

The Water Table



The new TAPP H2O app for your smartphone or tablet has been a huge success this season as a water budgeting tool! Errors on submitted water use reports, malfunctioning meters, and water budgeting questions have been flagged by using the app and allowing the errors to be resolved before they become a problem affecting water rights.

Users can easily see how much water has been pumped on their annual allocation as well as how much they have left in their LEMA account. The emailed reports also show how many inches per acre have been applied. GMD 4, nor does the Division of Water Resources, receive the data entered into the app unless it is provided to us by the TAPP H2O user; making your data private to you until you authorize another user.

Please visit www.gmd4.org or call the office at 785-462-3915 to inquire about how to manage your annual allocation and LEMA water account with the app.

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Welcome New Board Member Marsha Shilling

During the April 8th Board of Directors monthly meeting, Marsha Shilling of Edson was nominated and appointed to the GMD 4 board of directors. She holds the position of Member At-large after voting members approved a motion to restructure board member positions. We welcome her

knowledge and love of agriculture and willingness to learn more as she contributes her experiences to the decision-making process. So, with that, welcome Marsha and we look forward to her time serving on the board of directors!

“I wouldn’t have known my meter wasn’t working if it weren’t for the TAPP H2O app! It saved me a lot of hassle.” ~ GMD 4 Producer

Dan’s Field Notes

For those water rights affected by the GMD 4 LEMA you will have additional metering requirements and required to record your meter reading every two weeks. It will be required that you have an alternate way to meter your water usage. Some of those acceptable ways are:

- TAPP H2O App
- AgSense
- Pivot hours
- Electric hours
- Dated Pictures
- Log Book
- Pressure sensors
- Additional meter

Certified Irrigator Program

As mentioned in the Spring 2020 Newsletter, we are in the process of creating a Certified Irrigator Program. The program will be a series of modules comprised of videos to watch in your own time that relate to not just water right basics, but also technologies and irrigation strategies to help you learn about what’s available, how to use it, and who you can go to for more information. Incentives will be offered for modules completed and we will know more about that in the near future. Modules do not have to be completed online as they will be offered in-person periodically at the GMD 4 office as well. A curriculum has been developed and we are now seeking out partnerships and sponsors. If you know of anyone that may want to be a part of this exciting new program please have them contact Shannon at the GMD 4 office.

LEMA CALCULATOR!

We are getting numerous calls from producers wanting to know where they are on their LEMA water account(s). It is wonderful to know that producers are paying attention to how much water is in their account! The really great news is that the Division of Water Resources has taken the guesswork out for you. If you go to

<https://connect.kda.ks.gov/apps/DWRLEma/Gmd4/Irrigation> ,

enter in your water right number, it will show you how much you started with in your LEMA water account, what was pumped in 2018 and 2019, and what you have remaining in that account for 2020 through 2022.

Allocation Confusion, Ugh!

Annual allocation, LEMA allocation, 5-year allocation...the list goes on and it's understandable there is some confusion so I'd like to clarify. Your annual allocation is what you can pump annually. It is what is on your water right certificate issued by the Division of Water Resources. You cannot exceed this number in any year without major penalties. Your LEMA allocation is the same as your 5-year allocation. It is like an "account" where an amount of water was "deposited" for producers to use between 2018 and 2022. So, you have an annual allocation from the Division of Water Resources that cannot be exceeded annually and a LEMA "account" that cannot be "over drafted" at the end of the 2022 pumping season without major penalties.



Pumping the Tailwater Shannon Kenyon

After spending five years as the GMD 4 Assistant Manager and now a full year as the Manager, I reflect on the direction GMD 4 is going to help our producers. As GMD 4 has been tasked with managing the local water resource, we need to also be doing all we can to assist our producers in achieving that. I understand in these trying times it seems the government and industry is working against you. I want to reassure you that I work for YOU and would like to hear how GMD 4 can help you manage your precious local resource.



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Find us on the Web:

www.gmd4.org



Important Dates

**Monthly Board Meetings – First Wednesday of every month @ 9 am.
(Except February & December)**

September Board Meeting: September 2nd

October Board Meeting (harvest pending): October 7th

November Board Meeting (harvest pending): November 4th

Meetings are subject to change depending on weather, planting, & harvest!

Please visit www.gmd4.org as well as our Facebook and Twitter page for meeting information and changes.

Staff and Board of Directors

- Shannon Kenyon – Manager skenyon@gmd4.org
 - Dan Simmering – Field Technician dee@gmd4.org
 - Jody McCain – Administrative Assistant jmccain@gmd4.org
- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Brett Oelke – President | Karen Flanagin | Dylan Loyd |
| Nathan Emig – Vice President | Ted Nighswonger | Monty Biggs |
| Jeff Deeds – Secretary | Shane Mann | Marsha Shilling |
| Lynn Goossen – Treasurer | Brent Rogers | |

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