



Rogue River Valley Irrigation District Winter 2018 Newsletter



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Maintenance

Chris
East side Ditch Rider

Garrett
West side Ditch Rider

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held at our office @ 1.30 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Board meetings are open to the public. Please notify our office in advance if you wish to attend.

Dates are subject to change so please check our website or call our office to confirm the date each month.

Mission

The mission of Rogue River Valley Irrigation District is to deliver water equitably and efficiently with the least amount of cost to its water users, keeping in mind the need for long range planning and environmental impact.

2018 Water Season

Our water season came to a close on Monday September 17th. We had a successful water season this year.

Maintenance season is now underway at RRVID. Please remember to remove all debris, obstacles, pipelines, bridges, walk boards etc in anticipation of our equipment coming your way. Read more in the "Maintenance Season" section.

District Office

Our office is open Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. We are sometimes closed during the lunch hour from 12 to 1:00 p.m. Our ditchriders may be contacted thru the District office at 541-773-6127.

You can also visit our website to view past, current and future information at www.rrvid.org

Thank you

This years Budget Committee meeting was held at our office on October 25, 2018. The Budget Committee consists of Barry Hoffinan, Orville Eary and David Wolff as well as our Board Members. We sincerely thank you all for your time, service and dedication to our District.

Letter from the Manager

A heartfelt thank you to all of our RRVID patrons for your support as we struggle through the drought years. 2018 was a rough year for everyone. We were able to get through the season making complete and full deliveries for as long as we had the water to do so. 2019 is not looking very promising at this point. Please review the Tea Cup Diagram in our newsletter. You will see that the reservoirs are empty and there has been little weather to begin filling them. In a season of normal operation, RRVID is able to run on stream flow for the first 1 1/2 to 2 months of the season. In drought years we pull from reservoir storage from day 1. This puts a strain on the system. 2019 looks like it will start off on the reservoir instead of the stream first. If that is the case we may have another short season. We are working hard on installing 3.2 miles of 48" HDPE fusion welded pipe from Bradshaw Drop down to Antelope Creek. This has been a struggle from the beginning, from securing funding through grants and state funding to running into rock that we had to dig. RRVID has an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with Three Sisters Irrigation District to help with welding of the pipe. TSID has piped their entire district. TSID has been helping us weld and install

2 siphons that had to be completed before 10/15/2018. They will be coming back after January 1st to help us weld the rest of the pipe before the start of 2019 irrigation season. Jackson County Soil & Water District will assist landowners with on farm improvements to be able to accept pressurized water. We will also be considering the addition of a Hydro Plant which will be Phase 4 of this project if it is feasible to install.

RRVID has joined FCA (Farmers Conservation Alliance) to help with a modernization plan for the entire district. This process is also funded by grants that FCA has attained through The Energy Trust of Oregon. Once this process is complete it would give us a roadmap as to the best way to modernize RRVID through piping, lining of canals and help us find the funding that we would need to get this done.

In closing, lets all hope that we start getting some snow in our mountains so that our reservoirs begin to fill! Please feel free to visit our webste at www.rrvid.org where you can click on the link to view the current tea cup diagram. We are also keeping our website updated with important information and photos of the current projects. Have a very happy holiday season. I wish you all the very best for 2019.

Brian Hampson—District Manager RRVID



Use RRVID Website!

Please use our website for important and interesting information and updates. To view our website, go to: www.rrvid.org



From The Accounting Department

The district operates on a calendar year which begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st. Annual assessments are mailed by the 2nd week of January. Please pay your bill in a timely manner so when water season begins you will have uninterrupted water service. If the account is not paid in full by March 1st, interest accrues at the rate of 16% per annum (1.333% per month) on the unpaid balance. The interest is retroactive to the billing date of January 1st. For all accounts that have not paid in full OR have not signed a 2019 payment agreement form a \$25.00 late fee will be added to your account April 1st. If the bill for 2019 is not paid in full by July 19th and you do not have a signed payment agreement on file with our office for 2019, then the District will file a lien on the property for all unpaid irrigation fees, plus interest and a Lien Fee in the amount of \$316.00 will be added to the account. Please remember that it is District Policy that a new payment agreement form must be signed and on file in our office each year. Payment agreements can be done in our office, by email or by fax. Payments

can be made by cash or check. We do not accept credit/debit cards or any form of payment over the phone. You can mail your payment, use the after hours mail slot on our front door or you can come into the office during business hours.

Please remember it is the water patrons responsibility to update the district office of any change of mailing address, ownership or phone number.

Got Email?

If you would like to add your email address to your account as a way for us to contact you or for you to contact us, please email Pam at Pam@rrvid.org or call our office and we will add it to your contact information.

RRVID 2019 Rate Increase

Per Acre Rate \$68.60. Manufacturing Water Right \$67.20
All other fees will remain the same for 2019. For a view of our complete 2019 Fee Schedule please visit our website www.rrvid.org

2018/2019 Maintenance Season

Canal, road and right of way maintenance is underway at RRVID. Please remember to remove all debris, obstacles, pipelines, bridges, walk boards etc, in anticipation of our equipment coming your way during maintenance season. Landowners who own property along the main canal are well aware of the maintenance that has to take place on a regular basis. Each Fall, after the water has been shut off, the silt and vegetation needs to be removed from the canal. RRVID typically puts this material back across the canal road or uses it to level the road from damages caused by human and animal traffic during the Spring. RRVID's easements and right-of-ways are for District access and operation and maintenance only.

They are not public right-of-ways. Entrance onto their easements and right-of-ways may constitute trespassing on the underlying landowner's property. RRVID does the mowing of the canal banks during Fall and Spring. RRVID uses flail mowers that mount onto our tractor to mow blackberries and brush along our right-of-ways. We request that our water users please limit the use of the canal ditch roads during off-season. Using these roads in the off-season can cause damage to the ditch roads and makes more work for our maintenance crew. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Rogue River Valley Irrigation District's No Spray Agreement

If you are a land owner and would like to request that no office annually to echemicals are used to control plant growth on the District's right-of-way on your property, please call our office. Additionally, please contact our nsure that we have you on our "NO SPRAY" list. To guarantee that we have the proper time to notify our Ditch Riders please always call our office before February 1st.

Reclamation Reform Act (RRA)

ANY LAND OWNER WHO OWNS AND/OR LEASES IRRIGATED LAND TOTTALLING 40.1 ACRES OR MORE MUST ANNUALLY (OR MORE OFTEN) FILE RRA FORMS WITH THE DISTRICT OFFICE PRIOR TO RECEIVING IRRIGATION WATER. Please contact the District Office before March 1st to request the appropriate form(s).

The Bureau of Reclamation requires that RRA forms be on file prior to any water being delivered to the property of owners who own and/or lease irrigated land totalling 40.1 acres or more. If your landholdings change in any way during the irritation season, which includes moving your property into a trust or the

passing of one or more of the property owners, it is imperative that you contact the District office to update your RRA forms. The District makes every effort to help landowners comply with the RRA regulations, but it is absolutely the landowner's responsibility to understand the law and make sure that the correct forms are filled out and on file. Please remember when you make any changes in your landholdings that put you at 40.1 acres or more owned and/or leased, to contact the District office for the necessary RRA forms. If a landowner changes their ownership in any way, during the irrigation season and receives water without a new form on file, the landowner will be fined by the Bureau of Reclamation.

Klamath Basin Adjudication

The Klamath Basin Adjudication is still on-going requiring numerous hours of work on behalf of the RBWUCI legal counsel to find a resolution to contested water right issues. Now that the Adjudication process is in the court system in Klamath County it is anticipated that it is going to be a very long drawn out process considering the numerous parties involved in the resolution process. We anticipated that the legal fees involved to get resolution to contested water rights will continue to be very expensive.

RRVID is closed on these dates

2018

- November 12 Veterans Day
- November 21 Closed at noon
- November 22 & 23 Thanksgiving
- December 24 & 25 Christmas

2019

- January 1 New Years Day
- February 18 Presidents Day
- May 27 Memorial Day
- July 4 Independence Day
- September 2 Labor Day
- November 11 Veterans Day
- November 27 Closed at noon
- November 28-29 Thanksgiving
- December 24 Closed at noon
- December 25 Christmas



Canal Safety: Irrigation waters, whether they pass through open countryside, the middle of town or your property, are extremely hazardous to children. Statistics show that drowning accidents are one of the most common causes of death for children under the age of 14. Please ensure that your child knows how to swim and that your child only swims in supervised areas designated for swimming. **NEVER** allow your child to swim, fish or play in or around a canal area or on canal banks. Its very important that children understand the dangers of the canals. We have wonderful Otto Otter Canal Safety coloring books available in our office and they are free. They are stories in English and Spanish. There is also a website available for Otto and it has a GREAT video for kids to watch about canal safety. Go to www.usbr.gov/pn/about/otto/index.html

HELPFUL RESOURCES



- > **Jackson Soil & Water** has a handbook called Natural Resource Stewardship and we have them available at our front desk. This handbook is illustrated with colorful photos. Whether you have 200 acres or .2 acres, you will find useful information in this handbook,- like planting a rain garden, conserving rain water in your home, sharing your property with wildlife, improving soil or just a better understanding of the natural resources around you. To visit Jackson Soil & Water District website go to <https://www.jswcd.org/>
- > **Energy Trust of Oregon** has a Production Efficiency Program and we have the applications available in our office. Applicants can receive incentives for specified equipment and sprinklers. For more information regarding this incentive program you can contact Energy Trust of Oregon by phone or on their website. To visit Energy Trust of Oregon website go to <https://www.energytrust.org/>

OWRD Temporary Transfer Pilot Project

Are you coming up on the five year non-use rule? Do you have more acreage than you have a water right for? Do you know someone who would like to use your water for a season? Would you like to put your water somewhere else?

If you answered yes, RRVID can help you! RRVID was chosen to participate in the Oregon Water Resource Department District Temporary Transfer Pilot Project which allows a water patron, within

the District boundaries, to temporarily move their water right onto a portion of their land that currently does not have a water right or onto a completely different tax lot. The tax lot you would like to temporarily move the water right to, does not need to be owned by the water patron. The temporary transfer of water right will last for one season but you may apply for more than one season. If you think this pilot project may work for you or if you have further questions, please call our office and talk with June.

TEACUP DIAGRAM: US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region. Bear Creek and Little Butte Creek Basins. Diagram as of 11/19/2017. For more up to date information go to <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/roguetea.html>

