

News Release

Pioneer Irrigation District

3804 Lake Avenue, Caldwell, ID 83605
TEL: (208) 459-3617 -- www.pioneerirrigation.com

First Payment Date Nears **For Pioneer Irrigation Tax Bills**

For Immediate Use
Caldwell, Idaho – Dec. 12, 2010

For Media Information Contact:
Dawn Fowler – 459-3617

December 20 is the first payment date for 2010 irrigation district tax assessments from Pioneer Irrigation District, the District advised area residents today.

The first one-half of the annual assessment, mailed to Pioneer patrons in October, is due by December 20. Residents who pay at least the first half of the assessment by that date then have until June 20, 2011 to pay the second half.

The annual tax assessment can be paid in full or in two parts; however, the first payment **must** be received or postmarked by Monday, December 20.

“If folks would rather pay their assessment in full, that payment must be made by December 20,” said Dawn Fowler, Pioneer Secretary/Treasurer. “Pioneer’s 2010 assessment rates are unchanged from 2009,” Fowler added.

People who have questions about their tax bill should contact the Pioneer office at 459-3617 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Fowler cautioned that it is crucial that Pioneer patrons pay their irrigation assessments promptly. Idaho law requires that tax liens be filed each year against the property if the assessments are not paid by June 20 of the following year.

Idaho law also requires that formal tax deed action be taken against properties whose assessments have not been paid for three years. In these cases the property cannot be sold with clear title until this lien is paid off and can eventually lead to property being sold at a tax auction to recoup the taxes owed if the owner refuses to pay the assessments, Fowler noted.

A list of Pioneer patrons whose assessments are past due for one or more billing years, but which do not yet have a tax deed against them, will be available on the Pioneer internet website after December 20th. A list of properties currently in tax deed action is also available now.

Pioneer Irrigation District has provided irrigation and agricultural drainage services to Ada and Canyon County land owners for more than 100 years. The District currently maintains about 6,000 accounts providing irrigation water to approximately 34,000 acres of residential and farmland in Canyon and Ada Counties

-end-