Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 61 <u>www.harriscountyfwsd61.org</u>

Newsletter

February 2019

2019 Projects that will be ongoing in the District

Drainage

District 61 is participating in a shared cost drainage project designed and managed by **Harris County Precinct 3**, <u>www.pct3.com</u>, (281)-463-6300 who owns and maintains the streets, storm sewers and drainage ditches. The project will start in February and will be in the Tower Oaks Meadows and Barwood subdivisions.

Sanitary Sewer Rehab

The District is currently working on a sanitary sewer rehab project repairing and replacing an aging sewer infrastructure that is reaching upwards of 50 years of use in some areas. The work has begun in both Barwood and Tower Oaks Meadows subdivisions and will continue over the next 5 years in a phased approach starting with the oldest subdivisions working forward throughout the entire District.

Automated Metering System

The District will be installing a fixed network water metering system replacing all meters within the District. These meters monitor for various flow conditions, and will allow the District to instantly see customer use. After installation, we expect a decrease in customer calls and an increase in overall customer satisfaction. Eventually we plan to add convenience by giving customers the ability to track and manage water usage online. It will also enable customers and the District to identify potential leaks on the customer premise in a proactive manner, which will help prevent wasted water and related high bills. With detailed meter data we can be more responsive to customer inquiries.

Infrastructure Relocation

District 61 will be relocating several hundred feet of water and wastewater piping, and a sanitary sewer lift station at the 1960 and N. Eldridge intersection. This is due to TX Dot widening the roadway in the general area.

Directors Set 2018 Tax Rate -Lowered for the Twenty-first Year in a Row

On October 10, 2018, the Directors of your water district set the tax rate for 2018 at thirty cents (**\$0.30**) per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation. The new rate is down from thirty-one cents (**\$0.31**) per one hundred dollars in 2017 and is a 3.23% 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 to make these decreases possible.

North Harris County Regional Water Authority Fee

The North Harris County Regional Water Authority will be raising their rate. The current rate is three dollars and forty cents (**\$3.40**) per thousand gallons. The NHCRWA is projecting that the pumping fees will steadily increase by approximately fifty cents (**\$0.50**) every April for the next several years, to a maximum of approximately six dollars (**\$6.00**) per thousand gallons.

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

Check out the Harris County Fresh Water Supply District #61 website

You can find us at: <u>www.harriscountyfwsd61.org</u>. 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.

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 a field 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 <u>Telephone –</u> (281) 469-9405 Answered 24 hours. In case of emergency, leave message, operator on duty will return your call promptly. <u>Board of Directors</u> - Regular meetings 2^{nd,} 3^{rd,} and 4th Wed. each month, 6:30 pm in the District Offices. With the exception of November and December due to Holidays, see web site for meeting dates www.harriscountyfwsd61.org.