



220 Center Ave.
PO Box 81
Curtis, NE 69025

Phone: (800) 873-5613
Fax: 308 -367 -4285
Email: kgall@mnrnd.org

Middle Republican Natural Resources District

7/21/2005

For Immediate Release

ATTENTION IRRIGATORS!

Curtis – The first year of ground water allocations is underway and irrigators have been approaching staff at the Middle Republican NRD with specific questions. Here are some reminders about allocations and irrigation, which apply to ground water irrigators in Hayes, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Frontier and part of Lincoln counties:

Allocation

The ground water allocation is for 39 inches over three years (2005-2007). This averages out to 13 inches per year. The 13 inches is a yearly guideline based on an average over three years, not a requirement. You can choose to use MORE than 13 inches in the 2005 year. However, you cannot use more than 39 inches in the three year allocation period, so any amount over 13 inches used in 2005 will mean fewer than 13 inches in either 2006 or 2007. You ARE NOT REQUIRED to pump your 13 inches each year. Any unused inches, up to 13 inches, can be carried forward into the next allocation period. You WILL NOT LOSE your entire allocation if you do not use it.

Hail Damage

If your crop is damaged from hail, you may apply your allocation to other certified acres that you own or bank that allocation for the future. Again, you will not lose your allocation by choosing not to use it in 2005. You will not be penalized for saving your allocation. However, no more than 13 inches can be banked per allocation period (2005-2007).

CREP

If you have acres enrolled in CREP and took the delay option, you can pump no more than a total of 14.95 inches on your acres this year. Exceeding this amount will disqualify you from the program. Acres enrolled in CREP will not be allocated any water as long as they are enrolled in that program. You do not lose your certified acres by enrolling in the program.

Staff at the NRD has noticed a lot of misinformation circulating about allocations. All information regarding allocations and ground water rules and regulations has been published in the MRNRD quarterly newsletters, Sprinkles & Splashes. All residents of the district are on the mailing list to receive this newsletter. If you have not been receiving this newsletter, please contact the MRNRD immediately. Back issues are available by clicking on “newsletter” under the “publications” header on the District website at www.mrnrd.org. Irrigators, if you have questions about allocations, please call the Middle Republican Natural Resources District (MRNRD) at (800) 873-5613.

-#####-

For more information: Kara Gall
Information and Education Coordinator