



North Kootenai Water & Sewer district

June 2026

13649 N Meyer Rd., Rathdrum, Idaho 83858 nkwsd.com 208-687-6593



BACKFLOW TESTING

It is time for your annual backflow test! **Your passed test is due in the District office by 6/30/2026 to avoid fees and disconnection of water.** Backflow tests are mandatory by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Idaho Rules for Public Drinking water Systems. Please contact a tester now to get on their schedule. Backflow testing only applies to those customers with underground sprinkler systems, certain swimming pools, spas, fire sprinkler systems, etc. Your tester will submit your test. Thank you for your cooperation!

Let's be prepared for **wildfire season** before it gets here!



Water Usage: Monitor and reduce outdoor water use. Please follow the irrigation schedule that is in place so we can conserve water for our fire fighters this season!

Water Storage: Fill and store water in large containers (buckets or cisterns) for use with portable fire hoses or extinguishers.

Look for fire Risks: Walk your property and look for any risks for fire hazards, vegetation, outdoor storage buildings, etc. **Put together and Go-Kit:** Prepare a Go-Kit for your family and pets. Essentials to include: water, food, medications, proper clothing for the weather, emergency cash, etc.

Emergency Alerts: Download **watchduty.org** app on your phone. It will alert you when a fire has begun and keep you updated with a description on a map of surrounding fires in your area.

Please visit idahofirewise.org for additional information.

Urban Interface:

Be aware of the 3 zones that can help prevent fire damage to your property.



Defensible Space Zone

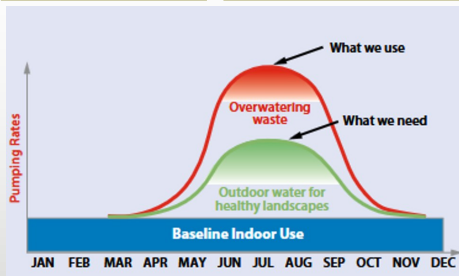
Zone 1 (yellow zone) 0 to 5 feet from furthest attached exterior

Zone 2 (light green zone) 5 to 30 feet (pruned and groomed)

Zone 3 (dark green zone) 30 to 100 feet and beyond (pruned, groomed and leading to natural vegetation)

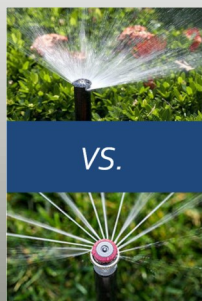


Overlapping Defense Space



It is **extremely** important that we as a community work together and conserve our water for the fire season as well as our future water source. The image to the left is a graph that shows how much **water we need** as a community vs how **much we used**, especially withing the fire season months. We can do better!

- Limit watering your grass from late morning to early evening to prevent more evaporation and over watering.
- Capture rainwater and reuse for irrigation and efficiency.
- Hand water dry spots in the yard.
- Sweep sideways and driveways instead of washing them with water.



Traditional Spray Head
Flow (GPM)=0.1 to 5.52

Traditional:
1.85 x 20 min = 37 Gal

VS

MP Rotator:
0.50 x 20 min = 10 Gal =
73 % reduction!

“Landscape irrigation is the single largest use of potable water in the United States. During the summer months, outdoor water use creates peak demand on existing supplies and system capacity. Water purveyors and utilities must increase supply to meet irrigation needs, sometimes as much as three to four times the amount used for domestic needs in the winter.”

- Use drip irrigation and soaker hoses instead of sprinklers.
- Landscape with organic mulch like gravel, large rocks, concrete, bark, and drought resistant plants.
- Use WaterSense-labeled soil-based irrigation controllers that determine when and how much to water.

Source: iwac.us/irrigation-and-landscape-guidelines & BiJay, IWAC Vice President Adams



Outdoor Watering Nerds can guide you to help protect our ground water and river from contamination through simple things you can do like detecting leaks, repairing and upgrading sprinkler systems, inspecting your backflow devices, tips on what native plants that are drought tolerant and using only the water your yard needs. Scan this QR code and discover numerous ways to save water to prepare for the dry summer months and this fire season!

Upgrade to WaterSense-labeled products to conserve water and also get a rebate through our rebate program!
outdoorwateringnerds.org

We will be closed on July 2, 2026 to observe Independence Day! Happy 4th of July!!!