

**Ash Park Water User Association
State Statutes**

TITLE 18
CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS
CHAPTER 43
IRRIGATION WORKS

18-4306. INJURIES TO DITCHES AND APPURTENANCES. Any person or persons, who shall cut, break, damage, or in any way interfere with any ditch, canal, headgate, or any other works in or appurtenant thereto, the property of another person, corporation, or association of persons, and whereby water is conducted to any place for beneficial use or purposes, and when said canal, headgate, ditch, dam, or appurtenance is being used or is to be used for said conduct of water, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

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18-4301. INTERFERENCE WITH DITCHES, CANALS OR RESERVOIRS. Every person who shall, without authority of the owner or managing agent, and with intent to defraud, take water from any canal, ditch, flume or reservoir, used for the purpose of holding or conveying water for manufacturing, agricultural, mining, or domestic uses, or who shall, without like authority, raise, lower, or otherwise disturb, any gate or other appurtenance thereof used for the control or measurement of water, or who shall empty or place, or cause to be emptied or placed, into any such canal, ditch, flume, or reservoir, any rubbish, filth, or obstruction to the free flow of water, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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18-4302. WASTING WATER USED FOR IRRIGATION. Any person or persons, who shall wilfully or wantonly waste any of the waters of any stream, the waters of which are used for irrigation, to the detriment of any claimant of such water for irrigation purposes, by diverting the same for an unnecessary use or purpose, or by allowing such water to waste by running into depressions or dry channels so that the same cannot be used for irrigation, nor reach the original channel of the stream from which it has been diverted, are guilty of a misdemeanor.

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18-4304. WRONGFUL DIVERSION OF WATER. Any person who without the consent of the water master of the district, diverts any water from a ditch or channel where it has been placed, or caused or left to run by the

water master or his deputies, or who shuts or opens any ditch, gate or dam, or in any way impedes or increases the flow of water in any stream or ditch diverting water from a stream, while the same is under the charge of a water master, or who cuts away any embankment of a stream, whereby the water of such stream is diverted, or breaks, injures, or removes any gate, flume or other device used for the equitable distribution of the water of such stream by the water master, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

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18-4308. CHANGE OF LATERAL DITCH OR BURIED IRRIGATION CONDUIT. Where any lateral ditch has heretofore been, or may hereafter be, constructed across or beneath the lands of another, the person or persons owning or controlling the said land, shall have the right at his own expense to change said lateral ditch or buried irrigation conduit to any other part of said land, but such change must be made in such a manner as not to impede the flow of the water therein, or to otherwise injure any person or persons using or interested in such lateral ditch or buried irrigation conduit. Any increased operation and maintenance shall be the responsibility of the landowner who makes the change. A landowner shall also have the right to bury the ditch of another in pipe on the landowner's property, provided that the pipe, installation and backfill reasonably meet standard specifications for such materials and construction, as set forth in the Idaho standards for public works construction or other standards recognized by the city or county in which the burying is to be done. The right and responsibility for operation and maintenance shall remain with the ditch owner, but the landowner shall be responsible for any increased operation and maintenance costs, including rehabilitation and replacement, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the ditch owner.

In the event that the ditch, lateral, buried irrigation conduit, or canal is owned by an organized irrigation district, canal company, ditch association, or other irrigation entity, the written permission of the entity must first be obtained before a ditch, lateral, buried irrigation conduit, or canal is changed or placed in buried pipe by the landowner. While a ditch owner shall have no right to relocate his ditch on the property of another without permission, a ditch owner shall have the right to place his ditch in a buried conduit within the easement or right-of-way on the property of another in accordance with standard specifications for pipe, materials, installation and backfill, as set forth in the Idaho standards for public works construction or other standards recognized by the city or county in which the burying is to be done, and so long as the pipe and the construction is accomplished in a manner that the surface of the owner's property and the owner's use thereof is not disrupted and is restored to the condition of adjacent property as expeditiously as possible, but not to exceed five (5) days after the start of construction. A landowner shall have the right to direct that the conduit be relocated to a different route than the route of the ditch, provided that the landowner shall agree in writing to be responsible for any increased construction or future maintenance costs necessitated by said relocation. Maintenance of the buried conduit shall be the responsibility of the ditch owner. No more than five (5) days after the start of construction, a landowner or ditch owner who buries a ditch in pipe shall record the location and specifications of the buried irrigation conduit, including primary and secondary easements, in the county in which the burying is done, and shall provide the irrigation entity that supplies water to the ditch, with a copy of such location and specifications and the construction plans utilized. The irrigation entity shall keep and maintain such records and have them available for the public.

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18-4309. UNAUTHORIZED TAMPERING WITH MEASURING DEVICES. Every person who shall wilfully waste water for irrigation, or who shall wilfully open, close, change or disturb, or interfere with, any headgate or water box or valve or measuring or regulating device, without authority, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The water masters or their assistants, within their district, shall have the power to arrest any person or persons offending, and turn them over to the sheriff or the nearest peace officer of the county in which such offense is committed, and immediately upon delivering such person so arrested into the custody of either of such officers, it shall be the duty of the water master making such arrest to make complaint, in writing and under oath, before the proper justice of the peace, or the probate judge of such county, against the person so arrested.

TITLE 31
COUNTIES AND COUNTY LAW
CHAPTER 38
ZONING REGULATIONS

31-3805. DELIVERY OF WATER. (1) When either a **subdivision** within the meaning of chapter 13, title 50, Idaho Code, or a subdivision subject to a more restrictive county or city zoning ordinance is proposed within the state of Idaho, and all or any part of said subdivision would be **located within the boundaries of an existing irrigation district or other canal company, ditch association, or like irrigation water delivery entity**, hereinafter called "irrigation entity" for the purposes of this chapter, no subdivision plat or amendment to a subdivision plat or any other plat or map recognized by the city or county for the division of land will be accepted, approved, and recorded unless:

(a) The water rights appurtenant and the assessment obligation of the lands in said subdivision which are within the irrigation entity have been transferred from said lands or excluded from an irrigation entity by the owner thereof; or by the person, firm or corporation filing the subdivision plat or amendment to a subdivision plat or any other plat or map recognized by the city or county for the division of land; or

(b) The owner or person, firm or corporation filing the subdivision plat or amendment to a subdivision plat or any other plat or map recognized by the city or county for the division of land has provided for underground tile or other like satisfactory underground conduit for lots of one (1) acre or less, or a suitable system for lots of more than one (1) acre which will deliver water to those landowners within the subdivision who are also within the irrigation entity, with the following appropriate approvals:

(i) For **proposed subdivisions within the incorporated limits of a city, the irrigation system must be approved by the city zoning authority or the city council, as provided by city ordinance, with the advice of the irrigation entity charged with the delivery of water to said lands.**

(2) **(a) In the event that the provisions of either subsection (1)(a) or (1)(b) of this section have not been complied with, the assessments of the irrigation entity for operation, maintenance, construction, and other valid charges permitted by statute shall in no way be affected.** Any person, firm or corporation or any other person offering such lots in such subdivision for sale, or selling such lot shall, prior to the sale, advise the purchaser in writing as follows:

- (i) That suitable water deliveries have not been provided; and
- (ii) **That the purchaser of the lot must remain subject to all assessments levied by the irrigation entity; and**
- (iii) **That the individual purchaser shall be responsible to pay such legal assessments; and**
- (iv) **That the assessments are a lien on the land within the irrigation entity; and**
- (v) That the purchaser may at a future date petition the appropriate irrigation entity for exclusion from the irrigation district.

(b) A disclosure statement executed by the purchasers and duly acknowledged, containing the representations required in this subsection of this section, shall be obtained by the seller at the time of receipt of the earnest money from the purchaser, and affixed to the proposed sales contract and a **copy thereof shall be forwarded to the appropriate irrigation entity.**

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 1
APPROPRIATION OF WATER -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

42-109. CHANGE IN COURSE OF DITCH -- WHEN PROHIBITED. Whenever any ditch or canal has been constructed for the purpose of conveying water and selling the same for irrigating purposes, it is unlawful for the owner or owners of said ditch or canal to change the line of said ditch or canal so as to prevent or interfere with the use of water from said ditch or canal, by any one who, prior to the proposed change, had used water for irrigating purposes from said ditch or canal.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 11
RIGHTS OF WAY

42-1107. RIGHT OF WAY FOR DRAINS. Whenever the owner or owners of any parcel or parcels of land desire to construct a drain for the purpose of carrying off surplus water, and they cannot agree among themselves or with the parties who own land below through which it is expedient to carry the drain in order to reach a natural waterway, then proceedings may be had in the same manner as in cases of eminent domain affecting irrigating works of diversion, and the right of way for such drains shall be regarded as equal to that of irrigation canals.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 12
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DITCHES

42-1202. MAINTENANCE OF DITCH. The owners or persons in control of any ditch, canal or conduit used for irrigating purposes shall maintain the same in good order and repair, ready to deliver water by the first of April in each year, and shall construct the necessary outlets in the banks of the ditches, canals or conduits for a proper delivery of water to persons having rights to the use of the water.

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IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 12
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DITCHES

42-1203. MAINTENANCE OF EMBANKMENTS. The owner or owners of any irrigating ditch, canal or conduit shall carefully keep and maintain the embankments thereof in good repair, in order to prevent the water from wasting during the irrigation season, and shall not at any time permit a greater quantity of water to be turned into said ditch, canal or conduit than the banks thereof will easily contain or than can be used for beneficial or useful purposes; it being the meaning of this section to prevent the wasting and useless discharge and running away of water.

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IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 12
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DITCHES

42-1204. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE TO OTHERS. The owners or constructors of ditches, canals, works or other aqueducts, and their successors in interest, using and employing the same to convey the waters of any stream or spring, whether the said ditches, canals, works or aqueducts be upon the lands owned or claimed by them, or upon other lands, must carefully keep and maintain the same, and the embankments, flumes or other conduits, by which such waters are or may be conducted, in good repair and condition, so as not to damage or in any way injure the property or premises of others. The owners or constructors have the right to enter the land across which the right-of-way extends, for the purposes of cleaning, maintaining and repairing the ditch, canal or conduit, and to occupy such width of the land along the banks of the ditch, canal or conduit as is necessary to properly do the work of cleaning, maintaining and repairing the ditch, canal or conduit with personnel and with such equipment as is commonly used, or is reasonably adapted, to that work. The right-of-way also includes the right to deposit on the banks of the ditch or canal the debris and other matter necessarily required to be taken from the ditch or canal to properly clean and maintain it, but no greater width of land along the banks of the canal or ditch than is absolutely necessary for such deposits shall be occupied by the removed debris or other matter.

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IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 12
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DITCHES

42-1206. REPAIR OF COMMUNITY DITCHES. Where a ditch is common property, or there is a common right to the use of the water of a ditch without payment therefor, and any labor or materials are necessary for the repair or cleaning of the ditch, or any gate or flume thereon or thereunto belonging, the watermaster of the district may make a fair pro rata assessment of labor or materials against the inhabitants of the district claiming the use of such water, according to the benefits received by each; and if any person so assessed neglects or refuses, for the period of three (3) days after notice so to do from the watermaster or his deputy, to furnish his just proportion of the necessary labor or materials, according to such assessment, he must pay his pro rata in cash, to be recovered, with costs, in an action by the watermaster in his own name.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 12
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DITCHES

42-1208. RIGHTS-OF-WAY NOT SUBJECT TO ADVERSE POSSESSION. Rights-of-way of irrigation districts, Carey act operating companies, nonprofit irrigation entities, and lateral ditch associations, are not subject to adverse possession, and no person shall prevent free access of authorized personnel on rights-of-way or construct any obstruction on rights-of-way in an effort to adversely possess said right-of-way.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 13
LATERAL DITCH WATER USERS' ASSOCIATIONS

42-1303. LATERAL DITCHES -- REPAIRS, IMPROVEMENTS, AND MAINTENANCE -- ASSESSMENT OF COSTS. Immediately after the annual meeting of any such association the directors thereof and the lateral manager shall make an examination of the lateral or distributing ditch or ditches, and make an estimate as to the cost of the necessary repairs and improvements thereon, and the maintenance thereof for the succeeding season, including the compensation of officers and lateral manager and such total cost and charges shall be assessed pro rata to each water user from said lateral, in the following manner, if agricultural land in proportion to the water which the owner is entitled to receive from such lateral or ditch, and if **lots within any city** or village, then the assessment may be made upon the basis of each lot, the same to be **uniform upon lots of the same size**. The improvement, repair and maintenance of any such lateral or distributing ditch shall be under the direction of the directors of the association.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 13
LATERAL DITCH WATER USERS' ASSOCIATIONS

42-1307. ACTION FOR ASSESSMENT -- ATTORNEYS' FEES. In case any assessment, as herein provided for is due and unpaid the association may sue to collect the same, in the name of its secretary-treasurer as such, in any court of competent jurisdiction, and in addition to the amount due including all penalties and interest, and all costs incurred in said action, may collect a reasonable attorney's fee in such action to be fixed by the court.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 22
OPERATING COMPANIES -- LIEN FOR MAINTENANCE CHARGES

42-2201. MAINTENANCE CHARGES -- RIGHT TO COLLECT -- BASIS OF ASSESSMENT-- LIEN. Any corporation heretofore organized or any corporation that shall hereafter be organized for the operation, control or management of an irrigation project or canal system, or for the purpose of furnishing water to its shareholders, and not for profit or hire, the control of which is actually vested in those entitled to the use of the

water from such irrigation works for the irrigation of the lands to which the water from such irrigation works is appurtenant, shall have the right to levy and collect from the holders or owners of all land to which the water and water rights belonging to or diverted by said irrigation works are dedicated or appurtenant regardless of whether water is used by such owner or holder, or on or for his land; and also from the holders or owners of all other land who have contracted with such company, corporation or association of persons to furnish water on such lands, regardless of whether such water is used or not from said irrigation works, reasonable administrative charges, tolls, assessments and charges for the purpose of maintaining and operating such irrigation works and conducting the business of such company, corporation or association and meeting the obligations thereof, which tolls, assessments and charges shall, after projecting the revenue to be derived from an administrative charge of not to exceed ten dollars (\$10.00) to be levied against each holder of a stock certificate of the company:

- (1) Be equally and ratably levied and may be based upon the number of shares or water rights held or owned by the owner of such land as appurtenant thereto; or
- (2) May be based upon the amount of water used or said tolls, assessments and charges may be based on:
 - (a) A combination of a charge of a fixed amount per share for annual operation and maintenance and a charge for a fixed minimum amount of water per share, whether used or not, plus an additional charge based on the estimated amount of water to be delivered over the minimum, as requested by the farmer, including the energy costs of said excess delivery; or
 - (b) A combination of a charge for energy costs, based on the amount of water delivered, and a separate charge for all other operation and maintenance costs, based on the number of shares or water rights; or
- (3) May be based upon any other method of assessment fairly allocating the costs of operating and maintaining the irrigation works which has been approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the shares entitled to vote at any annual, regular or special meeting of the shareholders at which the question of approving the method of assessment is brought properly before the meeting. Such company, corporation or association of persons shall have a first and prior lien, except as to the lien of taxes, upon the land to which such water and water rights are appurtenant, or upon which it is used, said lien to be perfected, maintained and foreclosed in the manner set forth in this chapter: provided, that any right to levy and collect tolls, administrative charges, assessments and charges by any person, company of persons, association or corporation, or the right to a lien for the same, which does or may hereafter otherwise exist, is not impaired by this chapter.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 22
OPERATING COMPANIES -- LIEN FOR MAINTENANCE CHARGES

42-2207. FORECLOSURE OF LIEN. Proceedings in the way of civil action in the district courts may be commenced and maintained to enforce the lien herein provided, which proceedings may embrace one or more parcels of land, or one or more landowners, or reputed landowners; and except as otherwise provided herein, the provisions of the Idaho laws relating to civil actions, new trials and appeals, are applicable to and constitute the rules of practice in proceedings under this chapter; and except as otherwise provided, the nature and effect of a judgment of foreclosure shall be the same as the foreclosure of a first real estate mortgage: provided, that the sale of such land under foreclosure shall pass to the purchaser, all ditch and water rights appurtenant thereto, and the interests, including corporate stock, of the owner or holder of such land in such corporation, company or association.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 9
DISTRIBUTION OF WATER TO CONSUMERS

42-902. INJURING DITCH OR HEADGATE -- TRIPLE DAMAGES. Any person who, without the consent of the watermaster of the district, diverts any water from the ditch or channel where it was placed, or caused, or left to run by the watermaster or his deputies, or who shuts or opens any ditch, gate or dam with intent so to divert any water, and thereby deprive any person of the use of the same during any part of the time he is entitled to such use, or who, without the consent of the watermaster, cuts any ditch or the banks thereof, or breaks or destroys any gate or flume, is liable in a civil action to any person injured thereby in three times the actual damage sustained in consequence of any such wrongful act or acts.

TITLE 42
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE -- WATER RIGHTS AND RECLAMATION
CHAPTER 9
DISTRIBUTION OF WATER TO CONSUMERS

42-911. USERS OF WATER DEFINED. The term "users of water" from a community ditch shall be understood to include the owner of the land on which the water is used, or any tenant or other person in possession and control of said premises.

TITLE 45
LIENS, MORTGAGES AND PLEDGES
CHAPTER 5
LIENS OF MECHANICS AND MATERIALMEN

45-501. RIGHT TO LIEN. Every person, otherwise unsecured in whole or in part, performing labor upon, or furnishing materials to be used in the construction, alteration or repair of any mining claim, building, wharf, bridge, ditch, dike, flume, tunnel, fence, machinery, railroad, wagon road, aqueduct to create hydraulic power, or any other structure, or who grades, fills in, levels, surfaces or otherwise improves any land, or who performs labor in any mine or mining claim, and every professional engineer or licensed surveyor under contract who prepares or furnishes designs, plans, plats, maps, specifications, drawings, surveys, estimates of cost, on-site observation or supervision, or who renders any other professional service whatsoever for which he is legally authorized to perform in connection with any land or building development or improvement, or to establish boundaries, has a lien upon the same for the work or labor done or professional services or materials furnished, whether done or furnished at the instance of the owner of the building or other improvement or his agent; and every contractor, subcontractor, architect, builder or any person having charge of any mining claim, or of the construction, alteration or repair, either in whole or in part, of any building or other improvement, as aforesaid, shall be held to be the agent of the owner for the purpose of this chapter provided, that the lessee or lessees of any mining claim shall not be considered as the agent or agents of the owner under the provisions of this chapter.