



# District now taking water orders

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Merced Irrigation District is taking water orders from growers beginning this week and may begin water deliveries as demand increases in areas throughout the District.

“We know many of our growers have concerns about this year’s dry weather and need to make plans for the coming growing season,” said MID General Manager John Sweigard. “We want to do our best to support them.”

The current proposed price for in-District water is \$50 per acre foot in the draft budget. The MID Board of Directors is proposing an allocation of 2.5 acre feet of water per acre for Class I growers. The final price and allocation will be determined later this month.

To assist those needing more than the allocation, the District will likely implement its Supplemental Water Supply Pool Program. Used during the last multi-year drought, the subscription program relies on conjunctively managed groundwater: each year MID operations replenish more than 100,000 acre feet of groundwater for use in dry years. Typically in dry years MID recovers that water.

MID water operations staff has been cleaning and preparing canals to make deliveries for the 2021 growing season.

“We are well aware of the strain dry years can place on our growers,” said MID’s Sweigard. “Although we can’t change the amount of precipitation we received this year, we have operated in recent drought years: MID is well prepared to provide the best management possible of the available water supply.”

Additional information will be released from the District as the Board takes final action later this month on this year’s allocation, budget and water prices.

The season’s grower packets will be mailed out and provided online in the coming weeks.

Options for ordering water include:

- Orders may be placed anytime online at [www.mercedid.org](http://www.mercedid.org).
- Orders may be placed anytime using MID's automated water ordering system at (866) 825-2475.
- During weekday business hours, orders may be placed by calling MID Customer Service at (209) 722-2720 or toll-free at (800) 750-2720.

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