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Paradise Irrigation
District

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## **Press Release**

## PID water system "flushing" to start March 4

**Paradise, February 27**: Paradise Irrigation District crews will begin work March 4 to "flush" the community's water distribution system. PID anticipates completing the system flushing, neighborhood by neighborhood, by the start of summer. Generally, the flushing will move south through neighborhoods, starting from the "top" northern part of the district. The effects of flushing will generally be noticed only in the immediate area being flushed.

Flushing removes oxidation from inside steel pipes; during flushing the water is forced through pipe sections under high-pressure creating a "scouring" action inside the pipes. The flushed water is released into the roadway ditch.

While the flushing doesn't affect the safety of the water arriving in your home or business, the water may appear cloudy due to the increased air introduced into the system during flushing. Customers can see this by opening the tap and getting a glass of water; watch as the cloudiness disappears as the small air bubbles settle out.

PID crews will work to thoroughly flush the water mains but a small amount of residual material may remain until home lines have cleared any discolored water. To more fully clear home's lines after neighborhood lines are flushed, open an outside hose bibb or the bathtub tap and run about 80 to 100 gallons of water (one full bathtub) until the water appears clear.

Customers can view the flushing project's status and the next neighborhoods planned for flushing at <u>PIDWater.com</u>. Sign up for a weekly email at <u>PIDWater.com/flushingupdates</u> to receive the latest flushing location updates. PID office staff are unable to provide estimates of when they'll be in a specific neighborhood—keeping an eye on the website and getting the email alerts is the best way to stay informed.

If a customer has installed a filtration system in their home, many in-home systems have a sediment filter that can cause low pressure or no water if flushing causes an issue. Contact the filter provider for details about how PID system flushing may affect a home system.

This year's system-wide flushing is the first since our community has had backflow devices installed at each service address. PID doesn't anticipate the flushing process to cause any issues with the backflow devices, but if customers notice water coming from the backflow after flushing, they should call PID at (530) 877-4971.

PID is a community-owned water district, regulated by the State of California and under the direction of five board members elected by Paradise residents. The district serves the Paradise area; its watershed is the area around Paradise Lake and Magalia Reservoir.

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