THE MISSION OF MADERA IRRIGATION DISTRICT is to obtain and manage affordable surface water and groundwater supplies in a manner which will ensure the long-term viability of irrigated agriculture in the District.

MADERA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
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The Board of Directors meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.
Regular Session begins at 2:00 p.m.

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For comments, questions, or story ideas please contact Andrea Sandoval, Editor, at (559) 673-3514 ext. 215 or asandoval@madera-id.org

To stay up to date on all MID events and news, please join our email distribution list by emailing Andrea Sandoval at asandoval@madera-id.org.

Scan the code to link directly to the District’s Facebook Page

2020 Water Season and Improved Water Management Tool For Growers

After an exceptionally dry winter, a wetter than normal spring has allowed the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to increase the Friant Class 1 allocation from an original 20% allocation to a 60% allocation. The additional precipitation has also increased the inflow into Hensley Lake. Even with these dry conditions, through conscientious operations and management, the District currently expects to be able to utilize approximately 90,000 acre feet of surface water within Madera Irrigation District (MID or District) during the 2020 irrigation season. MID also remains hopeful that additional supplies will be allocated later in the season. MID started surface water deliveries on May 18th and currently expects to run through late July or early August.

Given the challenges of 2020, both in terms of water supply and in other arenas, MID has developed and is offering a newly updated and improved service for growers to track their water usage and water billing throughout the season. A website based platform is now available to all MID water users. Water users can log-in to the online system and view their turnout information, water account balances, and parcel information. Multiple MID accounts can also be linked together for ease of use. Instructions on how to access the website and private access codes will be provided in upcoming billing statements, so be on the lookout for this valuable information. If you would like to be able to utilize the website sooner, please contact the office at 559-673-3514 and MID staff would be happy to assist you.

MID would like to thank all growers who have maximized their use of surface water when it is available, especially during the recent wetter than normal years for recharge purposes. These efforts have created the overall sustainability for MID even when the District faces drier years.

If you have any questions regarding MID or Operations, please feel free to visit our website at www.madera-id.org or call 559-673-3514.

Pictured Left: The District’s improved water management tool provides a user friendly way to track water usage and water billing throughout the water season. If you have not already registered, instructions on how to access the website and private access codes will be provided in upcoming billing statements or contact the District office. If you have already registered for online access to your account, you do not need to reregister. You may use your existing User Name and Password.
MID Makes Significant Progress on Infrastructure Improvements

In 2019, Madera Irrigation District developed an Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the District. The CIP provides a prioritized list of infrastructure in need of replacement or rehabilitation and estimates the necessary monetary investment within the planning period. The CIP was presented to the MID Board and public in September 2019 and identified 32 priority projects to be completed over a period of 10 years. Since the presentation of the plan in September 2019, MID was able to complete four (4) of the projects listed during the off-season and has two (2) more projects currently underway. An additional project, that included replacement of over 2,500 linear feet of cast-in-place pipe, was also identified and completed this year on the Colony Extension.

The completed projects varied in location throughout the District and included a 1,300 feet pipeline replacement of the Jantzen-Schroder Pipeline, a 1,500 feet pipeline replacement of a service line off the Lateral 32.2, a 740 feet pipeline installation of the Burgess Canal, and a 300 feet pipeline replacement of the Colony Head. In total the District installed over 6,000 feet (over 1 mile) of new pipeline this year, which directly results in improved service for growers and reduced future maintenance costs on these facilities.

All projects were accomplished utilizing in-house MID staff and resulted in substantial savings to the District and its growers. Cost for the four identified CIP projects was estimated to be approximately $845,000, however by utilizing MID staff and equipment to construct these projects, the total cost expended for all four projects amounted to approximately $280,000, a savings to the District and its growers of over half a million dollars in just this year.

MID Says Goodbye to Two Long-Time Employees

With almost 80 years combined at Madera Irrigation District, two employees are retiring in 2020 – Steve Atilano, Maintenance Supervisor, and Adan Garnica, Maintenance Worker III.

Steve Atilano. Steve Atilano began his career with the District on July 12, 1978. During his tenure with the District, he held many positions including Canal Operator, Equipment Operator, Maintenance Supervisor, and a host of roles and responsibilities in between. Steve thoroughly enjoyed and took pride in his work, he earned the respect of the growers he served by being efficient and reliable. Through the steady dedication that Steve displayed, he helped the District over the years increase its profitability in infrastructure repair and new construction. During Steve’s final years with the District, he helped to catapult the District into a new era of maintenance activities. As one chapter ends another begins, as Steve has decided to retire on July 31, 2020. Although he will be incredibly missed, the District is excited to have shared in his service for these past 42 years and wish him the best in his retirement!

Adan Garnica. Adan Garnica started with the District as a temporary employee on November 8, 1985. He was selected for a permanent position on November 1, 1987. From the very start of his employment, Adan gave full attention to doing his job to the best of his ability. Over the years, he has been noted as highly competent, dependable, conscientious, hardworking, and plethora of other adjectives attempting to define the truly remarkable employee he was. Adan served in the Maintenance Department throughout his entire tenure with the District; moving through the ranks to settle in as one of the most senior lead employees in the Maintenance Department. Over the years, Adan had the opportunity to mentor many of the District’s staff along his journey. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge and being a “hands on” instructor when performing a task. Adan retired from the District on May 5, 2020 after 35 years, we want to thank him for his service and wish him the best on his well-deserved retirement!

MID Centennial Celebration Continues

The District kicked off its Centennial with the release of a 2020 calendar and the unveiling of a 100-year history book that highlights the District’s history at the event.  Please save the date of October 2, 2020, we look forward to continuing the celebration of this momentous occasion.

The District’s 100-year history book is now available!  The book contains detailed information on the history of the District, including events, statistics, and historical anecdotes.  It also features photos and memorabilia from the District’s past, making it a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of Madera Irrigation District.  The book is available for purchase at the District office or online.  In addition to the book, the District released a 2020 calendar featuring historical photos and events from the District’s past.  The calendar is available for purchase at the District office or online.  Whether you’re a long-time resident of the area or just visiting, the District’s Centennial Celebration offers a unique and informative way to learn about the history of Madera Irrigation District.