

# NORTH CANYON IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2010

## IT'S HOT AGAIN - PLEASE BE WATERSMART

A friendly reminder that the NCID has voluntary water restrictions in place. Please limit your outdoor water use to 3 days per week and make at least 1 day per week a 'no watering' day.

Despite all the rain this spring, the water levels in the NCID wells are not higher than other years. The pressure is on and your help is

important. Small steps make a big difference!

- *do not water in the heat of the day*
- *try not to let a hose run if you are not using it*
- *move the sprinklers so they don't water the driveway or street*
- *sweep your driveway, instead of washing it*

**To cut costs, the NCID would like to email as many newsletters as possible. Please help save money. Send your email address to the NCID**

## QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BILL?

- Can I make payments on an installment plan?

No, the NCID does not offer any form of payment plan.

- Is there a late payment penalty?

Yes, there is an 18% penalty placed on all NCID taxes, tolls and other charges owing.

- Irrigation sprinklers (rights) – can I return these to the NCID and lower my bill?

Yes, but you must notify the district in writing before January 1<sup>st</sup> of any year. Depending on your situation we might require you to have a flow control installed at your expense.

**Low water pressure? No water? Leaks?  
please call the NCID @ 250-254-1215.**

Recent development - the NCID office can remain in Canyon Hall basement for the foreseeable future. All plans to establish a Samuelson Road office are shelved for now.

## UPDATE ON THE CHLORINATOR

No, the chlorinator is not running yet. The sudden doses of chlorine in the water supply a few days and weeks ago were necessary to disinfect the pipes and the reservoir after some weekly water tests were positive for low levels of bacteria. The chlorinator is now installed, and testing will begin shortly. Immediately after that, the chlorinator will be in full operation. It is very fortunate that the NCID's exceptionally pristine groundwater supply requires only a minimal chlorine dose to meet disinfection regulations. In time the NCID board hopes the government will lift the District's 'boil water' advisory.

## THE 2010 BUDGET

Formal budgeting for the NCID has been limited in the past but as costs increase it is important that we have a clear idea of how much money we have to cover expenses and do projects. Since the new Board did not meet until May we are late in producing a 2010 budget – but better late than never.

We looked at all our expenses and believe that the costs are justified. Then we looked at our income, the money landowners pay for their annual bill, we have no other money coming in.

The surplus is low and while you may view that as good (we all want to pay as little as possible) the reality is that we are a utility, **not** a non-profit, and we need serious money to upgrade, maintain or repair our system. Being an Improvement District means we have NO ACCESS to any grant or other government money, and believe us, we have made calls all the way to our government in Victoria. But the message is: We must raise all the money we need ourselves..... one reason why around 30% of all ID's have now disappeared.

### *Here are the highlights for 2010*

<i>Projected income</i>	<i>\$98,310</i>
<i>Projected expenses</i>	<i>\$90,408</i>
<i>Bank balance from 2009</i>	<i>\$15,516</i>
<i>Outstanding balance chlorinator project</i>	<i>\$11,285</i>

The final cost for the chlorinator stands now at \$65,066. This is significantly more than originally estimated. \$53,781 has already been paid with \$11,285 still outstanding.

Besides the building (\$5,000) we had to get major upgrades in our electrical system (\$15,976). The chlorinator itself was \$41,590 and we had some \$2,500 in miscellaneous costs.

All together a huge expense for our small district. The Health Authority forced us to start chlorinating as a result of too many negative water tests, so we have to comply or they might shut us down eventually.....

As you can see the NCID is not having much room for things to go wrong in 2010. We do have an extra safety buffer stocked away in three separate reserve funds, but these can only be utilized under strong restrictions and need special bylaws. The budget for 2011 will be the next challenge. There are some tough choices that will have to be made. But we are working hard to make sure that all different options will be presented to you before the next AGM so you can help us shape the NCID's future.

**Website: [http://rdckareab.com/North\\_Canyon\\_Improvement\\_District.html](http://rdckareab.com/North_Canyon_Improvement_District.html)**

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