

## Water Conservation and Stewardship Policy

March 1, 2022

### Smithfield Irrigation Company

It has always been the policy of the Smithfield Irrigation Company to encourage thoughtful use of our water resources. Based on continuing drought conditions and slow recovery of groundwater, the company board of directors makes the following suggestions for irrigation water use during the upcoming irrigation season:

1. Start irrigation at the earliest convenient time based on crop and/or landscape needs. This practice normally allows water use before wells need to be started. In addition, water pressure and availability are usually greatest during the early irrigation season. This is also the best time to fill the soil profile since plant water demand is lowest early in the season.
2. Spend time to make sure that irrigation lines and distribution systems are in good repair before the irrigation season starts. Changing leaking rainbirds and replacing worn nozzles will benefit all water users. Nozzles and gaskets are cheap, but pumping water is expensive.
3. Be a good neighbor. If you irrigate using the city system irrigate only on even numbered days if your house number ends in an even number. If your house number ends with an odd number, then irrigate only on odd number days. This helps maintain adequate line pressure in the city system.
4. For agricultural users, be aware of water use by other irrigators on irrigation main lines that service your fields. Twelve-hour irrigation sets are adequate for most crops, but irrigation frequency may be shorter for some soil types. Check with the water master for the best time to start and let him know when you anticipate finishing. A little planning may prevent the need to start a well.
5. Please remember that irrigation water is delivered on a "share" basis. This means that water users are entitled to their "share" portion of available water at any time during the irrigation season. Based on available water, the irrigation board or the water master may need to curtail water delivery as stream flows decrease.
6. During the irrigation season, the company will randomly measure water use in individual delivery systems to ensure proportional water distribution.

Thank you for your cooperation as shareholders in the Smithfield Irrigation Company. If you have suggestions or concerns about irrigation water issues, please contact us.

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