

# Hayden Lake Irrigation District



November 2012

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### Important Dates to Remember:

- December 4—Board Meeting at 6 PM
- December 20—First Half of Irrigation Assessment Due
- December 18—Board Meeting at 6 PM (may be cancelled due to the holiday)
- December 25—Closed for Christmas
- January 1—Closed for New Year's
- January 8—Board Meeting at 6 PM

We wish you and your family a Happy Holiday Season.

## 2013 Irrigation Assessment

Your 2013 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 in full or first and second installments. If you elect to pay the total payment indicated on the invoice then the second installment is not due.

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 still elect to pay the total payment by December 20th or wait until the June 20 deadline.

The assessment is due on or before December 20, 2012. If the first half is paid before December 20, 2012, then the second half is due on or before June 20, 2013. Per Idaho State Code (law): Irrigation assessments not paid by 5:00 PM

on these 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 should be included with your second installment (if paying in two installments) due on or before June 20, 2013. If you choose to pay your irrigation assessment in two installments, it is your responsibility to remember the second payment. The bottom portion of the bill is for your records.

If the two halves are not equal, that means your account had a balance due when this bill was generated. If you have paid that balance, then contact the office for a revised first installment amount. If you have not made a payment, then the total first installment is due.

## What is the Irrigation Assessment?

Hayden Lake Irrigation District was formed in 1913 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. The assessment due dates are defined in Idaho code. Payment of the assessment provides water to the parcels during the irrigation season. The district provides one acre foot of water per acre, or portion of an acre foot per portion of acre based on the parcel or lot size. An acre foot is a measure of water, like a gallon. The District allocates 326,000 gallons per acre foot. So this means if you have a 1/4 acre parcel you would receive 1/4 of 326,000 gallons, or 81,500 gallons. This water is provided during the future (2013) irrigation season in addition to the domestic allocation.

If you have a parcel greater than one acre you are eligible for a separate irrigation meter. For those parcels with separate irrigation meters it is the property owners responsibility to manage the water use from the individual meters. This means if you use greater than the allocation from one meter and less from the other meter, you will be charged for the excess water regardless of any unused water from the other meter.

# You Can Prevent Frozen Pipes

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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're 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 your 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, 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. We will not adjust bills for customers who choose to do this. You can also damage your septic system.

NEVER try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame. Water damage is preferable to fire damage. You may be able to thaw a frozen pipe with the warm air from a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe.

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## Backflow Testing

The Hayden Lake Irrigation District manages and maintains our backflow prevention program in accordance with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality regulations.

The District has a responsibility to prevent potential contamination from entering the distribution system. This responsibility is addressed through the Districts Backflow Prevention Program. Testing of all backflow assemblies by a certified tester is required by the District and the State. Annual testing of all backflow assemblies is required; lawn sprinkler systems must be tested when the system is recharged (turned on) and/or prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The system doesn't have to be operating by June 30<sup>th</sup> but a satisfactory backflow test must be submitted.

The District will send a letter to all customers in March as a reminder to have the backflow assembly tested. We will send another letter 30 days before the June 30<sup>th</sup> due date. The District will track assemblies in our software and if test results are not received by June 30<sup>th</sup>, we will send a final letter to have the backflow assembly tested within 15 days. The final step is a door tag notice of disconnection. If this is necessary, there is a \$20.00 door tag fee applied to your account. If assemblies are not tested the District may terminate water service until the assembly is tested and found to be in working order.

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## How to Contact Us

**Hayden Lake Irrigation District**  
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Hayden, ID 83835-5122  
Phone: 208-772-2612  
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Hrs: M-F 7:30-4:00

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**Administrator** - Alan Miller - alan@haydenirrigation.com

**Accounts Manager** - Sherri - sherri@haydenirrigation.com

Or visit our website at [www.haydenirrigation.com](http://www.haydenirrigation.com)