



VINEYARD TEAM

IRRIGATION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE TIPS

PRE-SEASON

RUN SYSTEM, INSPECT FOR PRESSURE VARIABILITY & LEAKS

- Inspect vineyard drip systems in the winter when it is easier to see because the vines do not have leaves.
- Replace any hose damaged by animals or freezing events.

INSPECT & REPAIR PUMPING STATION COMPONENTS DURING PRE-SEASON STARTUP

- Inspect, clean and/or replace filter station media. Clean and replace sand materials more frequently.

REVIEW IRRIGATION PLAN

Make sure all parties understand their roles and responsibilities.

VINEYARD MANAGER

- Gives irrigation schedule to irrigation manager.
- Reviews water use records.
- Prepares budget for major repairs.

IRRIGATION MANAGER

- Provides irrigation schedule to irrigator.
- Reports irrigation system problems to vineyard manager.
- Verifies that irrigator has all training and equipment needed to make repairs.
- Responsible for major repairs.

IRRIGATOR

- Runs the system.
- Maintains and performs minor repairs of pumping stations and irrigation system components.
- Records water use records.



DURING SEASON

INSPECT IRRIGATION SET EVERY EVENT

- Check ends of every row and drive at least every four rows.
- Have all materials (emitters, couplers, drip hose) to repair materials without going back to shop.

FLUSH DRIP LINES MONTHLY & AFTER EVERY FERTIGATION

- Flushing prevents plugging.

EVALUATE PRESSURES & FLOWS ON A REGULAR BASIS

- Check pressures at the pump frequently. Record the pressures.
- Set automated flushing filters so that backflushing is minimized.
- Check drip hose pressures frequently. Record pressures.
- Monitor drip emitter flow rates. Replace plugged emitters.
- Evaluate DU with evaluation by qualified individual every 3-5 years.



AFTER SEASON

IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE PLAN

- Review system performance and water use to update irrigation maintenance plan every year.
- Make a plan to repair and/or replace any damaged or old pumping station equipment or irrigation system components.
- Make a plan to replace infield hoses, emitters and filter screens.

PERFORM ANY LARGE IRRIGATION OR PUMPING SYSTEM REPAIRS/REPLACEMENTS

- Replace drip hose and/or emitters
- Upgrade to more efficient pumping stations

