

## Understanding Your Water Bill

The District charges a Capital Fee at the beginning of the irrigation season. The Capital Fee supports the cost of capital repairs, upgrades, and replacing the distribution system.

The water rate structure also includes a Water Usage Fee (charged per 1,000 gallons of actual usage). Irrigation usage bills are sent to owners twice per year.

Questions about your water should be emailed to:

[clientservices@advancehoa.com](mailto:clientservices@advancehoa.com)

# Water Rate Fact Sheet

## What is a Capital Fee?

The **Capital Fee** covers major repairs, upgrades and replacement cost of the capital assets that make up the irrigation system. This includes ditch inlet maintenance, lake dredging, pumphouses, irrigation pumps, distribution pipes, and required return flow pumping and infrastructure (pumping water back to the Poudre River system).



## What Is Included in the Water Usage Bill?

Your water usage bill helps cover everything it takes to provide irrigation water to the community. This process includes:

- **Getting the water:** We divert raw water from the Cache la Poudre River through the Eaton and Whitney Ditches.
- **Storing it:** The water is stored in one of the District's seven irrigation lakes.
- **Keeping it clean:** The lake water is treated to reduce algae and improve overall quality.
- **Filtering:** Before it reaches your property, the water is filtered through 300-micron filters at our pump stations.
- **Delivering it:** The water is pumped through pressure zones and a connected pipeline system that carries it directly to the non-potable meter in your yard.

Each year, the District's Board of Directors reviews and approves the irrigation water rates.

## Contact Us

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## How Much Water Storage is Needed?

### Q. How Complex Is the Irrigation System?

The 6 pump stations, 63+ miles of water mainlines, and over 360 control valves provide irrigation to over 7 square miles, 5,500 homes, 36 commercial businesses, 45 acres of farms and orchards, 10 parks, 3 golf courses, and 60 acres of green belts and irrigated turf.

### Q. Why Are Reservoirs Needed?

In Northern Colorado, the vast amount of irrigation water flows in rivers during the springtime runoff coming from snow melting in the Rocky Mountains. To provide a consistent source of water, springtime water must be captured and stored for use during the summer, fall and winter months. In addition, nearly 50% of the water diverted from the Poudre River must be returned to the river during the course of the year to match the historic irrigation practice of flood irrigating farm crops. Providing a sustainable source of water, storing irrigation water in reservoirs for future use, and providing for return flows is essential in the arid Colorado climate. This also explains why lake levels fluctuate between wet and dry times of the year.



### Q. Why Charge for the Amount of Water Actually Used?

Water systems are expensive to operate. Operating costs include service and administrative staff, electricity, routine maintenance and repairs, regulatory compliance and reporting, billing and accounting, legal and insurance costs and a myriad of other items. Water use fees are designed to cover these costs by charging for water actually used. Operating costs are shared between light, medium, and heavy users.

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*More information regarding the irrigation water and District Operations be found on the District websites.*

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