

# 2014 NEWSLETTER

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Model Irrigation believes we have one of the best drinking water sources available. We are constantly striving to keep it supplied to you, our customer, in a pristine form at an economical rate.

**DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY:** As a public water system, representing the people in our area, Model strives to make it our duty to provide the best service and quality at the lowest economical rate, while conforming to local, state, and federal regulations.

**THE YEAR 2014:**

- Model Irrigation has replaced one pump station pump, piping, motor and electrical operating system with help from a grant (over \$31,700) from the Washington Department of Commerce. The new pump and electrical drive will save energy and reduce expenses on our power bills. Our new pump is pumping 100 gallons per minute more and using less energy.
- Every six years, Water Districts are required to update their water plans. Model's six year plan was completed and approved by the Washington State Department of Health.

**2014 ANNUAL BASIC RATE** for water use is \$204 per residence, which is collected as an assessment through the Spokane County Treasurer. The homeowner pays basic water through the assessments, but the District bills all excess water charges separately.

**2014 EXCESS RATES** begin after 6,000 cubic feet (cf) of water is used every 6 months. You are charged 20 cents per hundred cf for the first 30,000 cf of excess use and 25 cents per hundred cf for excess use over 30,000 cf.

**Note:** \$0.20 = 100 cf = 748 gallons. (6,000 cf = 44,883 gallons of water).

**METERS** are read April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 1st.

*Please notify our office of any changes in billing information.*

In 2013, the District did 555 required drinking water contaminants tests. Water quality details are included on the attached table. Also, included is information about how your drinking water meets and/or exceeds Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

**METER REPLACEMENT:** The District has an on-going, no charge to our customers, meter replacement program. If you receive a letter, to replace your meter, please call as soon as possible to set up an appointment.

**WASHINGTON STATE'S WATER USE EFFICIENCY (WUE)** standards require that all districts have less than 10% lost water. Model's 2013 lost water was only **3.9%**. Thank you for helping us use water wisely, and meet our WUE goals.

**HOUSEHOLD LEAKS:** We found (last year) 5% of homes in the District have leaks. These leaks cost you money. Take a few minutes to check toilets, faucets, sprinkler systems, hot tub connections, etc. If you are one of the households, you will receive a letter and a District representative will visit to help you identify the problem(s). Call the office to set up an appointment: (509) 926-5759.

**ALL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS** require **backflow protection** to protect our water quality, and regular maintenance to use water efficiently. Please check for leaks and broken sprinkler heads. It's easy, just look for weak output, brown spots or wet soggy spots in your lawn. Please check all systems, especially those more than 5 years old. Adjust systems during rainy periods, and check usage with a rain gauge, or an empty tuna fish can. Remember, lawns only use about 1 inch of water weekly. Water Conservation kits (indoor and outdoor) are available at the office.

**WATER QUALITY:** Your help is needed to maintain our present water quality. Please dispose of oil, anti-freeze and household toxic chemicals at the Spokane Household Recycling or call (509) 625-6800. Properly dispose of unused and "out of date" medications. Spokane Solid Waste has instructions for disposal on its website - at <http://www.solidwaste.org/subc96e.php?id=5109> - or find additional information at <http://www.takebackyourmeds.org> Please do not flush medications down drains and into septic or sewer systems.

**"Your drinking water is beneath you".**

**BOARD MEETINGS** are held on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. Meetings are subject to change, call 926-5759 to verify time and date if you want to attend. Your participation is welcome!

**MODEL IRRIGATION** is available **24 HRS A DAY** at **926-5759**. Our phone number has not changed; however there is an error in one of the local phone books. If no one is in the office, please leave a message with the answering service. For emergencies, the answering service will contact the person on call for help.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

RYAN HEATON  
GERALD MANFRED  
ERV WILLIAMS

**SUPERINTENDENT:**

JIM LAHDE

**STAFF:**

DIANE DORAN  
RICK NEAL  
TIM SCHUDEL

## MODEL IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO. 18 2013 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY DATA REPORT

Listed below are the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2013 calendar year. The presence of any contaminant in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1-December 31, 2013. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Parameter	Exceed MCL	Exceed MCLG	Level Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
<b><u>Microbiology</u></b>				
145 tests taken during the year at all well sites			All tests satisfactory.	Naturally present in the environment, and from industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, mining or farming and livestock productions.
Total Coliform Bacteria	NO	NO		
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli	NO	NO		
<b><u>Inorganic Chemicals</u></b>				
As required. (36 IOCs per well site) October 26, 2010			All tests below MCL.	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Herbicides, Pesticides, Semivolatiles	NO	NO	All test - Normal	
Nitrate: July – results of 5.3 (1 well - 1 test only)	NO	NO	Nitrates slightly exceeded trigger* of 5.0 mg/l but less than 10.0 mg/l MCL level at 1 well site in July.	
Arsenic tested October 26, 2010	NO	NO		
<b><u>Synthetic Organic Compounds</u></b>				
Tested for 75 SOC's per well site on 7/17/2013	NO	NO	All results – N/D (None Detected within the sensitivity of the instrument.	By product of industrial processes and petroleum production, leaking petroleum storage tanks, cleaning.
<b><u>Volatile Organic Compounds</u></b>				
All wells tested for 58 VOC's June, 1, 2011 Required every 3 years.	NO	NO	None Detected	Solvent spills/discharges into storm drains or sewers.
<b><u>Lead and Copper</u></b>				
All wells tested September 20, 2012.	NO	NO	None Detected	Leaching from metal water pipes and fittings.
<b><u>Radionuclides</u></b>				
Tested for radionuclides in July 2007. Required every 3 to 6 years.	NO	NO	None Detected	Naturally occurring in the environment.

**TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

- **ND:** not detectable at testing limit
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Turbidity:** a single day or series of consecutive days, when one or more turbidity measurement each day exceeds 5 NTU (nephelometric turbidity unit). Indicates possible microbiological excess.