

Hayden Lake Irrigation District

November 2008

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2009 Irrigation Assessments

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Important Dates to Remember:

- *December 2 - Board Meeting at 6 PM*
- *December 16 - Board Meeting at 6 PM (may be cancelled due to the holidays)*
- *December 20 - First Half of Irrigation Assessments Due*
- *December 25 - Closed for Christmas*
- *January 1 - Closed for New Year's Day*
- *January 6 - Board Meeting at 6 PM*
- *January 19 - Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day*
- *January 20 - Irrigation Assessment Workshop (open to the public)*

Your 2009 Irrigation Assessment is enclosed with this newsletter.

The first half of this assessment is due on December 20, 2008. The second half is due June 20, 2009. Irrigation assessments not paid by 5:00 PM on these dates will become delinquent and subject to late charges, penalties, and interest.

Please include the top portion of the assessment with the first installment, or total payment. Any past due balance or excess water charges, must also be paid with the first installment.

The second portion should be included with your second installment (if paying in two installments) due on or before June 20, 2009. If you choose to pay your irrigation assessment in two installments, **it is your responsibility to remember the second payment** - we

will not send out reminders in June. The bottom portion of the bill is for your records.

A typical 2009 Irrigation Assessment, for one acre or less, is \$71.00 for the upcoming year.

If your statement shows a credit (CR) balance, you do not need to make a payment at this time.

REMINDER

Please mark your calendars! We do not send out bills in June reminding you that the second installment on your Irrigation Assessment is due.

Some of our customers have chosen to staple the second installment coupon to their May or June calendar page so they won't forget!

Upcoming Billings

Enclosed with this newsletter is your 2009 Irrigation Assessment. For those of you who only have irrigation with us, this is the only bill you will receive this year.

For those of you who have their domestic water with us, you will be receiving your four quarterly domestic/commercial water usage bills as well. These are sent out right after the end of each calendar quarter. For those who have domestic water through us, the base rate each quarter is still \$50.00. For customers with commercial accounts, the base rate starts at \$75.25 per quarter. Here is a list of dates when you can expect your next bill and when it will be due.

Billing:	Look for it:	Due Date:
4th qtr. 2008 usage	January 10	January 30
1st qtr. 2009 usage	April 10	April 30
2nd qtr. 2009 usage	July 10	July 30
3rd qtr. 2009 usage	October 10	October 30

Domestic Allotment for 4th quarter is 15,000 gallons

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...all because of water pipes that freeze. An eighth-inch (three millimeter) crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons (946 liters) of water a day, destroying floors, furniture, and personal property. Both plastic (PVC) and copper pipes may burst.

Before the Cold Hits...

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.

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.

SEAL leaks that allow cold air inside, near 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.

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.

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 (12 degrees Celsius).

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 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 that people leave 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.

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.

3rd Qtr. Excess Irrigation Water Charges Waived

It was brought to the attention of our Board of Directors at the November 4th meeting, that excess water charges had been assessed to irrigation accounts that had not yet exceeded their annual allotment. This appears to be due to the allocation of irrigation water for the spring and summer quarters. This allocation originated to simplify our new billing process and encourage conservation, not to generate additional revenue. The board made a motion to forego all excess water charges assessed third quarter THAT DID NOT EXCEED THE ANNUAL IRRIGATION ALLOTMENT. This money will be credited back to our customers' accounts.

If you were charged excess water fees, over and above your regular rate, because of the spring/summer irrigation allocation, you can expect to see a credit on your next billing. If you exceeded your *annual* allocation, you will still be charged an excess water fee of .75 cents per 1000 gallons over your allotment.

We regret any hardship this may have caused our customers and apologize for the inconvenience. Please join us when we look further into this issue during a public workshop scheduled for January 20, 2009 at 6:00 PM at the District office.

How to Contact Us

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