



District News

May 2016

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Director

www.tcmud.org
100 Municipal Drive
Trophy Club, TX 76262
(682) 831-4600
info@tcmud.org

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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

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May Sprinkler System Education Events

May 7-8th is the EPA's Annual Sprinkler Spruce Up Weekend.

Visit the District's Water Conservation page at <http://www.tcmud.org/about-tcmud-1/conservation/> to watch the EPA's video and learn about their four tips—INSPECT, CONNECT, DIRECT AND SELECT.

Stop by the front desk of the Svore Municipal Building to pick up your free "Find It, Flag It, Fix It" marker flags. When you notice a problem with a sprinkler head or wet area in your yard, put out a flag to help remind you to fix it and save water and money.

FREE!

May 14th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
join us for "Sprinkler System Quick
Fixes & System Operation"

The District is hosting a FREE hands-on

Water Fest 2016

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual water conservation event, Water Fest 2016 "Science on Tap!" Please visit the Water Fest Photo Gallery page at www.tcmud.org/administratio/events/water-fest-photo-gallery/ to view pictures from the event.

Kids had a great time dressing up as scientists, playing and getting their faces painted. The exhibits by Keep Trophy Club Wild, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, TAMU AgriLife, Sunwest Irrigation, Lonestar Irrigation Association, NISD STEM Academy and Beck Elementary students were amazing! We really appreciate all the

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension class in the Svore Municipal Boardroom at 100 Municipal Drive. Learn:

- ◆ How to make basic repairs and maintenance to your sprinkler system
- ◆ How your sprinkler system operates and its components
- ◆ How to program and reprogram your controller using the best and most efficient ways to water your yard. Best methods include soak and cycle and other water efficiency practices.

A properly functioning sprinkler system saves you time, money, and water! To register visit the Events page at www.tcmud.org/administratio/events/ or call us at (682) 831-4670. Program materials from previous classes (Smart Watering and Drip Irrigation) are also available from this page.

volunteers who came out on a Saturday to help out and share their expertise with residents.

The Kids Coloring contest winners were announced at the event and the kids received their trophies and ribbons. Stop by the lobby of the Svore Municipal Building to enjoy the entries on display. Many thanks to the incredible, generous sponsors who donated door prizes and lunches and everyone who makes this event free and fun for everyone! Congratulations to Jared King, winner of the grand prize iPad donated by M3 Networks.

We hope to see you all next year at Water Fest 2017.

Rainfall and Watering

At Water Fest we recognized the resident volunteers who report rainfall to us year-round for the Rainfall & Watering page. Sprinkler systems are meant to supplement rainfall, so any rain we receive reduces the need for watering. Check this page at www.tcmud.org/customer-service/rainfall-and-watering/ to see how much rain fell in your area this week, look at past months or see a year-to-year comparison.

If you're interested in helping with this project, please email us at info@tcmud.org. The District provides a basic rain gauge for you to install in your yard at least 10 feet from any overhang. If it rains just empty the gauge daily and send in the results by 10:00 am. We also have volunteers who report results from their own weather stations. There are currently openings for volunteers in all areas of town.

The Rainfall & Watering page also has links to watering advice. Visit

Save Tarrant Water to view weekly watering advice from the Lawn Whisperer, or like their Facebook page and let the advice come to you. The experts take into account area rainfall and weather conditions to let you know how much to water in the week ahead. The Lawn Whisperer also shows the average amount of time a sprinkler system should run to put down the desired amount of water.

Average precipitation rates, or the



rate at which sprinklers deliver water, can vary greatly from one sprinkler system or home to another. Free sprinkler gauges are available at the Svore Municipal Building (limit 5 per household). Place the sprinkler gauges at random places in each sprinkler zone and time how long it takes each zone to deliver an average 0.25 inch in the gauges around the zone. Tuna cans or other shallow cans with straight sides are also very good for this purpose.

Irrigation season is underway and District water consumption is rising. Keep track of your usage and avoid surprises on your bill by reading your water meter during the month. You can also determine how much water you use every time you irrigate by checking the meter immediately before and after you run your sprinklers. Visit the Frequently Asked Questions page on the District website at <http://www.tcmud.org/my-account/faqs/#highbill> for more information.

PID Ratepayer Petition Excluded by Judge

On April 7, 2016 the Administrative Law Judge from the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) issued SOAH Order No. 4 ordering that the Town's Public Improvement District (PID) ratepayers' petition be severed and the PID ratepayers be denied intervenor status in the Public Utility Commission (PUC) rate appeal by District ratepayers. For more information please read the April 4, 2016 PUC Commission Staff's Reply Brief, which clearly explains the issue and concludes that the PID Ratepayers' appeal should be dismissed. These documents as well as the presentation regarding the rate challenge process are available from the News page on the District website at www.tcmud.org/public-informatio/news/.

It is the District's desire to treat **all** Trophy Club ratepayers, both direct and indirect, fairly. Residents of the Town's Public Improvement District (PID) are in fact ratepayers of the Town, not the District, and do not have standing in this case because the Town, at its request, has a **wholesale** contract with the District for water and wastewater services. The difference between a retail and wholesale contract, the Town's request for a wholesale contract, and the video replay of the October 23, 2013 joint meeting discussing this request are available from the District's Rates & Charges page at <http://www.tcmud.org/my-account/rates-charges/>.

PID ratepayers are represented by the Town of Trophy Club, and if dissatisfied with the Town's rates or the contract for services they may seek relief from the Town. They may also ask to renegotiate a **retail** contract so they do have future standing as District ratepayers, or petition for annexation to the District. Annexation would also allow PID residents to run for the Board of Directors and vote in District bond or other elections.

Plan to Vote!

Election Day is Saturday, May 7th from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Denton County residents may vote in the Svore Municipal Boardroom at 100 Municipal Drive. Tarrant County residents may vote in the Fire Station Training Room at 295 Trophy Club Drive. Trophy Club Municipal Utility District No. 1 has two positions for the Board of Directors on the ballot.

Place 1

Joe Boclair
Gregory Willson

Place 2

Jim Moss
Bill Rose



Early Voting

Tarrant County— The closest location to Trophy Club is Westlake Town Offices.
Mon–Fri, April 25-29 (8:00 am-5:00 pm)
Sat, April 30 (7:00 am-7:00 pm)
Sun, May 1 (11:00 am-4:00 pm)
Mon–Tues, May 2-3 (7:00 am -7:00 pm)

Early Voting

Denton County—Svore Municipal Boardroom
Mon–Sat, April 25-30 (8:00 am-5:00 pm)
Mon–Tues, May 2-3 (7:00 am-7:00 pm)

Capital Improvements Update

Trophy Club Municipal Utility District No. 1 is working on several projects to repair and upgrade the water and wastewater infrastructure.

The *improvements to the wastewater treatment facility* got underway in November 2015 and are expected to take 18 months to complete. The cost for repayment of the tax debt issued for this project was included in the current 2016 tax rate. Repayment of the revenue bonds was included in monthly base sewer rate effective September 2015.

See the photo gallery on the Capital Improvements page at www.tcmud.org/services/capital-improvements/ for pictures. Progress through April includes:

- Laying the brick on the new Lab Building



- Installing the roof and beginning the walls for the Classifier and Administration buildings
- Pouring the foundation for the new generator
- Installing two 8” membrane bioreactor (MBR) effluent lines
- Repairing the west aeration basin airline.

The *permanent repairs to the aerial sewer main crossing* on the US Army Corps of Engineer property are underway. Contractors have installed new concrete footings to stabilize and strengthen the aerial crossing, eliminating the sagging in the line. A temporary sewer line and portable, self-contained lift station were brought in to bypass the crossing while the necessary portion of the sewer main is replaced.

The project is expected to be complete by late April, depending on the weather. Funding for the repairs is coming from District reserves, which are maintained to cover these kinds of emergency projects.

The District received approval from the Town to proceed with the *ammonia feed system* to enhance water treatment and operations. The project is under design and should be put out for bids in the coming weeks. The system is expected to be online by July. For more information please see the Capital Improvements page.

Phase II of the upgraded water line from Fort Worth is a regional project, and the entities involved are still finalizing the preliminary plans and interlocal agreement. The City of Fort Worth hopes to get the engineering underway during this fiscal year (by 9/30/16) so construction can begin early next fiscal year (after 10/1/16).

At the April 19, 2016 meeting the Board discussed financing options and a timeline for a potential bond election for this and other needed improvements. Public meetings concerning the necessary projects will take place in September and early October 2016. To watch the video replay of this meeting please visit the Agendas & Meetings page on the District website at www.tcmud.org/public-information/agendas-meetings-online/.

Memorial Day Sales Tax Holiday

Texas Senate Bill 1356 from the 84th Legislature adds water-efficient products to the Memorial Day weekend tax-free holiday for Energy Star products.

The sale of water-conserving products or WaterSense products is now exempt from sales tax if the sale takes place from 12:01 am on the Saturday to 11:59 pm on the Monday of Memorial Day weekend.

For the definition of “water-conserving products” and the list of eligible energy-efficient products please see the link to Tax Code Section 151.333 on the Water Conservation page of the District website at www.tcmud.org/about-tcmud-1/conservation/. This page also contains links to the websites mentioned below.

The WaterSense label program operated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) aims to make it easy for consumers to find water efficient products for the home such as sinks,

faucets, toilets and more. For more information on this program visit the WaterSense Label page on the EPA website.

How much water could you save by upgrading your appliances and fixtures? For the typical water use for old and new fixtures and appliances visit the USGS Water Science School. Don't forget outdoor water use! The sales tax holiday also covers water conservation products like mulch, a soaker or drip-irrigation hose, a moisture control for a sprinkler or irrigation system, or WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers.

How much water could your family save? Get everyone involved in water conservation with the “How Much Water Do You Use?” activity. The activity sheet and other resources to help you save water and money are available on the District’s Water Conservation page.



Watering Days Reminder

In compliance with Fort Worth Water (our major water supplier) conservation measures, Trophy Club’s Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan includes permanent, year-round water restrictions. These restrictions are mandatory and will be enforced in accordance with Section XI of the Plan. The complete Plan is available on our website at www.tcmud.org.



**CLIP
HERE
and
SAVE**

YEAR-ROUND WATERING DAYS	YEAR-ROUND WATERING DAYS
We have an ODD address. Our year-round watering days are:	We have an EVEN address. Our year-round watering days are:
THURSDAY SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY SATURDAY
NO watering on Mondays. NO watering between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. OK to water with a hand-held hose or bucket any time. OK to water with a soaker hose or drip irrigation except on Mondays.	No watering on Mondays. NO watering between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. OK to water with a hand-held hose or bucket any time. OK to water with a soaker hose or drip irrigation except on Mondays.

Get the latest news & information! Visit www.tcmud.org to subscribe to our email news service.