

Some Frequently Asked Questions and answers that clear up some “muddy water,” so to speak.

First, Beware!! Canals, ditches, pipes, and siphons are very unsafe, and no one, especially children should play in or near them! The canals and roadways are NOT for public access.

Does my property have irrigation water, or is the water owned by someone?

The Redlands Water and Power Company water shares are NOT attached to the property, the Shareholder individuals own them themselves by a Stock Certificate and must be transferred by the individual(s) to the new property owner through Redlands Water and Power Company, and some fees are required to do so. Each water share must be paid annually through assessments billed to the shareholder.

Where is my water coming from?

Redlands Water and Power Company's water comes directly from the diversion point at the Gunnison River where up to 850 cubic feet per second of water is diverted in the Power Canal and then travels approximately 2.7 miles to the Hydropower Plant and Pump Station #1 (main pumps). Pending where you are located, the water may go through two more pump stations and travel over 26 miles through the canals, 8 siphons, flume, and pipes before reaching your headgate. Very few in the region require pump stations that raise the water over 200 feet above the Gunnison River, at the highest point.

What if my property is in a subdivision?

Most commonly a homeowner in a subdivision pays for their irrigation water through their Homeowners Association (HOA). In most subdivisions one or two headgates are serving that subdivision, there should be a designated irrigation water person who manages the water for the entire subdivision and its laterals. It is up to you to know who that person is and where that lateral and valves are. Subdivisions will often have a shared rotation schedule.

Do I share a headgate, and what if I do?

Where several shareholders share a headgate, the principle of cooperative delivery also applies. It is your responsibility to know which headgate and lateral you receive your water from. Having a list of those individuals and contact numbers who are on the same headgate or lateral is recommended and is not the responsibility of RW&PC.

Who controls the water getting to me and how does it get to my property?

RW&PC provides the water and control of the Power Canal, Lift Canals, and Subsidiary Canals of the Corporation to the headgates and delivery structures for the shareholder subject to some limitations. It is the shareholder's responsibility to provide their specific ditch or laterals necessary to ultimately deliver the water to the shareholder's property. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this but RW&PC may refuse to deliver water through any segment of the Canal System that has not been capable of delivering water for a substantial period of time as determined by the Board of Directors in their sole and absolute discretion including, but not limited to disuse or abandonment.

How much water is one share of water?

RW&PC's one share is 3.80 gallons per minute (GPM) for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Lift Canals, which is 233.40 gallons per hour (GPH). For the Power Canal, a share is 5.84/GPM or 350.40/GPH. Actually, a Lift Canal stock, one-third (1/3) of a miner's inch or a statute inch of water, or a pro-rata share of the water in the Lift Canal System and the Power Canal stock, one-half (1/2) of a miner's inch or a statute inch of water, or a pro-rata share of the water in the Power Canal System. There will not be a test on this, but only use what is needed and no more than your share. There is a drought happening you know!

How does my ditch and irrigation water company operate?

The RW&PC is a non-profit corporation established to deliver water to its shareholders' headgates. RW&PC company has a board of directors, a manager/superintendent, an operations manager, and an office manager to manage the office business, several ditch riders, and power plant and pump operators who control and maintain the actual water flow and infrastructure. An annual shareholder meeting is held to elect directors, establish the budget, and discuss