

KITCHEL LAKE

April 30, 2026

Serratoga Residents,

We are entering a challenging irrigation season following an historically dry winter and spring. Due to low precipitation, limited early-season water availability, and current reservoir levels, the non-potable irrigation system will begin the season on May 1 in a limited and prioritized manner.

At this time, the current target date for more comprehensive residential watering is **May 18**, depending on reservoir water levels and available water supply. This date may be adjusted as conditions change, and additional updates will be provided as more information becomes available. This update is based in part on information provided by Hines Inc., which has been assisting District 1 with investigation and evaluation of the irrigation system, as well as District-level information regarding current water availability, reservoir conditions, and anticipated irrigation timing.

May 1 has been the target start date for initial non-potable irrigation system preparation. Over the next several days, the irrigation team will begin pressurizing the non-potable piping system, testing for leaks, evaluating pumping infrastructure, and preparing the system for limited irrigation operations.

The reservoir water level remains too low to start the master irrigation pumping station. In addition, reduced mountain precipitation has limited the availability of early-season lake fill water rights. The District is coordinating with the ditch company to evaluate the timing and quantity of available reservoir shares. In the meantime, the system is expected to begin limited operations using an available on-site groundwater well.

For the next two to three weeks, available well water will be used for targeted irrigation of high-value plant material, including trees and shrubs throughout the community. Native and drought-tolerant grasses may be allowed to remain in a healthy state of dormancy during this early period. As water becomes available, irrigation may be directed to select turf areas and may be prioritized by location and need.

Use of the groundwater well is limited to landscape located within **Districts 2 and 3**. Because this water source is subject to specific legal and operational restrictions, the District must carefully manage its use and ensure compliance with applicable water law.

The reservoir expansion project remains an important part of improving the community's mid- and long-term water storage and supply capacity. However, during this early part of the irrigation season, the community will still be affected by current drought conditions, low reservoir levels, and the timing of available water deliveries.

The District, its water managers, engineers, and landscape professionals are working to balance available water supply with the need to protect high-value landscaping, support reservoir refill, and transition the community toward a drought-appropriate irrigation schedule as conditions allow.

Residents should expect continued updates regarding reservoir refill progress, irrigation system start-up, watering schedules, and any recommendations for residential irrigation controller settings once broader system operations are available.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as the community begins the irrigation season under limited water conditions.

KITCHEL LAKE

Residential Irrigation Start-Up Guide

1. Each residence has two irrigation boxes along the rear of each property. There is a valve box that contains a blowout port and ball valve (see “Picture A” below; this box may also be round). Each residence also has a dedicated meter box (see “Picture B” below).
 - a. In “Picture A,” the valve box has a blowout valve (the blowout connection is a schedule 80 nipple with cap).
 - i. The valve handle within the valve box is shown in the open position, which is parallel with the water line.
 - b. You may turn the valve handle to the open position starting on April 14, 2025. The valve should stay open, parallel to the pipe, until Fall, when the system will be ready to winterize.
2. The meter box in “Picture B” is metro district property and should not be tampered with by homeowners or contractors.
3. Homeowners are responsible for any damage or repairs required downstream of the meter box. This is defined as anything between the meter box and the home.
4. Please take the time to read the Kitchel Lake Water Rules and Regulations. If your landscaping is established, please adhere to the **watering schedule** as noted in the rules and shown below. If you are establishing newly installed landscaping, please water as needed but please be conscientious of your water use and ensuring adequate pressure for all residents.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 10 PM to 2 AM	Even Last Number Preceded by Odd Number
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 10 PM to 2 AM	Even Last Number Preceded by Even Number
Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 2 AM to 6 AM	Odd Last Number Preceded by Odd Number
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday – 2 AM to 6 AM	Odd Last Number Preceded by Even Number



Picture A



Picture B