



## NAMPA & MERIDIAN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

1503 FIRST STREET SOUTH  
Telephone 208-466-7861

NAMPA, IDAHO 83651-4395  
Fax 208-463-0092

CHECK OUT THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE: [www.nmid.org](http://www.nmid.org)

ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE

FOR CURRENT TAXES ONLY

Convenience fee charged by third party



District Website

*"111 Years of Irrigation in the Treasure Valley"*

### IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT WATER RIGHTS

Over the last three years NMID, as well as many other irrigation entities with interests in the Boise River watershed, have had discussions with the Idaho Department of Water Resources [IDWR] over a matter referred to as **"Refill."** The issue is now deadlocked and is in litigation.

The integrity of your Water Rights, in the form of Storage Rights and Priority Dates, will be seriously compromised if the IDWR is successful in altering these historic Rights. These Rights are a part of your property. Storage Rights and Priority Dates are critically important when it comes to the value of your property in general and your Water Rights in particular. As either an urban water user or an agricultural water user, it is important that you understand your risk of loss should IDWR succeed with their proposal.

In the interest of keeping our patrons informed, we have set up a section on the NMID web page in which you can visit and study this issue further.

Please go to: [www.nmid.org](http://www.nmid.org) and click on *News* and then *Refill*, for more information.

**YOUR IRRIGATION DISTRICT:  
A VITAL PART OF THE HISTORY  
OF CANYON AND ADA COUNTIES**

Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District was formed in 1904 to bring water to Idaho farmers developing the lands of Canyon and Ada Counties by creating a system of canals and storage reservoirs. Some of our water rights from the Boise River date from the late 1800's. We also have storage rights that date from the early to mid 1900's in the Arrowrock and Anderson Reservoirs. For over a century, Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District has played a crucial role in the economy of the Treasure Valley.

**See reverse side for other District information**



**WHO MANAGES THE DISTRICT?**

The Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District is operated by a staff of water delivery professionals under the guidance and supervision of a three-member Board of Directors.

Board of Directors meetings are scheduled to be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the District Office, 1503 1<sup>st</sup> Street South, Nampa, ID.

Directors are elected to their positions by landowners in the District. The election is held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November. For 2015, the Director Election for Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District will be held November 3. For more Director Election details please visit our website at [www.nmid.org](http://www.nmid.org).

Precinct No. 1 votes at Horizon Elementary School, 730 North Mitchell, Boise; Precinct No. 2 votes at Meridian Middle School, 1507 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Meridian; and Precinct No. 3 votes at Nampa Civic Center, 311 Third Street South, Nampa.

**MAY I USE THE WATER  
AT ANY TIME I WISH?**

Water provided by Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District must be obtained through the District according to the rules and regulations we have adopted. These rules require that you request in advance that water be delivered to your lands at a designated delivery point, and you may be required to use the water on a rotation schedule with other water users. Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District can provide information on laws relating to Water User’s Associations.

**IS IT TRUE THAT SOME LANDOWNERS  
CANNOT GET WATER BUT HAVE TO PAY  
IRRIGATION TAXES ANYWAY?**

Yes. Lands in the boundaries of Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District are under obligation for the expense of maintenance of dams, canals and ditches. Thus the lands are held liable for the assessments. In some cases the developer of the property has failed to provide any way for water to be delivered to the individual lots.

If the developer has failed to provide a system for distribution of water to lots within the subdivision, it is the obligation of the owners of the land in the subdivision to provide a method by which water may be delivered to their individual lots from the diversion on the canal or lateral if they wish to use the water.

**ARE CANALS, DITCHES AND DRAINS TO BE  
USED FOR RECREATION?**

No. Canals, ditches, and drains are very unsafe and no one, especially children, should play in or near them! Most canals, ditches, and drains are constructed on privately owned land. Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District is the only authorized user of the canals, ditches, or drains.

**IF I CANNOT RECEIVE WATER, IS THERE ANY  
METHOD TO GET OUT OF PAYING THE  
IRRIGATION TAXES?**

Yes. This method is commonly known as exclusion. Contact Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District to determine whether or not exclusion is available for the lands you own or are purchasing and, if applicable, request an exclusion petition.

**ABOUT YOUR IRRIGATION  
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT**

Under Idaho law, the District assesses land inside its boundaries to help pay for the operation and maintenance of the District’s water storage, drainage, and distribution system. Assessments for each tract of land are based upon the land’s water rights. Idaho law specifies that the assessment becomes a legal obligation of the land and, therefore, a responsibility of the landowner. Levy rates for Pressurized Urban Irrigation Systems may vary based on costs related to the required operation and maintenance of each system.

The District also receives revenue from the hydroelectric plant at Lucky Peak Reservoir. Those funds are used to reduce the annual costs to you.

For example, the Ridenbaugh & the Project Operation & Maintenance levy is about \$6.93 per acre less than it would have been thanks to the hydropower income.

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PAY THE EXACT  
TAX AMOUNT SHOWN ON THE NOTICE BY  
THE DUE DATE GIVEN?**

Interest is calculated daily on delinquent taxes. The District may not be able to receipt your payment if you have missed the due date, and/or your payment is not for the exact amount. Your notice may be mailed back to you for additional fees/costs that have accrued. Partial payments cannot be accepted.

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

Please feel free to call us during business hours with your questions. Our Office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Our telephone number is: 208-466-7861

Or visit our website at [www.nmid.org](http://www.nmid.org)

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**WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON’T PAY THE  
IRRIGATION TAX?**

The Irrigation District levies against all lands in the district in the fall of each year. Payment of the 1<sup>st</sup> half tax is due by 20 December of the year of assessment, and payment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half is due by 20 June of the subsequent year.

It is very important for you to understand Idaho State Law requires you to pay irrigation taxes just as you are required to pay property taxes.

If you do not pay your assessment, Idaho State Law requires the District file a lien on your property. If the costs are not paid within three years after recording the delinquency at the county, Idaho State Law 43-716 requires the treasurer of the district to issue to the District a tax deed to the property. To avoid the potential loss of title to the property through Tax Deed Sale, the landowner must pay all unpaid liens or assessments.

The purchaser of a tax deed at a Tax Deed Sale holds all rights and title that the irrigation district acquired through assessment and delinquency proceedings. Once the sale is made and a deed of sale is delivered to the purchaser, any further action is between the landowner and the purchaser, not the landowner and the irrigation district.

See other side for important “Refill” information