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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Colored dye used in canals for water flow monitoring** *Dye is harmless and safe*

Periodically throughout the irrigation season, Modesto Irrigation District (MID) applies Rhodamine WT, a harmless dye, to our canals to aid with water flow monitoring. As a result of the Rhodamine WT application, the water in the canals could be red, green, yellow or blue in color.

The dye is harmless to humans, animals and vegetation and is soluble in water.

Rhodamine WT is often used as a water tracer to determine rate and direction of water flow. Other irrigation districts also use this dye to aid in their water flow monitoring activities.

During irrigation season (typically March through October), MID also reminds our community of four canal safety rules – stay away from canals, learn to swim, swim and play in safe places, always swim with an adult.

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### **About the Modesto Irrigation District (MID)**

The Modesto Irrigation District, established in 1887, is a vertically integrated public utility located in California's Central Valley. MID provides irrigation water to more than 2,300 agricultural accounts irrigating close to 60,000 acres and electricity to more than 131,000 residential, commercial and agricultural accounts in Modesto, Empire, Salida, Waterford and Mountain House as well as parts of Escalon, Oakdale, Ripon and Riverbank. MID also treats, delivers and wholesales up to approximately 67,000 acre-feet of drinking water per year to the City of Modesto. For more information about MID visit [www.mid.org](http://www.mid.org) or follow MID on Facebook ([@modestoirrigationdistrict](https://www.facebook.com/modestoirrigationdistrict)) and Twitter ([@mod\\_irrigation](https://twitter.com/mod_irrigation)).