

EL CAMINO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
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WEB SITE-<http://elcaminoirrigation.specialdistrict.org>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Statton	Division 1 (Chard to Reno)
Kris Lamkin, Vice-Chairman	Division 2 (Reno to Rodeo)
Rich Titus, Director	Division 3 (Rodeo to Hermosa)
Leland Hogan, Chairman	Division 4 (Hermosa to Gyle)
Jacob Pochop	Division 5 (99-W East to Railroad)

2023 IRRIGATION SEASON INFORMATION

Here we are getting ready to start another water season. This newsletter is being sent to inform property owners of our policies and to update you on current changes. Also, we hope this will help answer any questions you may have.

Board meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the public.

OFFICE HOURS

The office hours are Monday-Friday 8:15am to 12:00pm and from 12:30pm to 4:15pm during the irrigation season. The office is closed for lunch from 12:00-12:30pm.

WATER RATE + PGE CHARGES

\$43.48 acre-foot + PG&E charges - Proportionate cost per hour (No Water Rate Increase for 2023)

WATERING TIMES

Scheduled water starts times: November 1 through April 30 is between 8:00am & 9:00am

May 1 through October 31 is between 6:00am & 7:00am

SCHEDULING WATER

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE IRRIGATOR TO SCHEDULE FOR WATER, NOT THE OFFICE TO KEEP YOU SCHEDULED IN!!!

All requests for water must come through the office during regular business hours. In the event that a pump is not running or due to unforeseen circumstances, water can be ordered for weekend use through the weekend water person @ 530-366-8023 from 7:00am to 12:00pm only in the event there is a window of time that an irrigator feels they can have their irrigation completed in front of a customers existing scheduled time. The maximum time the customers existing scheduled time can be delayed is 24 hours, at which time the water will be taken and given to the customer with the scheduled time. The customer with the scheduled time has the 1st option of filling the vacant window of time. If customer #1 is on the schedule of Wednesday to start watering and it is Monday and customer #2 wants the water for 2 days but it would run into customer #1 starting time the Secretary has to

call customer #1 to see if customer #1 wants to move up on the schedule, if customer #1 wants to move up then customer #2 will follow customer #1. If customer #1 does **NOT** want to move up then customer #2 will get the water first and customer #2 is to have the watering done by the scheduled start time of customer #1 on Wednesday. Customer #2 can run up to a maximum of 24 hours past the scheduled start time for customer #1 but is not to schedule with this thought in mind, the watering is to fit within the window opening of time. **Example:** If there is a 2-day window opening on the schedule and someone calls into the office and wants the water for 3 days, that person cannot get their watering done within the window opening of time available.

If you have an emergency, please TURN OFF THE PUMP AND CALL THE OFFICE - 530-385-1559 and also call:

Monday-Friday before 2:30pm: John Nance – 530-366-6202

Saturday & Sunday before 2:30pm: Chris Swearingen - 530-366-8023

TIME OF USE PUMPS

Pumps 6, 15, 19, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 37

must be turned off by 4:55pm Monday thru Sunday and back on at 8:05pm.

For pumps running through peak hours there will be a service **CHARGE OF \$5.00 IN ADDITION TO THE ACTUAL PG&E CHARGES** for peak hour use. For additional information please call the office. So, **DON'T BE LATE TO TURN OFF THE PUMPS AT 4:55pm AND DON'T START THE PUMP BEFORE 8:05pm**

**After 8:05pm Monday-Sunday – Pump 6, 15, 19, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 37
the customer can start the pump**

LANDOWNER/RENTER AGREEMENT

If you are renting your property and the renter is paying for the water, please complete a landowner's form (a new agreement is required each year). These forms have already been mailed out to landowners based upon last year's return. The district collects a deposit from the renter before the first irrigation. If a renter does not pay the entire water bill, then the bill will revert back to the landowner for payment.

PUMP OPERATION

The Irrigation Systems Operator will record your turn on time and start meter # and you will record the pump turn off time and the meter #. These will be the numbers you will call in. **When you turn your time in, please make sure it is to the minute.** If you are sending water to another customer, these numbers will also be his/her start time. **When turning off your pump, PLEASE PUSH THE OFF BUTTON OR TURN THE DIAL TO OFF before pulling the handle and locking.** This will protect the pump and equipment and will also eliminate any unexpected expenses.

WATER DEPOSITS AND BILLING

A deposit has always been required on your water account based on your prior year's usage. The prior year will be averaged out for your deposit.

At the end of the season, customers may request the use of this deposit to pay their last irrigation bill, request a refund if the last water bill has been paid or have it remained on your water account for the next season.

When leaving a message on the answering machine or text, state your name, pump #, **exact time on or off and meter # on or off. If you text, you can send a picture of the meter with your times. (This is the best)**

The water billing cycle is thru the last day of each month and will be mailed out by the 5th. Payment is due on or before the 15th of each month.

DELINQUENT BILLS

If your water bill is not paid by the 15th of each month, you will not be allowed to continue to water and your deposit will be applied to your outstanding bill. If your deposit does not cover the full amount due, a **\$30.00** penalty per month will be imposed. Water will not be delivered to any parcel of land unless ALL outstanding bills have been paid. This includes; water deposits, standby assessments, GWUA, penalties, repairs and water bills.

WATER SERVICE CHARGE

All customers ordering water will be charged a **\$25.00** service charge each time the pump is turned on or set-up and unlocked. If the pump is turned off for your convenience and not because of the on and off times required by the pump, you will be charged **\$25.00** each time you have the pump turned back on. The service charge will be split between the customers that send water to each other. There will be no service charge if the customer sets up their own line and turns the pump on. This charge will not apply due to power outages or equipment malfunction.

MEASURING CUSTOMER BOX AND PORTABLE BOX FEES

Customer Box - \$30.00 Per Measurement

Portable Box - \$40.00 Per Measurement

TAKING PUMPS FROM OTHER CUSTOMERS

Before taking the pump from another customer, you must be in agreement with the office and either John Nance or Chris Swearingen and the customer that currently has the pump. In other words, you can't take the pump until the customer that is using it calls you first. If you take the pump without notice from the customer that has the pump, it will cost the amount of water that the customer lost.

DISTRICT EASEMENTS

It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain a clear pipeline easement of 15' (7.5' on each side of the pipeline) Please adhere to these requirements of keeping the pipelines clear of tree roots that may plug or destroy the pipelines. We have had numerous instances in the past year where a clog in the pipeline has caused numerous hours to locate and repair. It is our desire to cut down on these types of problems and we ask you to help in minimizing our expenses in this area. District personnel will be contacting property owners with such potential problems.

OPEN VALVE(S) POLICY

Anyone found with open valves that affect a scheduled water user will be subject to one or more of the following:

- **The District must see and record that the valves are open before any credit is given.**
- The violator will be charged the full head of water for the entire amount of time the valve(s) are left open.
- A \$50.00 fine will be charged for each violation in conjunction with the water charges.
- The water customer will have until the next billing cycle to contest the bill. **NO EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE.**

WATER TABLE & VALVES OPENED

As the irrigation season begins, we are finding ourselves with an extremely high-water table. The output of our wells will be much higher than in mid to late summer. Water users will have to open more valves than usual and have them fully opened (**TOPS OFF**). After observing the water flow for a period of time users can make adjustments according to the amount of water they are receiving. **Damage to the systems due to excess pressure from not having the adequate number of valves open will be the responsibility of the water user.**

LEAKS AND/OR DELIVERY PROBLEMS

In the event of a leak or broken pipe or you feel you haven't received your full head of water; you have 2 hours to contact:

Monday-Friday - Office at 530-385-1559 or cell # 530-567-8507 **AND**
Monday-Friday 6:00am-2:30pm @ 530-366-6202 – John Nance

Saturday & Sunday - Office at 530-385-1559 or cell # 530-567-8507 **AND**
Saturday & Sunday 6:00am-2:30pm @ 530-366-8023 - Chris Swearingen

Wishing each of you a productive and enjoyable watering season.

Field Manager - John Nance – Monday-Friday – 6:00am – 2:30pm - 530-366-6202

Chris Swearingen – Saturday & Sunday – 6:00am – 2:30pm - 530-366-8023

Office Manager - Linda Lovelace – Office – 530-385-1559 Monday-Friday – 8:15am–12:00pm & 12:30pm-4:15pm Office Cell 530-567-8507