to conduct a rate study. The District's goal was to create a customer friendly billing process and provide sufficient water service and fire flow for all our customers. The District has adopted monthly billing, but is extending the Public comment period. Our members have approved the monthly billing cycles, but little comment was received. The District will slowly transfer our domestic customers, under one acre, with no separate irrigation meter, to monthly billing. Customers will be billed a base rate based on their meter size and charged only for the water they use. The irrigation assessment will be eliminated. To see the proposed District rates, please go to our website at www.Haydenirrigation.com, click on About Us, Billing Rates, and view Download Rates PDF. Monthly billing will give our customers the power to control their water bill; no more flat rates, varying allotments or irrigation assessments. If you have questions or comments, please email the District at District@haydenirrigation.com. We look forward to hearing from our valued members.

Why is there an 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 (2020) 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.

