Operating Rules for the Delivery of Irrigation Water

**Water Orders & Delivery**

1. **Conditions for Water Delivery**

**No water will be delivered unless paid for in advance**. Once a customer’s balance drops to zero, no further water delivery will be made. Each customer is responsible for keeping themselves up to date on their account balances with the Association. When water is turned off for lack of payment, and then turned back on within 48 hours, a penalty of $100 per occurrence will be charged.

A copy of a landowner’s deed must be filed with the Association prior to requesting water delivery. Any transfer of ownership should immediately be submitted to the Association office.

Taxed assessments must be posted to the Pima County Treasurers office prior to water being delivered to lands within the Association. All excess water deliveries require prepayment.

Lands within the Association, which are leased or sub-leased, are required to submit to the Association office a copy of the lease stating the responsible party for ordering and paying for water, the duration of the lease and the number of acres being leased. Specific financial information may be redacted on the submitted lease copy.

1. **CAP Requirements**

A field receiving water from CAP is required to adhere to CAP’s requirement for receiving water. At times all fields in the District may be receiving CAP water or a blend of CAP and other sourced water. CAP may require notification of greater than 24 hours to turn water on and off. All orders must be placed with CAP by 9:00 a.m. the day prior to actual delivery or shut off. The District is requesting cooperation in this matter as the use of CAP water reduces the District’s overall water cost and such savings are passed on to the user.

1. **Orders and Payment**

Prepayment for water shall occur no later than 3:00 pm on the day preceding delivery of water and no later than 3:00 pm on a Friday for deliveries requested for Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. Orders for water are to be made in the Association office between 7:00 am and 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Zanjeros are instructed not to accept water payments in the field and are not permitted to do so.

Water orders are to include the date and time of day when a turn on, turn off or head size change is requested. Water orders are recorded in the Association office as received and filled in the following manner:

1st - By date delivery of water is requested.

2nd - By the sequence in which orders were taken for a given date.

Orders for turn-on requests must be made before 9:00 a.m. on the day before a water delivery is requested (IE… An 8:00 a.m. turn-on for Tuesday must be called into the Association office by 9:00 a.m. Monday; a 2:00 p.m. turn-on for Tuesday must also be called in to the Association office before 9:00 a.m. Monday.)

Orders for turn-off is the same as for turn-on. Notice must be made before 9:00 a.m. on the day before a water delivery is to be turned off (IE… An 8:00 a.m. turn-off for Tuesday must be called into the Association office by 9:00 a.m. Monday; a 2:00 p.m. turn-off for Tuesday must also be called in to the Association office before 9:00 a.m. Monday.)

Management, in its discretion, may reduce the notice timing requirements of these Operating Rules, taking into consideration the current level of CAP water use, location of the user’s land, locations of operating District wells, and other matters.

ORDERS which require an Association employee to be out of their home after 8:00 pm or before 6:00 am will incur a surcharge of $100.

ORDERS for less than 2 acre-feet will be billed a 2 acre-feet minimum surcharge. This charge can be lessened or avoided by working with other water users in the area to combine orders. The 2 acre-feet minimum charge will be divided across all orders that were combined or if a total of 2 acre-foot or more of water is taken there will be no surcharge.

# Scheduling of Water Deliveries

Water deliveries from the Cortaro area will be limited to **once per day**, with delivery times scheduled at Tangerine Road and I-10 for 8:00 am. The location of a customer’s point of delivery downstream from Tangerine Road determines the additional amount of time needed for a change in water delivery to occur.

Water orders for 6:00 am or after in the morning will be filled as soon after 6:00 am as possible, considering employee start time of 6:00 am, availability of water from nearby wells or from the main canal, other customer orders and any other factors.

Delivery of one head of water will be made to any established point in the Association system in any 5-day period. Whenever water delivery is requested for the same field or established point more than once during a five-day period, a surcharge equivalent to the cost of an extra two acre-feet of water for each delivery will be charged to that customer’s account**.**

1. **Point of Delivery**

The Association is required to deliver water to the high point of each quarter section or successive quarter sections under the same ownership. Delivery within each quarter section is the responsibility of each customer. Customers within the same quarter section must negotiate between themselves the means of assuring that each customer has an adequate conveyance path to their property. Customers that sell lands within a quarter section must allow for a delivery path to any other parcels that retain rights to receive irrigation water from the Association.

1. **Priorities in the use of District Water Resources**

District and Association water will be delivered, to the degree possible and practical, using the least cost water source, whether that be CAP water, effluent, or water from wells in the Cortaro or Marana areas (as defined in District maps).

The priority of the water source may also be based on several factors, such as cost of water, use of the District’s appropriative water allocation, time of year, withdrawal fees, availability of CAP water, etc.

1. **2-Hour Payment Rule after the end of Zanjeros Day**

Customers will be charged for Employees who must return to work after completion of their normal workday (this can vary greatly for zanjeros). In such instances, customers will be charged for the actual time worked or 2 hours, whichever is greater. Any time worked that exceeds the 2 hours will be charged in subsequent increments of not less than 2 hours.

**Capacity Shortages**

A customer is entitled to their pro-rata share of the total water resources available to the District in times of shortage. This equals about 2-acre feet per day for each 100 acres of water right (shares) in the Association. Formula: total District water (acre-feet) divided by total District water shares, multiplied by each individual’s shares.

A shortage occurs when (1) any order cannot be filled on the day delivery was requested or (2) when requested water deliveries on a given lateral, or portion of a lateral, exceeds that lateral’s physical capacity to deliver water. A customer ordering water shall be entitled to receive their pro rata share of water 72 hours following the day delivery was requested.

Forty-eight hours from the time an order cannot be filled, notice will be given to those receiving water in excess of their pro-rata share that they must give up their excess water within 24 hours to those that have requested delivery, but are not yet receiving their pro-rata share. Anytime the District is obligated to take water from a customer under this rule, a reasonable attempt shall be made to do this in a manner that is least disruptive to that customer.

The customer determined to be using the largest proportion of water in excess of their entitlement, as compared to that customer’s overall water right, will be first to lose water. After taking each head of water, this method of determining which customer to take water away from next will be followed until all orders have been filled.

When water orders exceed physical capacity along a given lateral, voluntary cooperation among affected customers will first be sought. If voluntary cooperation is not possible, water will be distributed among the landowners, based upon shares along the lateral in question and in accordance with the other provisions of these Operating Rules.

During times of shortage, a customer having ordered water must take the head of water when it becomes available or forfeit their position on the list of orders waiting to be filled. In such a situation, that customer’s order will be moved to the last position on the list of those waiting to receive delivery.

During times of shortage, contract customers (non-Association members), to the extent that the contract with the District/Association so permits, will not receive water until all shareholders’ orders have been filled.

**Canal Maintenance**

1. Unauthorized devices, objects or other obstructions placed in a District canal that restrict the flow of District water are not allowed for any reason.
2. No modifications to a District canal are allowed without prior authorization from the District and obtaining a District Construction Permit.
3. Any damage to a District facility by a Landowner or Lessor will be repaired by the District and paid for by the Landowner, Lessor or shareholder.

1. If a Landowner, Lessor or shareholder is using a District canal for field delivery, it is the Landowner, Lessor, or shareholder’s responsibility to keep the delivery side of District infrastructure in adequate condition to allow the District to maintain its use rights in the District canal (i.e. delivery of water PAST this allowed field delivery). If the Landowner, Lessor or shareholder cannot or does not keep the District infrastructure in adequate condition to maintain its use rights, the District will repair the canal to do so. The repair costs will be charged to the Landowner, Lessor, or shareholder.