



News Release

Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District
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Serving The Treasure Valley Since 1904

BENEFITS OF URBAN PRESSURIZED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS PROVES ATTRACTIVE TO MORE AREA RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS

For Immediate Release

For Media Information

Contact:

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Daren Coon – 466-

The benefits of using inexpensive canal water to irrigate lawns, gardens and landscaping rather than pristine and expensive municipal drinking water has attracted nine area residential subdivisions to join the growing pressurized urban irrigation program managed by the Nampa and Meridian Irrigation District.

The new subdivisions were added during the last six months of last year. This brings to 329 the total number of residential subdivision utilizing NMID pressurized systems.

Altogether, the nine subdivisions, eight in Ada County and one in Canyon County, add a total of 160 individual tracts of land to the NMID system. The land area included in the tracts brings the total land area now under pressurized irrigation to more than 5,400 acres.

The additions now means more than 14,800 individual parcels of land in Ada and Canyon County, nearly all residential lots, are now served by pressurized irrigation systems. The pressurized systems use canal water rather than precious municipal drinking water to irrigate grass, landscaping, shrubbery and gardens.

“Those thousands of residential and commercial properties that now use canal water from pressurized urban irrigation systems collectively add up to a yearly savings of approximately 5 billion gallons of municipal drinking water that does not have to be pumped from the valley’s underground aquifer just to be used for watering grass and shrubs. That is an enormous boost to water conservation efforts in the Treasure Valley,” said Daren Coon, NMID Secretary Treasurer.

It also means the 160 new property owners will have to relearn how to water their lawns, gardens and landscaping because pressurized irrigation systems are encouraged to irrigate at any time of the day. It’s an approach exactly opposite of irrigation systems using municipal water, in which it is recommend that irrigation be done at night to hold down expensive municipal water costs by avoiding evaporation.

In pressurized systems, canal water is being supplied to pressurized systems 24/7 so the systems are designed to supply water to a large percentage of users at all times.

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“It is actually bad for the District's pressurized systems to have all users focus on a narrow time period like at night. That creates an unusually high demand on the pressurized systems pumps which can result in reduced water pressure. That's why we encourage our users to irrigate at all times of the day,” Coon added.

The Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District is a water storage, conveyance and distribution system founded in 1904. The District also supplies irrigation water to some 69,000 acres of farmland in Ada and Canyon counties. More information about the District is also available on its Internet web site: www.nmid.org.

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