

# Methow Valley Irrigation District

PO Box 860

Twisp, WA 98856

(509) 997-2576

[mvid2019@centurytel.net](mailto:mvid2019@centurytel.net)

March 21, 2023

Dear MVID members and extra-water users,

The Methow Valley Irrigation District (MVID) is preparing to start the irrigation system for the 2023 season. We would like to ask for your help to ensure a smooth start-up and a successful season. This message also includes general information about use and management of MVID's irrigation system.

- The final phase of MVID's piping project was completed in 2021; MVID's system is now fully enclosed. MVID plans to start delivering water sometime between April 15<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>, depending on weather. Shut-down timing will be based on temperatures and soil moisture levels, and may be as early as October 1<sup>st</sup>. MVID will let members know about start-up and shut-down timing via email.
- **Please be sure that your personal valve is closed no later than April 14<sup>th</sup>** and remains closed until the system is ready to use. Closing your personal valve prior to start-up will ensure that the system can be pressure-tested and charged without flooding your land. **MVID will charge a \$100 fee if the Watermaster has to close your valve.**
- Do not turn on your system until MVID has given the go-ahead. MVID's Watermaster will charge the system prior to turn-on and then will need to monitor it to check for leaks. Leaving all valves closed keeps the system under pressure and makes any leaks easier to detect.
- Remember that only MVID staff may open and close MVID's valves.
- At any time during the season, flow may stop or decrease without notice. If you use a pump, MVID recommends that you install a pressure switch that will shut off the pump if there is little or no water going into your irrigation system.
  - Please do irrigate. MVID is preparing to prove up on the district's water rights, possibly as soon as this year. It will be important to demonstrate that the district is using its water and irrigating the assessed lands within the district. MVID's permits require the district to report on irrigated acreage and water use every five years; the first such report was prepared in 2021 and can be found by going to <https://www.mvid.org/post/2021-news-updates> and clicking the links in the February 1, 2021 post. MVID members are irrigating a little more than half of the district's irrigable land.
- Do not use more than the amount of water allocated for your parcel(s). If you have any questions about your allowed quantity of water or rate of application, please contact me.
- You are responsible for paying your assessments whether or not you are irrigating. The payments of all members are needed to operate and maintain the system and provide for future replacements and repairs.
- Be sure to drain your system at the end of the season to prevent freeze damage.
  - MVID's rules are posted on the district's web site at [https://www.mvid.org/files/ugd/f3b2b3\\_910fd1b750804a89a86b9b60c951e3a3.pdf](https://www.mvid.org/files/ugd/f3b2b3_910fd1b750804a89a86b9b60c951e3a3.pdf). Please

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be familiar with them. In particular, be sure you know your responsibilities before you divide your land or undertake a boundary line adjustment.

- MVID's fee schedule is posted on the district's web site at [https://www.mvid.org/files/ugd/f3b2b3\\_f04c644a40b840ba91f07a086a50b47d.pdf](https://www.mvid.org/files/ugd/f3b2b3_f04c644a40b840ba91f07a086a50b47d.pdf). Fees for processing land-use actions, shutting down lines, and other special services ensure that extra staff time and costs are covered by the people responsible rather than all members.
- Currently, most of MVID's communication with members is by email. Please be sure we have your current email address so we can keep you informed. If you know members who are not receiving email from MVID, please encourage them to contact me so I can add their names to the list.

District contact information for the 2023 season is as follows:

#### Directors

- Chris Zahn, President: (509) 860-8421; [chriszahn800@gmail.com](mailto:chriszahn800@gmail.com)
- Mark Edson: 997-7777 (shop); (509) 429-9549 (cell); [mvindweld@gmail.com](mailto:mvindweld@gmail.com)
- Deanna Melton: (509) 429-2591; [dmelton08@gmail.com](mailto:dmelton08@gmail.com)

#### Staff

- Secretary: Sandra Strieby; (509) 997-2576: [mvid2019@centurytel.net](mailto:mvid2019@centurytel.net)
- Watermaster: Josh Morgan; (509) 997-6843: [jmorgan815@yahoo.com](mailto:jmorgan815@yahoo.com)

Web site: [www.mvid.org](http://www.mvid.org)

Please feel free to contact me with any questions—

Sandra Strieby  
Secretary  
Methow Valley Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 860  
Twisp, WA 98856  
(509) 997-2576  
[mvid2019@centurytel.net](mailto:mvid2019@centurytel.net)