

# Hayden Lake Irrigation District

## November 2009

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## 2010 Irrigation Assessments

### Important Dates to Remember:

- December 1 - Board Meeting at 6 PM
- December 15 - 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 5 - Board Meeting at 6 PM
- January 8 - 4th Quarter Water Bills mailed
- January 18 - Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day

Your 2010 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.

The assessment is due before December 20, 2009. If the first half is paid before December 20, 2009, then the second half is due before June 20, 2010. Per Idaho State Code (law): Irrigation assessments not paid by 5:00 PM on these dates will become delinquent and may be subject to late charges, penalties, and interest.

Please include the top portion of the assessment with the total payment or first installment. 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, 2010. 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.

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

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 subtract it and pay the remainder. If you have not made a payment then the total is due.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

## What is the Irrigation Assessment?

Hayden Lake Irrigation District was formed in 1914 from the Interstate Irrigation Company. As 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 for 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 irrigation season in addition to the domestic allocation.

If you have a parcel greater than one acre then 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

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 crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, destroying floors, furniture, and personal property. Both plastic (PVC) and copper pipes may 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 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.

**DO NOT** use electrical appliances in areas of standing water - you could be electrocuted.

We hope you and your family have a safe and happy holiday season.

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!*

## How to Contact Us

### Hayden Lake Irrigation District

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