

A message from Mason Creek Utility District (MCUD) – Spring 2017

By the time this arrives in your mail box summer will have arrived or be merely weeks away. The annual community center open house is scheduled for May 21st and as in past years, swimming hours begin at 11am with food being served from 1pm until 4pm (while supplies last). Access is free for every resident and there will be door prizes for those that sign up for their annual pool membership.

Property values in our area continue to rise and interest in developing the last remaining vacant commercial tracts of land is showing promise. Construction for a new commercial building on the large tract of land located on Westgreen Boulevard, the former location of the golf driving range, will begin this summer. The property owners have funded a new sanitary lift station and water supply lines to serve the property and Mason Creek U.D. will begin construction of those utilities during the second quarter of this year.

Mason Creek U.D.'s access to water is provided under a permit held by the City of Houston (COH). The COH has consistently decreased the maximum allowable pumping rates in recent years in response to a State of Texas mandate to reduce groundwater pumping by as much as 30% by year 2020.

The district's minimum monthly sewer charge will be increasing in June 2017 from \$20.00 to \$20.40. For each 1,000 gallons of water used over the 3,000 gallons minimum during the billing period, the sewer rate will increase by .04 cents for the first tier and .06 cents for the highest tier (more than 20,000 gallons). While this small increase is in part a response to meeting requirements set out by the City of Houston, the infrastructure of our district is now exceeding 40 years in age, failing frequently and creating some very significant costs to repair and replace failed systems.

Underground water is increasingly becoming a scarce natural resource and expensive to access. Mason Creek U.D. has begun to study and evaluate options for implementing a network of water reuse and recycle systems to serve the public road esplanades, parks, green spaces and even our neighboring communities to help reduce the demand on our regional water tables. This will be a long term project that will potentially take many years to implement and construct. Last year MCUD began a new initiative to increase the awareness of water conservation within the community offering a free inspection of residential irrigation systems and providing free moisture-sensing devices that turn-off irrigation when it rains. The district has continued to provide this no cost service to the community. For more details on how to participate visit this link or call our district office.

http://www.mcud.com/conservation_irrigation.php

In addition to sanitary sewer and water services, Mason Creek U.D. also provides for street lights in the community and solid waste collection. Each month the residents of the district set out an estimated 40 tons of recyclable material to be separated in a local recycle collection center and ultimately repurposed into other products. If you need a second container, a larger container or a replacement container please contact the district office at 281-578-7272 or email at directors@mcud.com for more information or help.