

# Irrigation System Tips

We are fortunate to have irrigation water included in our HOA dues. This “free” water does not mean that we should waste it. We all know that the Western Slope has experienced extreme drought over the last few years. Precious water resources are shared with all of our citizens including farmers, ranchers and folks downstream. Here are a few tips for conservation and irrigation system maintenance from some experts:

1. Water during the cool parts of the day. Do not water between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. These are the times when high temperatures and windy conditions increase the evaporation rate, wasting water.
2. Keep your irrigation system maintained. Adjust sprinkler heads that are uselessly spraying water on pavement and replace broken sprinkler heads and leaky lines.
3. Clean the filters on your pump. The muddy water that you see running down rivers, streams and ditches is the same water that is going through our irrigation system. Clogged filters will reduce the flow to your system and could possibly cause damage to your pump and sprinkler heads.
4. Our irrigation system needs to be flushed weekly. This is usually done in the afternoon one day per week between 1:00 and 3:00 PM. Days will vary depending on when a volunteer is available. It is a good idea to make sure that your pump is off during this procedure (see item #1). Flushing takes approximately 15 minutes.
5. Spring start-up and fall shut-down dates will be announced via email and posted on the website. Make sure that your pump is shut off prior to the irrigation system shut-down. Make sure that your pump is drained and your system is blown out prior to freezing weather.