



# MRGCD

## Irrigation Demand Management- Environmental Water Leasing Program (EWLP)

Enrollment for the 2025 program will open in December 2024

### HELP REDUCE OVERALL MRGCD WATER DEMAND

Sustaining healthy agriculture in the Middle Rio Grande Valley is crucial to maintaining a healthy Rio Grande ecosystem.

### ABOUT

The EWLP allows a water user to temporarily lease water back to the District either for a partial or full irrigation season. Following the termination of the lease, participants may immediately irrigate those lands under the normal conditions of a District Water Service Contract.

### LEASE PAYMENT RATES

#### Partial-Season Leases:

\$300 per acre; May 1st -  
August 31st

#### Full-Season Leases:

\$600 per acre; March 1st -  
October 31st

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the EWLP is to reduce overall water demand and increase the flexibility of MRGCD's water resources, helping to balance the need of its various uses.

- ✓ Irrigators are paid per acre that is enrolled in either a Partial or Full Season Lease
- ✓ Minimum enrollment of 1 acre; applicants are allowed to enroll multiple tracts to reach 1 total acre (excludes Corrales service area)
- ✓ Must possess a pre-1907 or MRGCD water right to enroll in the program
- ✓ Program Enrollment Period: December 17, 2024 - February 15, 2025

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**Over 2,928 acres were enrolled in the 2024 EWLP!**