

Harris County MUD 127

News, Tips & Updates

August 2019

Town Hall Aug 13: What's in My Water?

A Town Hall meeting for MUD 127 residents and property owners is set for Tuesday, August 13 at 7 PM at the **Brenwood II Club House located at 19010 Gummert Road, next to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.**

Everyone is invited to attend and participate. The District's Board of Directors and representatives from our water system operator H2O Consulting will be discussing and answering questions about the 2018 Drinking Water Quality Report. Light refreshments are being provided.

In order to ensure our tap water is safe to drink, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations prescribe limits for up to 97 contaminants in public water systems, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assesses our systems accordingly. The Drinking Water Quality Report is issued annually in June and details findings of the assessment.

Meet the New Directors

With the recent resignations of Director John Gagne and Director Bonnie Tyler Buell, both of whom no longer reside in the District, two residents were selected by the Board to fulfill their respective terms. Simona Brooks was selected for the position previously occupied by John Gagne, with a term that runs until November 3, 2020. Kate Zamora was selected to fill the position previously occupied by Ms. Buell, with a term expiring November 8, 2022.

Both Director Brooks and Director Zamora will be at the August 13 Town Hall. Plan to attend, say hello to all the Directors, and share any concerns or questions you may have.



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Are You Overwatering Your Yard?

Here's a statistic from SaveWaterTexas.org that may shock you: during the summer months, more than 50% of our drinking water is used on landscapes and yards! You can better manage water usage and avoid overwatering by considering these basic tenets of lawn and garden irrigation.

- Different plants have different water needs.
- Soils have different water-holding capacities.
- Sprinkler systems differ.
- Some plants have a protective layer of mulch, and
- As the temperature rises and the day lengthens, transpiration (water loss from leaves and blades) and evaporation from the soil increases. So June's lawn watering schedule will differ from the schedule used later in the summer.

Too many folks think they have to water every day or every other day to have a lush lawn. This misconception wastes water and actually weakens the lawn. Horticulturists say that watering the lawn deeply and infrequently is the key to forcing grass and plants to grow deep roots so they can access water for a longer period of time and thrive through a long, hot summer.

Water close to the surface evaporates long before the deeper moisture. Air is forced out of soil that is continually saturated. Since roots need air, overwatering tends to promote very shallow roots. The American Water Works Association estimates that homes with in-ground automatic sprinkler systems use 35% more water than those without these systems, and households using automatic timers for irrigation systems use 47% more water than in-ground systems operated manually. It's best to use the timers only when you plan to be away from home.

As a general rule, apply only ONE inch of water per week.



Here are a few other important tips to get you started saving water — and money — this summer:

- If you have an automatic system, set timers to complete the cycle before 4:00 a.m. This timing will avoid the peak demand for other household uses — like showers, kitchen chores and the use of laundry appliances.
- Watering in the heat of day can waste up to 65% of the water through evaporation.
- Mow only when necessary. Set mowers to the highest setting during warm weather. Longer grass keeps soil cool, minimizing evaporation and conserving water.
- Leave clippings on the lawn. They supply organic matter, along with a third of your fertilizer needs.
- Add ¼ to ½ inch compost to your lawn in fall or spring. This will decrease water needs and supply nutrients to the lawn.
- Most importantly, **WATER ONLY WHEN YOUR LAWN NEEDS IT!**

*Taken from an article by the San Jacinto Water Authority appearing at **SaveWaterTexas.org**. This version edited by Maureen Herzog, Director, Harris County MUD 127.*