

Important Notice Water Right Legislation Passed

The 2005 legislature passed House Bill 22 (HB22) to accelerate the state wide water rights adjudication. HB22 requires every water right owner in the state to pay \$20.00 every two years per water right for the next ten years. Using the DNRC ownership records, invoices will be sent every two years starting in December 2005 from the Department of Revenue. The accuracy of the DNRC ownership and address records will affect how much you have to pay.

- If you have never owned any water rights, please ignore this notice.
- If you owned water rights, but they should be in the name of a new owner, or if you purchased property with water rights, be sure an Ownership Update form was filed as required by law. The form and instructions can be found on the web at http://www.dnrc.state.mt.us/.
- If you own water rights, <u>please confirm that your address is correct</u> in the DNRC water right records on the web address below, or through your local DNRC Regional Office.
- If your <u>address is incorrect</u>, you can email a correction by using the form located on the DNRC "HB22" website described below. If you do not have web access use the Address Correction form enclosed.
- If you have a ground water right through a well that <u>is not on record with DNRC</u>, you can register it with DNRC. The form can be found at **http://www.dnrc.state.mt.us/**. Registration will provide you with important notices of upcoming adjudication and new water right activity that may be occurring in your area that may affect your water right.

You can research water right ownership on the web at http://nris.mt.gov/dnrc/waterrights. To determine how much you will have to pay, or for more information about HB22 visit the DNRC "HB22" website at http://dnrc.mt.gov/house_bill22/.

If you do not have web access, please contact the <u>DNRC Regional Office listed below</u> for the county where the water rights are located for copies of information on the website, or for information about your water rights.

BILLINGS: AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK, 1371 RIMTOP DR., BILLINGS MT 59105-1978 PHONE: 406-247-4415 FAX: 406-247-4416 SERVING: Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, and Yellowstone Counties

BOZEMAN: 2273 BOOT HILL COURT, SUITE 110, BOZEMAN MT 59715 PHONE: 406-586-3136 FAX: 406-587-9726

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