



## City of Greenleaf

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### Memorandum

Date: 04 April 2022  
To: Municipal Irrigation System Patrons  
cc: Mayor, City Council  
From: Lee C. Belt, City Clerk  
RE: 2022 IRRIGATION SEASON UPDATE

120 years ago, the Greenleaf town-site was just sparse sage-brush – No trees, and no green grass. The only vegetation in the spring died back by July. It was the development of the irrigation dams and delivery system that has turned our area into what it is today. This irrigation system is completely dependent upon the seasonal moisture that falls within the Boise River Drainage. This year we have received an extremely low amount of moisture. The following is what this means to you.

- ***We will run out of irrigation water very early this year. This is not the year to put in a new yard.*** Gardening will be challenging after irrigation water ends.
- The city anticipates availability of ***less than 1/3*** of a typical irrigation water year.
- Our irrigation district is starting water deliveries late this year, and irrigation season is expected to stop early when water runs out – ***Water delivery could end as early as late July.***
- The city's current strategy to extend irrigation water availability as long as possible includes:
  - Delayed start of irrigation delivery to late April / early May. Watch the reader-board at City Hall and the city website for irrigation start date.
  - In the event of significant rain, irrigation delivery may be interrupted or re-scheduled to the following week.
  - Irrigation on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in April and May to reserve water and add Thursdays in late June or July when high temperatures demand more irrigation water.
- The city recommends that those on the municipal irrigation system do the following:
  - Please, water at night if possible.
  - Only use what you really need.
  - Be kind to your neighbors who want water from the same system you're on!

**Questions and Answers:**

**Q. Is it okay to use potable municipal drinking water to irrigate my property?**

**A. Yes, but it is expensive – All potable water consumed will be billed.**

**Q. If I'm not getting normal irrigation water, then why should I pay my annual irrigation bill?**

**A. By State Law, the irrigation toll is for operation and maintenance of the delivery system, not for any set quantity of irrigation water availability or use.**

**Q. I don't have any irrigation water available. What should I do?**

**A. If you paid your irrigation bill, then call city hall and request a call-back from public services staff to consult regarding your specific situation.**

**Q. I just recently moved to Greenleaf and I don't understand irrigation. What should I do?**

**A. Call city hall and request a call-back from public services staff to consult regarding your specific situation.**

**Q. Why might I see irrigation water elsewhere in the Treasure Valley, after we no longer have irrigation water here?**

**A. Other areas have older water rights and have different irrigation delivery systems. We are served by the Wilder Irrigation District through the Boise Project Board of Control.**

Please contact City Hall if there are questions. More information will be posted as a memo on the 'bulletin board' on the city's website ([www.greenleaf-idaho.us](http://www.greenleaf-idaho.us)) as it becomes available.