



# District News

July 2016

## District Board of Directors

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## Upcoming Events

July 13th —Rate Workshop

- Board to consider the water and sewer rates necessary to cover costs for the next fiscal year.

July 19th —Regular Meeting

- Public Participation Opportunity for the District's CCR.
- Resident feedback on the proposed 9-11 Memorial presented to the Board.

August 11th —Budget Workshop

- Board to review first draft of Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget.

## Let's Talk About Water Treatment

### A Little History

Chlorine has been used in the United States to disinfect drinking water since 1908. Chloramines (formed by adding chlorine plus ammonia) have been in use since 1929. Today most public water systems use these chemicals for primary or secondary disinfection. Proper disinfection of public drinking water is so important to preventing disease that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) require all systems that use surface water to maintain a chlorine disinfectant residual level in their distribution system.

### How Is Our Water Treated?

Trophy Club Municipal Utility District No. 1 purchases treated water from the City of Fort Worth to meet most of its customer demand for drinking water. Fort Worth treats the raw surface water from area lakes and

reservoirs with ozone, which is a powerful preliminary disinfectant but doesn't protect water after it leaves the plant. After additional sedimentation and filtration steps to clean the water, chlorine and ammonia are added to create chloramines as a secondary disinfectant. This keeps the finished water safe until it arrives at customers like Trophy Club.

There are several benefits to using chloramines instead of chlorine alone as a secondary disinfectant to protect the water. Chloramine does not break down as quickly as chlorine so it lasts longer in the pipes. It also produces lower levels of regulated disinfection byproducts and is better at killing some harmful organisms found in pipes such as those that cause Legionnaire's disease.

### Why Do We Need an Ammonia Feed?

Why does the District need to add chlorine and ammonia if Fort Worth

## 9-11 Memorial Update

At the June 21st Regular Meeting the Board of Directors viewed the piece of flooring truss structure recovered from the World Trade Center site and examined proposed plans for the 9-11 memorial to be located at the fire station. With the 15th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks coming up this year, Councilman Jim Parrow has found companies willing to design and construct the memorial at no cost to District customers, so the project may be completed in this fiscal year.

Once completed, the proposed plans will be available for review at the front desk of the Svore Municipal Building

and on the Fire Department website at [www.trophyclubfd.org/operation/fire-station/](http://www.trophyclubfd.org/operation/fire-station/). Resident comments on the design will be accepted through July 15th by email at [info@trophyclubfd.org](mailto:info@trophyclubfd.org), through the Fire Department's contact form at [www.trophyclubfd.org/contact-us-2/](http://www.trophyclubfd.org/contact-us-2/), or in person at the front desk of the Svore Municipal Building. The feedback will be compiled and presented to the Board at the July 19th meeting.

The goal is to have the memorial completed in time for the annual Patriot Day ceremony at the fire station on September 11th.

# Let's Talk About Water Treatment, continued

already adds it? Although chloramine is more chemically stable than chlorine alone, it still breaks down as the water travels through the pipes. The finished water the District purchases has to travel from the treatment plant (normally Eagle Mountain in West Fort Worth) through Fort Worth's distribution system to the Caylor storage tank in North Fort Worth, and then on to Trophy Club, which is located at the "end of the line" of Fort Worth's Northside distribution system.

Once the water reaches Trophy Club it goes to the District's ground storage tanks where it is tested daily and the necessary amount of disinfectant is added. Until recently, Fort Worth provided enough extra ammonia in the water that District operators could just boost the chlorine to maintain the state-required disinfectant residuals in our system. Fort Worth is still providing safe drinking water that contains the

required disinfectant residuals when it reaches our plant, but the water doesn't contain the extra amount of ammonia that it once did and needs to maintain a safe level throughout the system.

After treatment, District lines carry the drinking water either directly to homes and businesses located between the water plant and the elevated tank (if the pumps are running) or fill the elevated tank so gravity can carry the water to the end users. The same water is also pumped to the Town's Public Improvement District. The level of chloramines in the drinking water in both systems has to meet the minimum requirements until the water has time to reach every home and business.

To learn more about the need for the ammonia feed system watch the Board of Directors Workshop on February 5, 2016 regarding the Water System Study and recommended improvements.

The discussion on this topic begins at about 17:00 minutes into the video. Meeting replays are available from the Agendas & Meetings page at [www.tcmud.org/public-information/agendas-meetings-online/](http://www.tcmud.org/public-information/agendas-meetings-online/).

Chloramines break down over time but are also affected by heat, so the District has prioritized the project to get the system up and running before the peak summer temperatures. Work on the new ammonia feed system and building is scheduled to start at the end of June.

For more information about the source and treatment of your drinking water please visit [www.tcmud.org/get-to-know-your-water/](http://www.tcmud.org/get-to-know-your-water/). If you have any questions about your water please call us directly at (682) 831-4600, option 2. Tours of the water plant are available upon request. To schedule a tour email us at [info@tcmud.org](mailto:info@tcmud.org).

## Summer Water Bills

With the plentiful rain in May and the first half of June, many residents kept their sprinklers turned off. Since the water meters are read around the 25th of the month, the bill for their June service may only include one week of sprinkler usage. With the official start of summer we expect hot, dry weather and the resulting increased water consumption—and those higher bills.

To avoid surprises on your monthly utility bill, keep track of your water meter reading each week. Check the FAQs page on the District website at [www.tcmud.org/my-account/faqs/#highbill](http://www.tcmud.org/my-account/faqs/#highbill) for instructions on

reading your meter and links to helpful videos. Some more water and money-saving tips:

- ◆ While you're at the meter, check the leak detector to make sure you don't have any water leaks. Even a small leak can add up to a lot of wasted gallons and money!
- ◆ If you don't know how much water your sprinkler system uses, read the meter before and after you irrigate to see how much water goes through the meter each time you run your normal program.
- ◆ Check your controller frequently to make sure all

settings on all programs are still correct. The accidental addition of an extra start time can double the amount of water applied to your lawn.

- ◆ Regularly watch each station operate and fix any broken heads or connections.
- ◆ If your weekly usage is still higher than you think it should be, try turning your controller to the off position on days you don't irrigate to prevent unexpected operation.

For questions about your bill please email [ub@tcmud.org](mailto:ub@tcmud.org) or call us at (682) 831-4600, option 2.

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