



PID volunteers help create Demonstration Garden

Volunteers from throughout the Paradise community are putting the final touches on the new demonstration garden, located just north of Paradise Irrigation District's office, 6344 Clark Rd.

Once completed, kids and adults will be able to wander through the garden and learn more about the best plants for ridge landscaping, water-wise gardening concepts and different ways to efficiently irrigate a ridge garden and yard.

The garden is a community project of the PID Ad Hoc Demonstration Garden Committee, including volunteers Chuck Bell, Ward Habriel and Michael Spiess. Mendon's Nursery and volunteer Kendel



Gray helped with the planning; Mendon's also supplied, at discount, gravel, bark and plants.

hands-on volunteer work for this project. Bell has helped with creating planting mounds and walkways.



"It's been a great opportunity to work with other volunteers who care a lot about water conservation and managing our water," notes Chuck Bell. "I've especially enjoyed the chance to do some of the

"Conservation was my career and, now that I'm retired, I like to help out when I can," Bell adds.

Planting areas will include a focus on erosion control; fire-resistant plants; plants to encourage butterflies, pollinators and birds; and drought- and shade-tolerant native plants.

Additionally, water-wise gardening will be demonstrated, including examples of low-use irrigation and controller systems as well as Paradise climate zones and information about AquaHawk. PID will also display a service meter, pressure regulator and back flow prevention/anti-siphon device.

A brochure will allow visitors to take a self-guided tour through the garden. Ridge residents, businesses and organizations are invited to donate time and materials to the project. Call PID at 877-4971 for information.

Committee volunteer Chuck Bell at the site of the demonstration garden.



What projects is PID working on?

Let's explore: Water Rights

PID gets most of its water from Little Butte Creek; much of this water is stored in Paradise Lake and Magalia Reservoir. The district holds water rights permits to store about 18,300 acre-feet from Little Butte Creek administered by the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB).

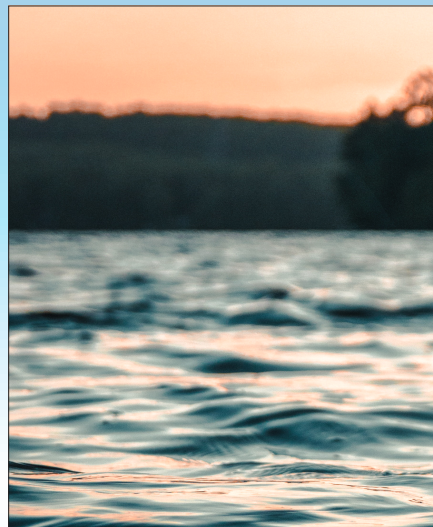
Permits from SWRCB tell water rights holders when they can divert water and how much they can divert.

PID holds two permits from SWRCB that authorize diversion to storage in the district's two reservoirs at various times of the year. PID also holds a pre-1914

Quick summary: This project will help the district provide water to our community for many decades into the future.

adjudicated right for a year-round direct diversion from Little Butte Creek.

Simply having the water rights permits does not guarantee them, however. The district must demonstrate



WATER RIGHTS 101

UNDERSTANDING HOW PID PROTECTS YOUR WATER NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.



the need for the amount of water in order to "perfect" the rights.

Part of that process involves showing SWRCB that the district has or will have the facilities needed to store the full amount of water granted in the water rights permits, and that the district has made beneficial use of the water in the past.

This project includes an extensive

investigation of the environmental impacts of constructing additional storage and of diverting water from Little Butte Creek to storage. It also involves the analysis of past diversions of water to identify the amount of water perfected under the permit.

District staff and its water rights and environmental consultants are working, in consultation with water board staff, to secure the rights to a water supply that is reliable and adequate to meet the needs of the community.

Want more details? Check out PID's YouTube channel (find the link at PIDWater.com) for an informative audio presentation by Paula Whealan, a water rights specialist and PID consultant.

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