

News Release

Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District 1503 First Street South, Nampa, Idaho 83651 TEL: (208) 466-7861 -- FAX: (208) 463-0092 Serving The Treasure Valley Since 1904

<u>IRRIGATION DISTRICT TAX BILLS</u> ON THE WAY TO TREASURE VALLEY RESIDENTS

For Immediate Release Nampa, Idaho – Oct. 18, 2017 For Media Information Contact: Daren Coon – 208-466-7861

Irrigation district tax bills will be mailed tomorrow (Oct. 19) to more than 39,000 Treasure Valley residents with property inside the boundaries of the Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District, NMID officials announced today.

Property owners can pay the assessment in full or in two parts. At least the first half payment must be made by December 20. June 20 is the second payment deadline for residents who chose to make two payments.

A convenient and secure payment system is available on the NMID website – <u>www.nmid.org</u> – for residents who prefer to pay their irrigation taxes via the internet. A third party service fee charge is required for using the online payment convenience option and only current year, non-delinquent taxes can be paid online.

The taxes are based on a levy of approximately \$68.00 per acre, or approximately \$17.00 for a quarter-acre residential lot. Other costs such as for pressurized urban irrigation systems, assessment costs and drainage and reservoir maintenance charges are then added to the assessment to arrive at the final total tax bill.

This year's assessment was reduced by about \$7.02 per acre thanks to income from the District's hydropower plant at Lucky Peak dam.

The taxes pay for operation and maintenance of the canals, laterals, drains and dams that make up the District's water delivery system. Taxes are also assessed against more than 16,900 individual parcels in residential subdivisions across the valley that use pressurized irrigation systems owned and managed by the District, according to Daren Coon, NMID Secretary Treasurer.

Some property owners still owe tax assessments from previous years but may not be aware of it. Past due tax assessments are included in the tax notice. A list of properties with back taxes owing will be available in November on the District's website.

People who own property in the District, especially newcomers, sometimes believe they do not have to pay the taxes because their property does not receive irrigation water. But that is not the case.

"Idaho law states that irrigation system operation and maintenance levies are to be assessed against all lands in the District – not just those actually using the water," Coon explained.

People with questions about their assessment or the Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District should call the District office. The telephone number is 208-466-7861.

The Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District is water storage, conveyance and distribution system founded in 1904 that supplies irrigation water to some 69,000 acres of farm, urban and commercial lands including more than 16,900 individual parcels of land in Canyon and Ada Counties that receive pressurized irrigation.