

CHELAN COUNTY IRRIGATORS WATERING ON ROADWAY ISSUES

AUGUST 2012



*Chelan County Public Works Department
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NOTICE TO GROWERS:

Chelan County would like to draw your attention to a problem arising from irrigation systems that generate ongoing, frequent watering within the county right-of-way. This is a result of improper watering techniques such as adjusting sprinkler heads, using back screens, and/or a lack of proper maintenance.

Excess water within the right-of-way contributes to erosion, damage to the road system and damage to downstream properties. Water saturates the road bed and eventually causes potholes and shoulder collapse, reducing the life of the roadway and creating safety concerns for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. Rough roadways can also be problematic when hauling your fruit to the warehouse. In extreme conditions, it may also cause sloughing of the roadway and/or landslides onto private property. The county is requesting your assistance in alleviating the drainage problems in the area by operating and maintaining your irrigation system in an efficient and effective manner.

Chelan County believes that maintaining our roadways and keeping our communities safe is a team-effort with our residents; after all, our residents actually own the roads that we travel on. We are hopeful that you can assist us in our efforts to maintain the roadway in your neighborhood through the use of responsible watering techniques.

By using a proactive approach to resolve the current irrigation concerns, you can avoid Chelan County code enforcement actions and/or public or private legal action to stop irrigation problems and/or recover for damage caused by irresponsible watering methods. A few simple and inexpensive measures can go a long way in helping to preserve our roadway resources.

**Comments & Questions:
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