



City of Yakima

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**Subject: Yakima Irrigation Season Begins**

**Contact: Irrigation Supervisor Alvie Maxey – 575-6194**

**Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142**

**Release Date: Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

## **Yakima Irrigation Season Set to Begin April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> marks the scheduled start of the irrigation season for the vast majority of residential and business customers in Yakima. That's the day that the systems operated by the City of Yakima's Water/Irrigation Division are scheduled to begin delivering water.

All City of Yakima irrigation systems should be fully operational by mid April.

The few other irrigation systems that operate independently from the City systems will also be gearing up during April and should be fully operational by the beginning of May.

"It is a good idea for people to spend some time now getting ready for the irrigation water to start flowing," said Irrigation Supervisor Alvie Maxey. "Every customer should make sure that their faucets are turned off and that they replace any drain plugs that are worn out. Doing a general check of their irrigation system now before the water is turned on will help avoid problems," said Maxey.

Yakima's irrigation season generally runs from early April through mid October.

The City of Yakima has operated an irrigation system since the early 1900s. The system that now exists to deliver water to irrigation customers in Yakima actually consists of 66 individual, smaller systems that were consolidated into a single utility in 1997. Through that utility, the City currently provides irrigation water to about 11,000 customers.

- end -