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IRRIGATION UPDATE

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October 30, 2026

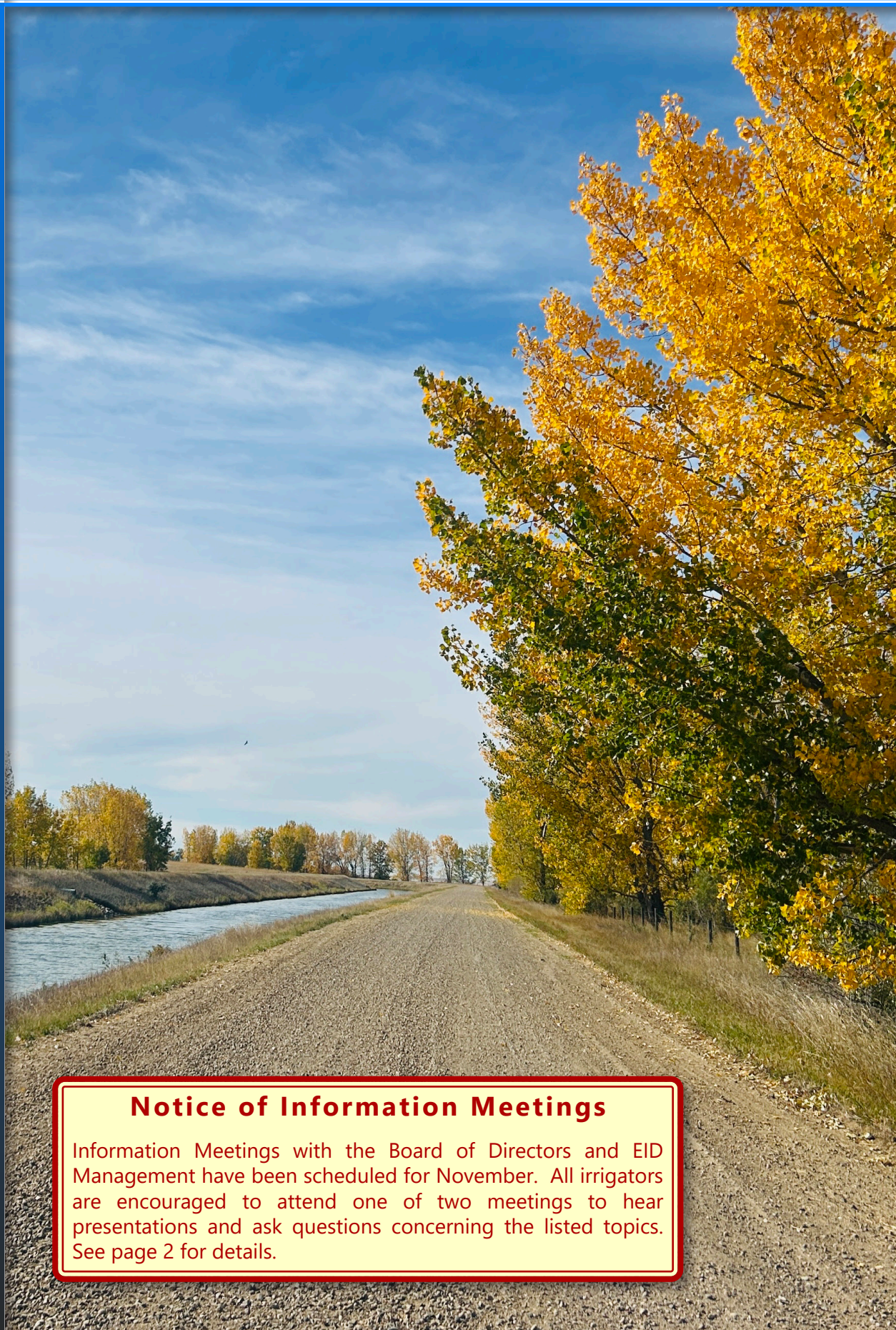
Eastern

Irrigation

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Notice of Information Meetings

Information Meetings with the Board of Directors and EID Management have been scheduled for November. All irrigators are encouraged to attend one of two meetings to hear presentations and ask questions concerning the listed topics. See page 2 for details.

IRRIGATION UPDATE

Information Meetings

Monday, November 9th, 7:00 p.m., Rosemary RecPlex

Tuesday, November 17th, 7:00 p.m., Scandia Hall

Irrigators are invited to attend an Information Meeting to hear presentations and ask questions regarding:

- **Irrigation Assessment (reminder for landowners to confirm acres, areas, and parcel boundaries)**
- **Snake Lake Reservoir Expansion Project (update on the current status of the project)**
- **Irrigation Expansion Limit (update on current status and preliminary discussions for future expansion limit increase)**
- **Irrigation Development on EID Lands (locations, proposed projects, costs)**

Irrigated Lease Auction - Results of Bids

The Irrigated Lease Auction held August 13th for 4 new irrigated leases resulted in winning bids averaging $650/acre. 17 irrigators preregistered and 16 were present for the auction. Auction results were discussed by the Board at the August 25th Board Meeting and preliminary discussion on adding more District irrigated leases was positive. For additional information, please refer to the online minutes. *[https://www.eid.ca/documents/board/Minutes_2026_August_25.pdf]*

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Land Supervisor
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Irrigation Applications for 2027

Irrigation Development Applications for 2027 were reviewed at the October 28, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting. Those meeting the District's rating criteria pursuant to Irrigation Acres Bylaw #991 (2026) have been given conditional approval, and letters outlining conditions that must be met to receive final approval will be forwarded to the applicants. Additional information will be posted in the minutes, summarized as follows:

Irrigation Applications for 2027

	Total Applications	Approved Applications	Denied Applications	Approved Acres	Carry Forward Acres
River	14	04	10	1,207	0
[1,200 acres max]					
Reservoir	7	7	0	1,176	1,730
[1,800 acres max]					

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Carry Forward Acres

A total of 1,730 carry forward acres (irrigation acres for new parcels that have not been allocated due to insufficient applications in a calendar year or conditionally approved projects not meeting requirements for final approval) have accumulated to date. Carry forward acres are pooled for future use by the District: 3 EID parcels were developed as new short term irrigated leases and auctioned in 2024, 4 new leases were developed and auctioned in 2025, and 4 new leases were developed and auctioned in August this year. The Board of Directors are currently discussing further irrigation development on EID lands, which would propose the utilization of all or a portion of the carry forward acres.

Assessment Roll Totals and Irrigation Acre Cap

The 2021 Expansion Limit Bylaw #942 capped the assessment roll for the District at 345,000 acres, with no more than 340,000 acres until the Snake Lake Reservoir expansion project has been commissioned.

As of September 30, 2026, there were 326,902 acres on the assessment role. This total includes irrigation acres, terminable acres, annual agreement acres (removed from the roll at the end of each calendar year), and 5R soils acres.

EID Assessment Roll to September 30, 2026

Quarter Ending	Irrigation Acres	Terminable Acres	Annual Agmt Acres	5R Soils Acres	Total
September 30, 2026	323,755	2,308	381	458	326,902

With 2,539 irrigation acres conditionally approved in October for irrigation increases and development projects, the projected assessment roll is now at 329,441 irrigation acres. This leaves 10,559 irrigation acres remaining until Snake Lake Reservoir is completed.



IRRIGATION UPDATE

Welcome Our New General Manager



The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Gary Krushell as General Manager of the Eastern Irrigation District, effective September 1, 2026.

With more than 30 years of leadership and operational experience, Gary has built a career focused on organizational improvement, performance, and long-term success. Raised on a mixed farm in Alberta, he understands the importance of irrigation to producers and our communities. As he begins the new role, Gary looks forward to meeting irrigators, learning from their experiences, and working alongside EID staff and the Board to continue delivering the reliable service our region depends on.

We invite you to meet Gary at upcoming information meetings and community events.

2027 Corporate Planning Sessions

Corporate Planning Sessions have become an annual practice for the EID Board of Directors, administration, and staff. Scheduled to be held this year in mid-January, the 2-day in camera meetings are used to focus on significant or confidential issues, those that require in-depth review, and/or those that lead to policy development. Often, Directors are encouraged to obtain feedback from irrigators on certain topics or questions. The sessions may also be used to review board governance matters and to meet confidentially as a Board and/or with the General Manager. In addition to other agenda items, it is anticipated that this winter's Corporate Planning sessions will include discussions on:

- **Irrigation Development on EID Lands**
  - locations, proposed projects, costs
- **Irrigation Expansion Limit**
  - current status, preliminary discussions for future expansion limit increase
- **Encroachment Policy**
  - irrigation and grazing encroachments on EID lands
- **Sale of District Owned Lands Policy**
  - non-fragmented parcels
- **Revenue Generation**
  - projecting future pressures and opportunities
- **Rate Bylaw**
  - preliminary review for 2027
- **Fees Bylaw**
  - preliminary review for 2027
- **EID Contracts Management Policy**
  - process and standards
- **Automation**
  - field automation roadmap



2027 Budget

The full budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1st was presented to the Board and relevant expenses and revenue reviewed with departments at a dedicated Budget Meeting on October 6th. It was further evaluated at the regular October 28th Board Meeting, along with a multi-year cash flow forecast, and subsequently approved.

General notes include continued overall inflationary cost increases, a decrease in Oil & Gas revenue, an increase in Capital Assets Charges revenue, and a total District cost/irrigated acre which excludes Land and EIDNet departments, to reach $35.46/acre. The 2026 water rate was $7.00/acre. 1st readings of the 2027 Rate Bylaw and 2027 Fees Bylaw are scheduled for January 2027.

Additional information may be obtained from the online minutes. *[https://www.eid.ca/minutes.html]*

Upcoming Rehabilitation Projects

The following rehab projects were approved for the 2026/2027 construction season. To view maps and additional information on these projects, please refer to the District website.

- **Snake Lake Canal**
  - 5 km feeder canal northeast of the reservoir to the Springhill system, widening and armouring canal, upgrading railroad and highway crossings with concrete syphon and concrete pipe, to increase flow from 300 cfs to 800 cfs; $19,500,000 under the IRP program
- **11 Bow Slope Pipeline**
  - north of Scandia, 48" diameter, 800 m pipeline replacing open canal, tying into 2 existing pipelines, installing settling pond and gabion wall; $1,420,000 under the IRP program
- **20 Bow Slope Pipeline**
  - southeast of Scandia, 24" diameter, 800 m pipeline with 6" diameter drain out replacing open canal; $392,000 under the AIM program
- **19 North Branch Pipeline**
  - northeast of Gem, 24" diameter, 1,200 m closed gravity pipeline with 6" diameter drain out replacing open canal; $901,000 under the Capital Works program
- **Secondary A North Branch Pipeline**
  - northeast of Bassano, pipeline off North Branch Canal, replacing open ditch and upsized to supply additional acres; $542,000 under AIM program
- **Cassils Syphon**
  - west of Brooks, cast-in-place structure replacing concrete inlet structure, buried 63" HDPE replacing above ground steel pipe, sleeving through and grouted beneath the railway, with ability to supply 2,565 potential irrigation acres; $2,500,000 under the IRP program
- **27 Rolling Hills**
  - 11 km south of Rolling Hills, 2.1 km of closed gravity pipeline replacing open canal, installing a gabion wall in the existing settling pond, and rehabbing ½ km of drain; $2,190,000 under the AIM program
- **Tilley Canal**
  - 3.4 km canal between Hwy #1 and Tilley; line, armour, and restore the freeboard of the canal; $5,336,000 under the AIM program



IRRIGATION UPDATE

2026 Irrigation Season

In preparation of the 2026 irrigation season, the Water Operator divisions were revised and reduced from 15 to 12 due to ongoing rehabilitation, pipelining, and pivot installations. Supervisory staff were also reduced and centrally located. The snowpack was above average and considerably higher than last year. Diversion to District reservoirs began April 7th, with water to irrigators being fully available by May 8th. Pursuant to the Maximum Amount of Water Bylaw #970 (2024), the District began its operating season at Stage 2 of the Drought Plan (maximum 18"/acre with up to 6"/acre in transfers). Due to notable spring rains, usage for 2026 was lower compared to 2025 and diversion was down as well. River flow remained strong throughout the irrigation season, allowing the District to confidently move to Stage 1 (maximum 24"/acre and up to 4"/acre of additional water deliveries that could be purchased), effective July 28th. This year, reservoirs were dropped to winter levels and Water Shut Down occurred October 8th.

Unauthorized Irrigation

Beginning in 2016, a general assessment was conducted of all irrigated parcels in the EID to identify any discrepancies in the assessment roll prior to proceeding with irrigation expansion modelling in preparation for the 2021 plebiscite. Over the next few years, the District completed the process of contacting landowners to reconcile parcels with excess irrigation and encroachment issues.

As a reminder, please be advised that anyone irrigating acres not shown on the assessment roll may have the water shut off under the *Irrigation Districts Act* and pursuant to the Delivery and Distribution of Water Bylaw #990 (2026). In addition to other remedies available to the District, the bylaw now also provides for payment of an Unauthorized Use Penalty, being an amount equal to 50% of the new acre capital asset charge per acre for anyone watering acres outside of their assessed area.

The District encourages Landowners who are unsure of their assessment acres or areas and parcel boundaries for any of their lands, to contact the EID to confirm such data. Parcel maps are provided to landowners free of charge.



*Red outline depicts assessment area



Trailing Cattle

Cattle punch holes in liners, erode ditch side slopes, and pollute water. Due to these issues, the District does not permit cattle to be trailed on canal banks.

The District may permit cattle to be trailed across District owned lands. Anyone wishing to do so must obtain a permit from the District, stating their contact information, a map of the intended route, and advance notice of the intended date(s). The permit supplies the applicant with land access protocols, the requirement of insurance coverage, and notice of an overholding charge if cattle remain on District lands without permission.

Rick Volek,
Land Administrator - Grazing
Cell: 403-793-0497
Email: rick.volek@eid.ca

Livestock Watering

Livestock water agreements are available to landowners to secure an authorized water source for filling dugouts and water tanks during the irrigation season, on parcels with no existing irrigation acres. The agreement permits the specific use and maximum annual volume of water, specifies the point of delivery, and includes other information such as payment of fees, term and termination. Livestock watering agreements may be obtained from the District Office. *[https://www.eid.ca/documents/bylaws/Fees_Bylaw.pdf]*

Staci Connauton,
Land Administrator - Assessment, Water and Lands
Cell: 403-363-1376
Email: staci.connauton@eid.ca

Irrigator Access to Reject Sand

Irrigators are permitted 100 m^3 of District reject sand per year. To access this free resource from the Eyremore Gravel Pit, please contact Rob Elliott. Self-loading is no longer permitted. Sand loading and hauling activities are permitted only with EID's approval.

Rob Elliott,
Equipment Superintendent
Cell: 403-501-6093
Email: rob.elliott@eid.ca

Did You Know?

Canals are still hazardous even after the water has been shut down.

Water shut down does not mean the canal system is safe to enter or to be around. Please be aware of the following hazards:

- **Confined Spaces:** Canals, structures, and associated infrastructure may present confined-space hazards and should not be entered.
- **Maintenance Activities:** Maintenance and repair work may still be taking place throughout the system.
- **Gate Testing and Operation:** Staff may be testing, operating, or adjusting gates as part of ongoing work.
- **Unexpected Water Flows:** Water levels and flows may change unexpectedly due to gate testing, adjustments, or other operational activities.
- **Unstable or Slippery Conditions:** Canal banks, structures, and access points may present slip, trip, fall, or other physical hazards.



IRRIGATION UPDATE

EIDNet

EIDNet has a network of 18 towers, serving more than 1,800 local farms, ranches, businesses, and individuals in community hubs and outlying rural areas. Internet usage has become an integral part of business and everyday life for our customers, with usage possibilities and demands continually increasing. In predicting the increased demand in bandwidths required by our customers, a fibre optic project was initiated in 2022. Once into the project, external funding was received, the project was fast-tracked, and as of July 2026 is now complete. The Bassano project, not able to be included in the external funding application, was given District approval in March, commenced in September, and is anticipated to be complete by the end of this year.

The installation of fibre connecting EIDNet towers and available new technology have enabled speeds for subscription categories to be further increased and for EIDNet to remain competitive. Speeds were adjusted on August 10th, with no increase in costs for the subscribers.

EIDNet Accounts

Account	Previous Speeds		Increased Speeds	
	DL / UL	$/Month	DL / UL	$/Month
Irrigator Entry Level	5 Mbps / 5 Mbps	[$25 irrigator]	25 Mbps / 10 Mbps	[$25 irrigator]
Ultra	25 Mbps / 5 Mbps	$70 [$55 irrigator]	100 Mbps / 50 Mbps	$70 [$55 irrigator]
Super UT	50-500 Mbps / 30-100 Mbps	$110 [$95 irrigator]	100-1000 Mbps / 50-250 Mbps	$110 [$95 irrigator]
Super Office	50-500 Mbps / 30-100 Mbps	$300 [$285 irrigator]	100-1000 Mbps / 50-250 Mbps	$300 [$285 irrigator]





IRRIGATION UPDATE

Updates on Policies and Bylaws

Bylaws and policies relevant to irrigators may be viewed on the District's website.

[https://www.eid.ca/bylaw_policy.html]

Irrigation Acres Bylaw #992 (2026)

The Irrigation Acres Bylaw was presented and given 1st reading at the October Board of Directors Meeting. This bylaw establishes the rules and procedures governing an application for an increase in irrigation acres and to transfer irrigation acres. The new bylaw proposes a deadline of August 31st, vs September 30th, for satisfying all conditions of conditionally approved projects. This August 31st date now corresponds with the application submission deadline of August 31st to eliminate any confusion. The other revision to the bylaw would necessitate an increase in irrigation acre projects up to 50 acres to complete soils testing where required, prior to submitting an application to the District. This requirement matches that for projects over 50 acres.

Canal and Pipeline Rehabilitation Policy

This policy is a comprehensive policy which establishes guidelines for design and construction of rehabilitation projects. The revised policy, approved at the October Meeting, increased amounts payable to landowners for construction and permanent easements to correlate with the Sale of District Owned Lands Policy.

Capital Assets Charges Bylaw #993 (2026)

The Capital Assets Charges Bylaw was given 1st reading at the October Meeting. This bylaw levies a charge on each irrigation acre added to a titled unit and shown on the assessment roll and sets the purchase price the District will pay for irrigation acres sold to the District by a landowner. It also outlines responsibilities for irrigation works and contains a minimum 2% annual payment escalator. Purchase price and charges may be adjusted more than the automatic 2% annual escalator by Board decision. This bylaw is reviewed annually with annual adjustments to capital asset charges occurring December 1st of each year so that applicants for irrigation acres in the following year are aware of any adjusted charges. The bylaw was presented at the October meeting with all capital asset charges becoming equivalent, at the following proposed rates:

- $4,080/acre for converting terminable acres to irrigation acres;
- $4,080/acre for infill and efficiency acres up to 50 irrigation acres per parcel;
- $4,080/acre for infill and efficiency acres over 50 irrigation acres per parcel; and
- $4,080/acre for acres assessed to dry parcels (new acres).

The bylaw will be brought back to the Board at the November Meeting for 2nd and possible 3rd readings.

IRRIGATION UPDATE

Public Access

All EID access rules remain in force during the winter *[https://www.eid.ca/documents/policy/Access_Policy_for_District_Owned_Lands.pdf]*.

Hunting

Permission is required to hunt on EID lands. Written permission may be obtained by visiting or calling the EID office or by emailing Daniel Buell. The usual EID rules associated with hunting are:

- No camping, fires or off-highway vehicles.
- Do not disturb livestock on EID lands or adjacent lands.
- Vehicles are restricted to established roads & trails or designated routes (where applicable).

Hunters are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the **Alberta Hunting Regulations Summary** *[https://albertaregulations.ca/hunting-regs-pdf.html]* every year. Specifically, sections detailing the prohibition of discharging a weapon within 183 m (200 yards), or to cause a projectile from a weapon to pass within 183 m (200 yards), of any occupied building.

Ice Fishing

When accessing EID reservoirs:

- Keep highway vehicles on established roads and trails.
- No fires or camping on shore.
- Pets must always remain under control.
- If off-highway vehicles are to be used to access the ice, offload from the closest established trail, and then take the most direct route on and off the ice.

Ice conditions on EID reservoirs change frequently throughout the winter. Always use extreme caution when accessing reservoirs in the winter and do not assume what was safe ice yesterday is safe ice today. All individuals accessing EID lands and reservoirs do so at their own risk.

Trapping

The EID permits trapping for fur bearers on EID lands and in EID water bodies. Only normal locking snares (no spring assistance) shall be used on EID land, and snaring may only occur between December 1st and February 28th. As a reminder, pets on EID land must always remain under the owner's control.

Daniel Buell,
Land Administrator - Habitat, Wildlife & Access

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Email: daniel.buell@eid.ca

Notice of Irrigation Billing and Penalty

Pursuant to Rate Bylaw #986 (2026), invoices for irrigation rates, charges, and surcharges have been mailed to irrigators on October 29, 2026.

Payment is due December 31, 2026

Payment may be made by cheque, cash, credit card, or online through your financial institution. A payment drop box is also located at the front of the District building. The office of the Eastern Irrigation District will be closed at 5:00 p.m. on December 22, 2026, through and including January 3, 2027. All payments mailed to the District that are postmarked by the 31st day of December 2026 will be deemed to have been received by the District as of that date. A penalty of 8% will be added on the 1st day of January 2027 to all amounts remaining unpaid on the collector's roll as of the 31st day of December 2026. [s. 132, Irrigation Districts Act] [Rate Bylaw #986 (2026)]

Little Irrigators

N	V	N	K	D	D	Z	W	Y	T
W	O	P	D	O	L	O	R	L	N
P	G	I	O	W	R	E	A	A	A
F	I	F	T	G	A	N	I	L	L
F	G	P	S	A	A	T	A	F	P
S	A	R	E	C	G	N	E	G	S
V	T	R	A	L	D	I	V	R	O
W	B	O	M	S	I	G	R	G	I
P	I	V	O	T	S	N	V	R	L
R	I	O	V	R	E	S	E	R	I

CANAL
FARM
FIELD
FOOD
GRASS
GROW
IRRIGATION
LAND
PIVOT
PIPELINE
PLANT
RESERVOIR
ROOTS
SOIL
WATER



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Please Note:

All Annual Reports and Newsletters can be read online at:
www.eid.ca