

Hayden Lake Irrigation District

September 2020



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Backflow Assembly Replacements

Hayden Lake Irrigation District requires all known cross-connections, including-ground sprinklers and separate irrigation systems, to be tested every year. Most District customers are aware the test must be done annually but are not aware of what would happen if their assembly is a Double Check (DC) and the annual test fails.

The State Plumbing Code mandates that if a DC fails it can be repaired but not replaced. In the past, the DC was the preferred assembly for home and irrigation systems, but the State Plumbing Code has determined that the possibility of cross contamination from these systems is higher than previously determined. Since the DC is only good for low hazard situations, they are not efficient in protecting the water system from the possibility of a back siphonage or back pressure contamination from residential or agricultural watering systems. Therefore, a DC can be repaired but not replaced. If the DC cannot be repaired, then the backflow assembly must be upgraded to a Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB) or a Reduced Pressure Principal Backflow Assembly (RP).

If a customer finds that their DC must be replaced, before they purchase a device, they should seek the services of a plumber or a backflow testers. Or, contact the District office so they know what devices are acceptable and what are not. Replacing a backflow assembly can be expensive and if the wrong assembly is purchased and installed, the homeowner could find that they must replace the backflow assembly twice as a DC will not be accepted. For the home improvement do-it-yourselfer, the District strongly suggests they contact the District office before purchasing a device. The District office is available to answer questions and to be of service to the District members.

Important Dates to Remember:

- October 1st Board Meeting 5 PM
- October 1st Billing
- November 3rd Board Meeting 5 PM
- November 3rd Election

Obstructions/Easements

It has come the District's attention numerous properties in the District have obstructions on or near the District's easements. The District maintains easements around all District infrastructure, including water meters and waterlines. All shrubbery, bushes and trees must be a minimum of 5 feet, 10 feet in diameter, away from the meter box. At no time should the meter box be buried with plant life, fabric, rocks or bark. No trees, sheds, decks, inground water futures or other permanent fixtures are allowed in an easement on or near a waterline. Flowers are acceptable but anything that can interfere with a necessary waterline repair is not. It is imperative that the District monitors their easement so the infrastructure is available when repairs must be done. The District has slowly been conducting an audit of the easements. If you believe you may have an obstruction, please contact the District office to schedule an inspection.

Elections

Hayden Lake Irrigation District is governed by a three member Board of Directors. The Directors term of office is 3 years. Each year one of the Directors is up for election. The 2020 election will take place on November 3, 2020 provided the present Director up for election is opposed. A Declaration of Candidacy form must be completed by possible candidates and turned into the office by September 24, 2020. To be eligible for candidacy you must meet the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of Kootenai County.
- Be an owner of land and reside within the District for the 30 day period preceding the election.
- Be a qualified elector -qualified elector is defined as any person who is 18 years of age, is a United States citizen and who has resided in this state and in the county at least 30 days preceding the next election at which he/she desires to vote, and who is registered as required by law.



Notice of Election will be placed in the legal section of the Coeur d' Alene Press in September and can be found on the District website at Haydenirrigation.com If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors please stop in and pick up a Declaration of Candidacy or contact us at any time and we will be happy to discuss this with you.

Customer Responsibilities

The District office receives regular telephone calls from customers with questions regarding their waterlines. They have concerns about their sprinkler systems, the location of their shut-off valves and the location of their waterlines. Where the District is always glad to be of service, there are occasions when the District is unable to assist our customers. The District only maintains information regarding the line up to the service meter. Beyond that, the responsibility lies solely with the customers as the District has no information about private lines. The District would like to be of service but we do not maintain information about the private homes in our area.

What's New in the District

375 LACEY TANK: The District is excited to announce the tank construction progress. Tank plans have been drafted, tests have been done, and the bid has been awarded to CB&I Storage and Tank Solutions on July 22, 2020. The District is anxiously looking forward to the completion of the new tower and we believe CB&I Storage Tank Solutions will do a fantastic job. We expect the project to start in October of 2020. It is our hopes that the tower will be complete by December 2021. We look forward to showing our community the finished project and will post pictures of the progress on the Hayden Lake Irrigation District Facebook page. Please visit our Facebook page for updates.

2021 RATES: In accordance with the Rate Study of 2019 and the Bond passed on November 4, 2019, the District will increase the water rates and CAP Fees by 8%. These rates will go into effect on October 1, 2020. The rate increases can be found on the District webpage at Haydenirrigation.com, under the Announcement tab. If there are any questions about the rate increase, please contact the District office.

MONTHLY BILLING: Effective October 1, 2020, all domestic residential accounts, .99 acres and under in size, will be switched to monthly bills. New accounts and customers who requested the change have already been switched to monthly billing. Monthly customers will not receive an Irrigation Assessment and the rates will be based on a base rate determined by their meter size and a tier for their usage. For specific charge amounts, please visit the District website at Haydenirrigation.com, under the Announcement tab. |

Sprinkler Winterizing

Fall will be here soon and that means We recognize the need to winterize your irrigation and sprinkler systems, we simply ask you do so safely and in a way that will not contaminate the water system.

The most common method of winterization in our area involves a large air compressor used to blow all of the standing water out of the sprinkler, or irrigation system. When performed correctly this is an efficient method to winterize. However, when performed incorrectly problems can range from contamination of the drinking water system to damaging your sprinkler system.

Contamination of the drinking water system could come from applying compressed air at pressures higher than the drinking water system or compressed air applied anywhere upstream, or before, the backflow prevention assembly. Both of these methods risk injecting oils and other contaminants into the drinking water system. This could affect your home, as well as the District's water system.

Hard Water

Many of our District customers have concerns about hard water spots and calcium build up which they affiliate with the water quality. Hard water is water that has a high mineral content, which is largely made up of calcium and magnesium. Drinking hard water has not been associated with serious health problems and can benefit your daily intake of these essential minerals. Approximately 80 percent of the country has hard water. Water hardness is usually reported in milligrams per liter (mg/L) or grains per gallon (gpg). One mg/L is equivalent to one part per million (ppm), or one part of hardness for every one million parts of water. Grains per gallon is a less accurate measurement defined as 1 grain (64.8 milligrams) of calcium carbonate dissolved in 1 U.S. gallon of water. You can find our water quality report on our website. The white scaling around faucets, built up soap scum in showers and tubs and clogged coffee makers are signs of hard water.. Vinegar can be used to dissolve the mineral build up. Coffee makers need a run through with vinegar every now and then. Better to be proactive on this and not wait till your coffee machine clogs completely.. Check with the manufacturer for cleaning instructions.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

It is the responsibility of the person digging to call 811 to prevent damage to underground utilities and possible personal injury from damaging underground facilities. Remember to dial 811 or 800-428-4950 before digging **for any reason, at any depth**. One call notifies all local utility companies of your intent to dig. Please call 2-10 working days prior to excavation. For more information visit www.call811.com.