



Delivering water and power™

### **NOTICE OF WATER RIGHTS**

SRP provides water delivery services to the land within the boundaries of the Salt River Reservoir District. Our records indicate the properties in question are within the SRP Irrigation Service Territory with eligible water rights.

When someone becomes a property owner and irrigation water customer, they become an SRP shareholder. In Arizona, water is tied to the land, not to individuals or SRP. The land is entitled to a predetermined allotment of water. That allotment cannot be transferred, bought, or sold. With this "water right" comes unique and important responsibilities such as: getting water to the property at the scheduled time, ordering only as much water as needed and containing water on the property.

The private irrigation delivery system used to deliver water to the active irrigation customers within the neighborhood is not owned, operated, or maintained by Salt River Project. It is the responsibility of the neighborhood to construct, operate, maintain, and safely transport all ordered water from the SRP delivery gate to their properties; as well as to provide reasonable access to all irrigation control structures. SRP cannot authorize any construction or maintenance within any private neighborhood irrigation systems.

In accordance with the SRP Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, SRP only provides irrigation water to the high-point of the quarter-section (approximately 160 acres), and it is the individual water users' responsibility to install, operate and maintain the neighborhood irrigation system from the SRP delivery gate to their respective properties. SRP's responsibility to monitor irrigation water or maintain the private irrigation system the water enters, ends after it has been delivered to this gate. After the water enters the private irrigation system, it, as well as the operation and maintenance of the private system, becomes the responsibility of the neighborhood irrigation customers. Additionally, all easements used in connection to the private irrigation delivery system within your neighborhood are owned by the active irrigation customers within the area.

### **PRIVATE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS**

Private irrigation systems are used to deliver water from the SRP delivery gate to individual property owners, known as SRP shareholders. These private irrigation systems are collectively owned and operated by SRP shareholders and not SRP. Private irrigation systems are prevalent throughout the Salt River Reservoir District.

### **MAPS OF PRIVATE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS**

While SRP makes maps of these private systems available to the public, these maps are only guides provided to SRP by the private system owners and should not be considered accurate or complete for locating purposes. SRP makes no representation as to the accuracy of this mapping product nor as to its fitness for a particular purpose. These systems are not marked by Blue Stake and are often buried under streets, in alleyways, sidewalks, and parking lots. Many systems are interconnected with multiple neighborhoods, farmers, and other shareholders such as parks, schools, and golf courses. These maps may not reflect actual addresses based on current Maricopa County data. It is the obligation of the



Delivering water and power™

contractor and its affiliates to verify the accuracy of the addresses and land ownership with the County Assessor.

### **CONSTRUCTION OR EXCAVATION**

When doing excavation of any sort, it is the responsibility of the property owner, or hired contractor and their affiliates, to locate and protect all private irrigation systems prior to performing work.

Underground pipes, open ditches, gates, stand boxes, ditch checks, valves, and all other parts of private irrigation delivery systems may not be removed or changed without express written permission from all private system owners.

- It is SRP's position all private systems remain in place. These systems are the only way for SRP Shareholders to receive water to their property. Removing them conflicts with the Arizona Revised Statutes on Waters §ARS-45-112.
- Stand boxes with or without gates serve a purpose and should not be removed. They divert water, charge systems, help prevent overflow, provide access to clean out pipes, act as breather pipes, act as a measurement point, and may also be a direct delivery to a customer. If you need to relocate one, please make sure you understand and design the replacement to meet the needs of the SRP Shareholder. Any changes to systems may result in flooding property and livestock. This is especially true when SRP Shareholders are not informed. Shareholders must be informed about changes, so they understand how to operate the system.
- Any pipe that is exposed needs to be supported. Exposing these pipes can be risky as they are prone to cracking once exposed.
- If you repair a pipe, we can offer a test run to see if the repair holds. Please do not back fill the repair until the test is complete. Failure to make proper repairs may result in sink holes.
- Subdivision customers receive water every 14 days in the Summer and every 28 days in the winter. Please plan your dry-up requests accordingly.
- The best time for a dry-up is during SRP's Annual Dry-up. Visit [srp.net/canaldryup](http://srp.net/canaldryup) for more information.
- SRP makes written and verbal contact with Water Shareholders when there is a chance a private irrigation system may be impacted by construction. As part of the communication, we will provide the Water Shareholder with the contact information of the contractor and or its affiliates.
- While the SRP Shareholder has the right to provide written permission to abandon a private irrigation system, SRP will verify with the Shareholder they understand the consequence of removing a private irrigation system. SRP will also verify ALL owners of the private system have been notified and participated in the written permission process.
- To understand your responsibilities related to private irrigation systems, please refer to the Arizona Revised Statutes on Water §ARS-45-112.



Delivering water and power™

## **GUIDELINES FOR PRIVATE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS**

The following guidelines should be considered general in nature. Irrigation is based on gravity flow. Pipe or ditch slope, land elevation and grade, and pipe and ditch restrictions will affect recommended pipe or ditch specifications. It is suggested that you contact a licensed and bonded Civil Engineer for advice specific to your irrigation project.

### **Pipeline Systems**

- A new irrigation system should have a minimum of a 12-inch pipe for a 50 MI delivery and a minimum of a 15-inch pipe for a 100 MI delivery.
- There should be a minimum 15 inches of cover (backfill) on top of pipes, in non-traffic areas. In traffic areas like streets, alleys, and driveways, the cover should be a minimum of 24 inches.
- Reinforced concrete or PVC pipe should be used under streets and alleys.
- There should be a metal or wire screen cover bolted to the top of each standbox.
- There should be a standbox at each bend 30 degrees or greater and a minimum of one standbox in each block.
- There should be a breather pipe or air vent at the end of each line.
- Yard valves should be located so earthen berms will not wash away.
- A minimum of one 10-inch yard valve should be installed in each lot for a 50 MI delivery and a minimum of three 10-inch or two 12-inch valves should be installed for a 100 MI delivery.
- Each lot should have ample berms to contain irrigation water.
- One lot should not irrigate from a neighbor's lot; all lots should have their own irrigation facilities.
- Consult your pipe supplier or a licensed engineer with your specific installation and loading conditions to choose the best pipe for your job. Use of corrugated pipe for irrigation systems is generally discouraged.

### **Municipal Concerns for All New Irrigation Systems**

- If a pipe or ditch will be located within a public right of way, the governing municipality may have specific requirements and should be contacted.

### **Combination Ditch and Pipeline Irrigation Systems**

- When installing a new ditch, it should be dug with an approximate 15-inch bottom-width, side-slopes of 1 to 1 (not vertical) and 18 inches in depth.
- When installing a new ditch or improving an old ditch, to save on maintenance and improve water flow, cement lining is recommended.
- There should be a trash grate located wherever an open ditch will flow into pipe.
- In an open ditch, the top of the ditch bank should be a minimum of 12 inches higher than the surrounding grade.
- The bottom of the head gates in an open ditch should be the same elevation or lower than the yard.
- When cleaning an open ditch, be sure the bottom is shoveled out to 2-3 inches lower than the bottom of head gates or pipe.