

## GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING

IRRIGATION WATER AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (IWAA)

Q. What is IWAA (Irrigation Water Availability Assessment)?

A. The IWAA is designed to help fund the operation, maintenance and replacement of the canal and irrigation distribution system.

Q. Why am I assessed this amount?

A. The IWAA is assessed to all parcel owners where canal water is available.

Q. Under what authority can you assess this charge?

A. This charge is authorized under the California Government Code, Section 54984, and was adopted by the CVWD Board of Directors as Resolution 2008-103, Ordinance 1396 on July 24, 2012.

Q. Why am I assessed this amount when I do not use canal water?

A. Canal water availability is a benefit to your property and may be used in the future. The assessed amount is based on parcel size.

Q. I am not the owner of the parcel, what should I do?

A. Please contact Customer Billing in writing. Our mailing address is PO Box 1058, Coachella, CA 92236, fax to 760-391-9634, or email at <u>CustomerBilling@cvwd.org</u>.

Q. I am a tenant and the owner gave me the bill. Am I responsible?

A. CVWD holds the property owner responsible.

Q. What happens if the IWAA is not paid or satisfied prior to July 15<sup>th</sup>? A. Any unpaid or unsatisfied balance will be transferred to the Riverside County property tax bill with a 6% penalty.

Q. How is the IWAA satisfied?

A. Water purchases are credited monthly against the IWAA. As you use water, the amount owed on the assessment is reduced.

Q. How do I know how much water has been credited against the IWAA?

A. Quarterly statements are mailed out to the owners of each parcel.

Q. What if I have an unsatisfied balance and I do not want it transferred to my property taxes? A. CVWD will accept payment for the unsatisfied balance; however, payment must be received prior to July 15<sup>th</sup>. Q. I would like to have a canal water meter installed. What should I do?

A. Please contact CVWD's Irrigation Engineering Department at 760-398-2651.

Q. I want to contest this charge. What is the process?

A. Outline the reasons you are contesting the charges, include your parcel number, name and contact information, and mail to CVWD, Attention: Irrigation Engineering Department, PO Box 1058, Coachella, CA 92236.

Q. How is the IWAA calculated?

A. Under Ordinance 1396, adopted July 24, 2012 by the CVWD Board of Directors, the IWAA was to be calculated on any parcel of land 5 acres in size or larger at a rate equal to 3.8 times the agricultural rate.