

Hayden Lake Irrigation District

March 2020

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Backflow Assembly Testing

We like to take this time of year to remind our customer to have their backflow assemblies tested.

Assemblies must be tested annually; lawn sprinkler systems must be tested when the system is recharged (turned on) and/or prior to **June 30th**. The system does not have to be operating by June 30th but a passing backflow test must be submitted to the District.

Here are a few tips we believe may be helpful in completing your test in a timely manner:

- Schedule your test early but remember testing early does not mean sprinklers need to be running.
- Set up with a tester for annual testing. Once you are set up, the tester can contact you with his schedule.
- Get a copy of the test results for your files.
- Make sure the tester tags the assembly with the test date, results and their name,
- If you have a property management service, be sure only one of you is scheduling the testing.
- If you receive a letter, don't ignore it. If you have had your assembly tested, we have not received the passing test report, which is the reason for the letter.

We are looking forward to a successful season and are available to answer any questions you may have. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring our water system remains the high quality we are all accustomed to.

Important Dates to Remember:

- Backflow assembly tested when irrigation system is turned on or by June 30th.
- April 7th Board Meeting 5 PM
- Week of May 1st, District's irrigation system activated (weather permitting)
- May 5th Board Meeting at 5 PM
- June 2nd Board Meeting at 6PM
- June 20th —2nd half irrigation payment due.

Public Notice



With the Pandemic and the concerns surrounding the Nation, the District wants to assure our customers the Coronavirus will have no impact on your safe drinking water. We understand people may have concerns, but the water source is protected, and the District will continue to provide safe drinking water to our customers throughout this time of need. Some of our neighbors and friends are stocking up on bottled water and where the District understands their concerns, we do not believe this is necessary. However, we do not want to discourage our customers from preparing accordingly and doing what they believe to be best for their loved ones. Our water system is secure, fully automated, and we have an operator on call 24/7, but nobody can predict the future. The District has six working wells, with back-up generators in the majority of our sites, and we believe you will not be without water.

The District would like our customers to understand safety is our priority. The District will remain open normal business hours, and our staff will be available to answer your questions and concerns. However, if you are not feeling well, we do request you refrain from coming into the office. You can always call, email, and we do have a drop box available for your convenience. If you find yourself facing financial difficulties, please call us at 208-772-2612 or see the Covid-19 Form located on the Announcement page of the District website. The form may also be obtained from the District office. The District will comply with all State and local governing agencies and Kootenai County restrictions.

We hope our District members stay safe and use every precaution possible to stay healthy during this worrisome time. We appreciate our members entrusting us to provide safe drinking water and we will continue to update our website as we receive updates from our Board and/or State and local governing agencies, or if a policy change is affected.

Please monitor the District website at www.haydenirrigation.com for possible updates. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the District at the number above.



Irrigation System Activation

The District will be activating the irrigation systems starting May 1st, weather permitting. This will only affect customers who have a separate irrigation meter or are irrigation only customers. We activate the system when there is a low chance of freezing. For any property without appropriate backflow protection, your irrigation service will not be activated. We will tag your home so you are aware of what needs to be done before we can activate your system. If repairs are necessary on a customer side, we will leave a tag on your door notifying you what repairs are required by the owner. Once the irrigation meter is activated, we will hang a tag on your door to confirm your irrigation service is up and running. The backflow assembly will need to be tested by a certified backflow tester within 15 days of the date on your tag. Please remember to follow the odd/even watering schedule. Remember, it is the homeowners responsibility to monitor usage and look for leaks.

Odd/Even Watering

The District will continue the odd/even watering schedule as a part of our conservation plan for 2020. With the approval of the new water tower, depending upon the competition date, this should be the last year the water schedule is required. Please set the sprinkler timers to run on the odd or even date in accordance with your address, depending upon whether your address ends with an odd number or even number. If this setting is not available, set your sprinkler for every other day and begin the setting on either the odd or even day, again depending on your address.

If you count the number of days in a month, at some point you will be watering on the opposite odd/even date. The District understands this and you do not have to reset your timer. The other homes will also be watering on the opposite odd/even date so as a whole the District will still be on an odd/even watering schedule.

Below are a few questions we have had from our customers:

Q. Do I have to comply?

A. Yes, all homeowners, commercial businesses & Home Owner Associations must comply.

Q. What will happen if I don't comply?

A. We will tag your property requesting you modify the watering schedule. If compliance does not occur, the District will tag the home again, a fee will be charged.

Q. Can I water multiple times a day?

A. Yes, we are not limiting your use or changing your allocations of water. We do recommend not watering during the heat of the day, instead stick to mornings and evenings.

The odd/even schedule will allow customers to maintain landscaping to the level to which they are accustomed, while reducing temporary peak seasonal demands on the water distributions system.

What's New in the District

375 LACEY TANK: The District is excited to announce the tank construction will begin soon. Plans have been drafted, tests have been done and an ad for preliminary bids was advertised in the CDA Press. We expect to receive multiple bids shortly.

MONTHLY BILLING: Some of the District's customers took the opportunity to switch from quarterly bills, with an irrigation assessment, to the new monthly billing cycles. For those of you who do not know, the monthly billing cycles allow the customer to pay a base rate based on their meter size and for only the water they use. They do not receive a monthly allotment but they also do not have to pay the yearly irrigation assessment. For many other District's customers with less than an acre size lots the billing cycles will be switched to monthly in approximately October of 2020. If you have any questions regarding the monthly rates, please see the District website at www.haydenirrigation.com.

Meter Reading

We read the meters on the last two business days of every month. During this time, our vehicles drive slow and make frequent stops. Please do not follow too close behind the District trucks. Once the meters are read our technicians must analyze the information and manually verify any zero usage reads. As a courtesy to our customers, the District sends out letters to all customers when the meter indicates a leak or the usage is higher than we would expect for the month. If you receive a letter, please review it carefully. It could save you money.



**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.