

July 9, 2007

UPDATE ON THE LIBERTY RANCH IRRIGATION SYSTEM

The irrigation system at Liberty Ranch is not complete or operable with untreated irrigation water at this time. Design of a holding pond and pump station is ongoing. When complete, untreated water will be delivered from the Highland Ditch Company to the holding pond and then pumped into the irrigation system for delivery to each individual lot in the development.

Until such time as the holding pond and pump station are operable, treated water is being delivered to the irrigation system taps on each lot by means of a connection between the treated water and untreated water systems. Latest estimates are that the holding pond and pump station will not be completed in time for use this season.

When the pond and pump station are complete and operable, the connection to the treated water system will remain in place and will be used during the early spring months before the Highland Ditch Company starts running water for the year, and late fall months after the Ditch Company shuts off irrigation water for the year - provided that enough treated water is available to use for that purpose.

At times when irrigation water is available, it will be delivered and customers will be billed at a much lower rate. When treated water is being delivered to the irrigation system (when untreated irrigation water is not available), customers will be billed at a higher rate - similar to that paid for domestic, treated water.

Centex Homes is responsible for building the holding pond and pump station, and then will turn it over to Longs Peak Water District for ongoing operation and maintenance.

We have received several calls from customers who have used large amounts of water to establish their yards. All water taps - both domestic and irrigation taps - have brand new meters that have been tested and certified for accuracy prior to installation. In addition, we test all meters on a regular basis to make sure they register accurately. As a side note, when meters age, they typically slow down. We have never encountered a meter that registered a higher amount of water than was actually used.

In order to get a close estimate of the amount of water you are using, use the following calculation method:

1. We have found that typical flow in a sprinkler system in your area is 12 gallons per minute (gpm)
2. Determine the number of minutes each sprinkler zone runs each day.
3. Add the number of minutes each zone runs together to get the total number of minutes the sprinkler system runs each day.
4. Multiply the total number of minutes by 12 to determine the approximate number of gallons used each day for irrigation.
5. Multiply the gallons used each day by 30 to determine the number of gallons used each month. This should approximately equal the number of gallons billed by the District. If there is a large discrepancy, one of two things is probable. Those are: (1) either a leak in the sprinkler system or (2) you miscalculated the number of gallons used.

District staff will be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding the irrigation system. Should you have questions, you may contact Gary Allen, our Operations Manager at the District offices - 303-776-3847.