Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 61

www.harriscountyfwsd61.org

Newsletter November 2016

Directors Set 2016 Tax Rate -Lowered for the Nineteenth Year in a Row

On October 12, 2016, the directors of your water district set the tax rate for 2016 at thirty-two cents (**\$0.32**) per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation. The new rate is down from thirty-three cents (**\$0.33**) per one hundred dollars in 2015 and is a 3.03% decrease in the tax rate. The reduction in the tax rate is the latest in a series of reductions that began in 1998. Steady development within the district has helped make these decreases possible.

Record rain events in 2016 have led to serious flooding within Harris and the surrounding counties

Many residents are very concerned with the recent flooding that has occurred in our general area over the past year and have some questions about this problem. Several governmental entities have responsibility for different infrastructures.

Harris County Precinct 3,

<u>www.pct3.com</u>, (281)-463-6300 maintains and owns the roads, storm sewers and drainage ditches. **Harris County Flood Control**, <u>www.hcfcd.org</u>, (713) 684-4000 is a department of Harris County and maintains some detention

ponds and all major drainage bayous and creeks. Harris County Fresh Water Supply District 61,

www.harriscountyfwsd61.org , (281) 469-9405 maintains and owns the water and sanitary sewer systems along with some detention ponds. Questions pertaining to flooding issues should be directed to Harris County Precinct 3 and Harris County Flood Control. Harris County FWSD 61 from time to time works with these other agencies to help solve problems that involve our facilities, such as relocation of a conflicting water or sewer line and detention ponds owned by Harris County FWSD 61.

North Harris County Regional Water Authority Fee

The North Harris County Regional Water Authority will be raising their rate. The current rate is two dollars and forty cents (**\$2.40**) per thousand gallons. Over the next decade, starting in 2016 the NHCRWA is projecting that the pumping fees will steadily increase to more than 3 times the current rate.

This fee appears each month on your water bill as a separate line item listed as **NHCRWAA** (North Harris County Regional Water Authority Assessment). It is based on the number of gallons you use each month and is collected by the district, then sent to the Authority each month.

The Authority conducts open meetings on the **first Monday of each month** at **6:00 PM**. Their offices are located at 3648 FM 1960 West, Suite 110, Houston, TX, 77068. Their website is very informative. You can find out more by reading their website, calling their office, and by attending their meetings.

WWW.NHCRWA.COM

North Harris County Regional Water Authority 3648 FM 1960 West, Suite 110 Houston, TX. 77068 (281) 440-3924

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District #61 is excited to announce that we have launched our website!!

You can find us at:

www.harriscountyfwsd61.org. We have a bill pay option you can access over the internet!! There are informational resources and links to pay your water bill on the site. We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover credit and debit cards. Using the service will add a 3% convenience fee to your payment. Check our website for other important information like due dates, office holiday schedule, and ways to contact us.

New Payment Drop Box

Try our new payment drop box conveniently located on the west side of the building, so that you do not have to leave your vehicle.

The Water Users Coalition Please, join today as we need your help! Sponsored by HCFWSD 61

The Water Users Coalition will help you stay informed on water issues. Go to our website and join today to have a voice and to become better informed. <u>www.wateruserscoalition.org</u>

If You Need to Contact Us....

There are several ways to contact us. Office phones are answered by staff members during office hours. After business hours if an emergency should arise you can call the office and leave an emergency message and an operator will return your call promptly. You can also leave a non-emergency message which will be returned by staff during office hours.

You may also email us if you have service requests or billing questions. Our email address is: <u>waterbill@district61.org</u>. Any way you choose to contact us, we will respond.

District Offices 13205 Cypress N. Houston Rd. Cypress, Texas 77429-3188

Office Hours - M- F 7:30 am to 5:00 pm except holidays Telephone – (281) 469-9405 Answered 24 hours. In case of emergency, leave message, operator on duty will return your call promptly. Board of Directors - Regular meetings 2^{nd,} 3^{rd,} and 4th Wed. each month, 7:30 pm in the District Offices. With the exception of November and December due to Holidays, see web site for meeting dates www.harriscountyfwsd61.