

PAYMENT OPTIONS

TID offers several methods of payment. You can stop in and pay by cash, cheque, or Interac® during regular business hours. Also, we have negotiated on-line banking through the following institutions: ATB Financial, BMO, 1st Choice Savings, and Scotiabank. Payment is due by December 31st, with a discount applied if payment is made by November 15th.

Please note:

If you have more than one account, or you are paying for a parcel that is either in another name or has multiple names on the account, please let us know when you send or bring in your payment so that we can apply the payments to the correct account. Partially paid accounts **will not** receive the discount unless the whole balance is paid by November 15th.



WATER SITUATION

2017 had a combination of good spring supply and high summer demand. Alberta Environment and Parks – Water Management Operations made key decisions to fill all three headworks reservoirs. This storage was not just used to help our water users, but releases well above minimum sustained river flows for downstream irrigation, traditional uses, and the aquatic ecosystem. River releases were reduced over the hot dry summer. Low watershed yield and high water use mean we will be somewhat below winter reservoir target levels. SMRID will slowly refill Chin Reservoir to near normal.

💧 **Last day for water deliveries will be October 6th** 💧

WATER RATES FOR 2018

The Board of Directors of TID are projecting the rate for irrigation acres to increase from \$16/acre to \$18/acre for 2018, with similar increases for other rates and fees. This follows the plan to bring rates back in line with the cost to operate and maintain the district. The Capital Assets Charge (CAC) to purchase irrigation acres will be increasing from \$1,000/acre to \$1,200/acre effective January 1, 2018. Less than 7,000 acres are anticipated to remain available following upcoming fall sales.

Help Your Ditchrider Help You

TID has an excellent operations crew that does their best to accommodate your water orders. This summer's high demand has pushed our systems to their design limits in many areas. Did you know that canals and pipelines are sized for less than 100% utilization? Alberta Agriculture has conducted extensive modelling and provides districts with design standards that account for irrigation scheduling based on variable crop needs for volume and timing. Design capacity is approximately 80%, and we rely on you to rotate your irrigation streams.

Also remember that it takes time to adjust canal flows. Did you know that it can take a day or two to make gate adjustments to coordinate and optimize flows? The more stable the demand, the better job our ditchriders can do to minimize spills and avoid shorting downstream users.

Please call or text every time you plan a change – you may be able to pick up a stream that someone else has dropped. Please work with your ditchrider to rotate your streams, and please let your ditchrider know of any changes, whether requested or accidental.

Finally, if you have a concern about levels and flows talk to your ditchrider – please leave gate and check management to the experts!



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

TID has received funding from Growing Forward 2 Irrigation Conveyance Works Management to develop an Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Last issue we asked you to call in with your cell phone number. We are also requesting an email address that we can use where more detail is required.

Your information will not be shared or sold. We may contact you with reminders for key dates such as water startup/shutdown, discount cutoff, payment due date, and our Annual General Meeting.

Please call the office with your cell number and email address.

FALL PROJECTS

Last year TID's projects highlighted the replacement of four canal structures on Lateral 7 East Horsefly and Lateral 20 Taber that serve Fincastle Reservoir.



Cast-in-place concrete check drops, complete with steel overshot gates were designed by our District Engineer Tony Wikkerink, with the gates and walkways fabricated in our welding facility. This year we will be starting automation, gates and controls to better manage flows in East Horsefly Main Canal. Our largest project will be implementing weed and sediment exclusion at the Big Bend Main Canal Headgates. We get massive loading in the approach channel from Taber Reservoir, especially after wind events. Similar large-scale projects are planned for other headgates throughout the district in coming years.

CROP DEBRIS

You are likely aware that you are responsible for managing your soil to prevent drift to TID canals. TID has also experienced issues with straw, corn and other crop debris plugging up our works and creating significant additional maintenance during startup, and as flows ramp up.

TID has always charged landowners for the costs of cleaning soil drift out of canals, but the board has passed a policy revision to include crop debris as well.

Make sure to visit and bookmark TID's website:
www.taberirrigationdistrict.ca