

FLAT RATE IRRIGATION

Also known as Small Tract Irrigation



FLAT RATE DELIVERY

Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID) members who own parcels, or combinations of parcels, totaling less than two acres are designated as flat-rate users. Small tract irrigation service is based on the amount of water allocated to EBID and the corresponding pro rata allotment issued by the EBID Board of Directors to its constituents. The number of allowable irrigations is determined using a six-inch (6") water charge per irrigation. This standard was established when EBID implemented the Small Tract Metering and Monitoring Program. Under this program, selected small tract areas were sampled by directly measuring the amount of water delivered and calculating average use. Water flow measurement begins when the head gate is opened, not when water reaches the field or yard. Based on the sampling data and the total water allocation available to the District for the irrigation season, the EBID Board of Directors establishes a small tract irrigation schedule for each irrigation season.

All water delivery is subject to change and is dependent upon the availability of water. The following rules and/or procedures apply for all Small Tract Irrigations:

1. The tax assessment for all years must be paid in full to be eligible to take irrigation water.
2. A small tract irrigator may be required (or choose) to irrigate along with a farmer if a formal combination is approved and completed.
3. The EBID BOD will announce the small tract schedule at the beginning of each irrigation season.
4. Irrigation is on a first come, first served basis, not sequentially by placement along the community ditch.
5. Water may be taken ONLY ONCE during the 48-hour Small Tract/Flat Rate Weekend, on either Saturday OR Sunday.
6. Refer to the schedule to determine on which date and/or day you will be able to irrigate.
7. Contact your Ditchrider, or EBID at 526-6671 or 524-8003 if you have any questions about the date and/or day you are allowed to take delivery of irrigation water, or to find out in which unit your property is located.

BE WATER EFFICIENT

Irrigate efficiently to help conserve water:

- Be sure your ditches are clean (free of debris and overgrown vegetation). It is the responsibility of each user to keep the community ditch clean. If the ditch is deemed unsafe or not properly maintained EBID may refuse to deliver water until repairs are made.
- NEVER leave the irrigation unattended.
- Call EBID immediately if you experience a problem.

WATER THEFT

Law enforcement will cite offenders who are caught taking water illegally. Illegal taking of water is irrigating more than once during the scheduled Small Tract/Flat Rate Weekend and/or taking of water without a fully paid EBID status. Report any unusual or improper activity to EBID right away. EBID will be patrolling during Small Tract/Flat Rate Weekends to enforce the rules and procedures described above. When necessary, EBID will contact Law Enforcement to request assistance.

AVAILABILITY OF WATER

All water deliveries are subject to water availability and approval by the EBID Board of Directors. For the most up-to-date information, visit our main office at 530 South Melendres Street in Las Cruces, contact your Ditchrider, call the number listed below, or visit the [EBID website](http://www.ebid-nm.org). Updates are especially important following the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, which is usually held on the second Wednesday of each month. Additional information about EBID policies and procedures is available on our [website](http://www.ebid-nm.org).

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WATER DELIVERY OPTIONS

EBID has established policies and procedures that allow Small Tract Irrigators to:

- Place water orders.
- Allow better coordination for the conjunctive use of surface water. Water righted acreage for two, or more, Flat Rate members/accounts can be combined and considered as one account for water delivery purposes. This allows irrigators to place a water order for the delivery of water instead of being limited to irrigation on designated flat rate weekends.

COMMUNITY DITCH ASSOCIATIONS (CDA)

- Typically a combination of two or more EBID flat rate members (owning one or more parcels of land totaling less than 2.00 acres).
- EBID flat rate members may join together to form a CDA so that they can irrigate as a farm rate member.
- All EBID members forming the CDA have acres on the same delivery ditch.
- CDAs are for the purpose of water delivery only.

Process:

- EBID members must meet with designated EBID personnel and complete the appropriate documents to formalize the CDA. It will be reviewed and approved annually.
- All CDA members must have an EBID account status paid in full in order for ANY of the participants to receive water each year
- The CDA must have a lead member/account contact person established. This Lead Account must place water orders with EBID. Irrigations may NOT occur without an EBID order. No other CDA members are permitted to place orders.
- All CDA irrigations occur at the same time.
- The annual allocation of water will be updated to the CDA as a group. No additional water may be delivered when the water allocation of water is used for each year. Water is not carried over from year to year. No transfers of water are permitted among the CDA participants.

