Blueline

Summer | 2023

IN THIS ISSUE:

MEMORIAL
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

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YOUR NEW SEWER FEE

Memorial MUD residents will see an increase in their water bills starting with the August billing. The District is increasing its charge for sanitary sewer services from $29.25 per month to $33.50 per month for single-family residential users. This is due to the garbage company increasing their fees to the district by $4.33 per household, due to increased fuel and labor costs experienced by the garbage collector. While this may seem confusing at first, there is a good reason.

The District pays for garbage and recycling collection services through its sanitary sewer charges. This is done to prevent the District from having to charge its residents sales tax on garbage and recycling services. Texas law provides that if garbage and recycling services are combined with a District service such as sanitary sewer, then sales tax is not required to be assessed and collected by the District. This is why you do not see a separate line item on your monthly bill for garbage and recycling collection. These services are all included with your sewer charge. The District has not increased this rate in over 20 years, even though our costs have obviously increased significantly over that period of time. However, the District feels that to best manage its budget, it must increase this charge to offset a portion of the increased costs of providing these essential District services. While the Board of Directors regrets any increase in monthly billing rates, please be aware that we are constantly striving to bring you the best service possible for the lowest cost.

Even with the increased rate, the Memorial MUD sanitary sewer charge is significantly less than most neighboring districts, where the monthly charge is $45-$50 or more.

Annual Water Quality Report

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements
This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

Where Do We Get Our Water?

Our Drinking water is obtained from the Evangeline aquifer. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that our sources have low susceptibility to contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data.

About the Tables

That attached table contains all of the chemical contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. All contaminants detected in your water are below state and federally allowed levels.

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Regulated Inorganic Contaminants

YEAR	Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
2022	Arsenic (ppb)	2.4	NA	No	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
2022	Barium (ppm)	0.207	NA	No	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
2020	Fluoride (ppm)	0.2	NA	No	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
2022	Nitrate (ppm)	< 0.05	NA	No	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
2020	Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	4.9	NA	No	15	0	Erosion of natural and manmade deposits
2020	Combined Radium (pCi/L)	1.18	NA	No	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
2020	Uranium (ug/l)	< 1.0	NA	No	30	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper

YEAR	Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	90th Percentile	Number of sampling sites exceeding Action Level	Violation	Action Level	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
2022	Lead (ppb)	0.6	0	No	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing
2022	Copper (ppm)	0.31	0	No	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing

Drinking Water Definitions and Units Descriptions:

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detected

NR: Not Reported

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.

MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfection Level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

AL: Action Level: The concentration level of a contaminant which, if exceeded, requires a water system to treat water or follow other requirements.

summer planting tips

Summer is Here!

It's time to grab your gloves and head out to the garden! For generations, gardeners have known that planting, watering, weeding and all the beauty that emerges as a result, is good for you. And science is catching on, too, with numerous studies showing that gardening can improve your physical and emotional well-being and provide social benefits as well. Whether it's a few plants in the windowsill, containers on a deck, beds and borders in the yard or a vegetable plot, gardens big and small can reap big benefits for you and your family. It's also a great way to get the kids outdoors and enjoy the beautiful, blue skies!

Before you set out for the garden center, here's a couple of things to consider: where you will be planting, whether your garden will be directly in the sunlight or shaded with trees and what kinds of plants you will need (flowers, shrubs, bushes or even fruits and veggies!)

Careful planning now will save you water and frustration later.

Happy Planting!

It can be undeniably hot in Texas during summer – there may be little to no rain for long periods of time. Now that you have spent a huge chunk of your time and energy devoted to making your yard look nice, you may wonder what kinds of plants survive a summer in Texas. Surely, there is nothing worse than creating the garden of your dreams, only to find wilted stems and scorched leaves in your landscape. By selecting the right combination of vegetation, you can conserve water and have a beautiful garden throughout the dry, blistering summer months.

The Texas heat is creeping into our gardens and homes, and these summer plants are not only some of the toughest, hardiest plants that will thrive – they will beautify your outdoor space with their showy, colorful blooms.

Our recommended summer plants:

- *Angelonia*
- *Hibiscus*
- *Lantana*
- *Vinca*
- *Zinnia*
- *Bottle Brush*

Ref: USDA

Help out your Polinators!

- Bees and other pollinators play a critical role in our food production.
- More than 80% of the world's flowering plants need a pollinator to reproduce; including more than 130 types of fruits and vegetables.
- More than 100 types of U.S. grown crops rely on pollinators.
- Bee populations have dropped alarmingly, as have the populations of many other pollinator species like butterflies due to dwindling habitat, disease, and environmental contaminants.

Hurricane Preparation in Texas:

Safeguarding Lives and Property

Texas, a state known for its vast coastline and unpredictable weather patterns, is no stranger to the devastating impact of hurricanes. With the potential for severe storms each hurricane season, it is crucial for Texans to be well-prepared and equipped to protect their lives and property. This article provides essential tips and guidelines for hurricane preparedness in Texas. Stay Informed - One of the first steps in hurricane preparedness is to stay informed about the latest weather updates. Regularly monitor local news channels, radio stations, and official weather websites for updates from the National Hurricane Center (NHC). Familiarize yourself with the hurricane terminology, including watches and warnings, to understand the severity of the situation.

Develop an Emergency Plan - Create a comprehensive emergency plan for your household. Identify evacuation routes, including alternate options, and establish a meeting point outside the affected area. Assign responsibilities to family members, such as packing essential supplies or caring for pets. Gather important documents like identification papers, insurance policies, and medical records in a waterproof and portable container. Maintain an updated list of emergency contact numbers, including family, friends, and local authorities.

Prepare an Emergency Kit - Assemble a well-stocked emergency kit with essential supplies to sustain your household for at least three days. Include items such as non-perishable food, water (one gallon per person per day), battery-operated or hand-cranked radio, flashlights, extra batteries, first aid supplies, medications, personal hygiene items, cash, and important documents. Don't forget to include supplies for infants, elderly family members, and pets. Regularly check and replenish your emergency kit to ensure it remains up to date and functional.

Secure Your Property - Before hurricane season begins, take proactive measures to secure your property. Trim trees and remove any loose branches that may become hazardous during high winds. Reinforce windows and doors with storm shutters or plywood. Ensure your roof is in good condition and able to withstand strong winds. Secure outdoor furniture, equipment, and other objects that could be blown away or cause damage. Consider installing a backup generator to maintain essential services during power outages.

Evacuation and Sheltering - If local authorities issue evacuation orders, follow them promptly. Prepare your vehicle in advance with a full tank of gas and an emergency kit. Pack necessary items, including clothing, bedding, medications, and important documents. Follow designated evacuation routes and avoid flooded roads. If you are unable to evacuate, find a safe location within your home, preferably an interior room on the lowest level, away from windows. Keep emergency supplies readily accessible and stay informed about changing weather conditions.

Hurricane preparedness in Texas is a vital undertaking to ensure the safety and well-being of individuals and communities. By staying informed, developing an emergency plan, preparing an emergency kit, securing property, and knowing evacuation procedures, Texans can navigate hurricane seasons with greater resilience, safeguarding lives and property from the destructive forces of nature.

Sign up for emergency alerts and notifications to receive real-time information on evacuation orders or shelter locations.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is a critical issue for Texans, especially during periods of drought when water supplies become scarce. Conserving water not only helps to ensure that we have enough water to meet our needs, but it also helps to protect our environment and save money on our water bills. In this article, we will provide you with some practical tips on how to conserve water in your daily life.

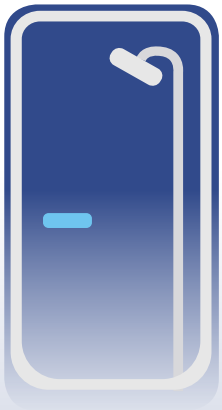
Fix leaks promptly

One of the most important steps you can take to conserve water is to fix any leaks in your home as soon as possible. Check for leaks in faucets, pipes, toilets, and irrigation systems regularly. A dripping faucet can waste up to 5 gallons of water a day, so be sure to check for leaks regularly and repair them promptly.

Install low-flow showerheads and faucets

Another effective way to conserve water is to install low-flow showerheads and faucets. These devices can reduce your water usage by as much as 50% without sacrificing performance or comfort.

Take shorter showers



Reducing the time you spend in the shower is a simple and effective way to save water. Aim to take showers that are five minutes or less, and turn off the water while you shampoo and soap up. You can also consider installing a shower timer or a low-flow showerhead to further reduce your water usage.

Use a broom to clean outdoor surfaces

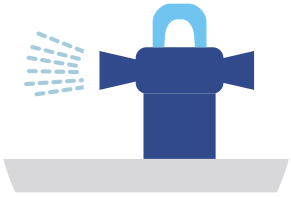
Rather than using a hose to clean outdoor surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways, and patios, use a broom to sweep them clean. This saves a significant amount of water, and the exercise is good for your health.

Water your lawn and garden efficiently

Watering your lawn and garden can be a major source of water usage, but there are ways to do it more efficiently. Water your plants early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation. Use a drip irrigation system or soaker hoses, which deliver water directly to the roots of your plants and reduce water waste due to runoff.

Use a pool cover

If you have a swimming pool, consider using a pool cover. This not only reduces evaporation but also helps to keep the water warm, which can reduce the need for heating.



Collect rainwater

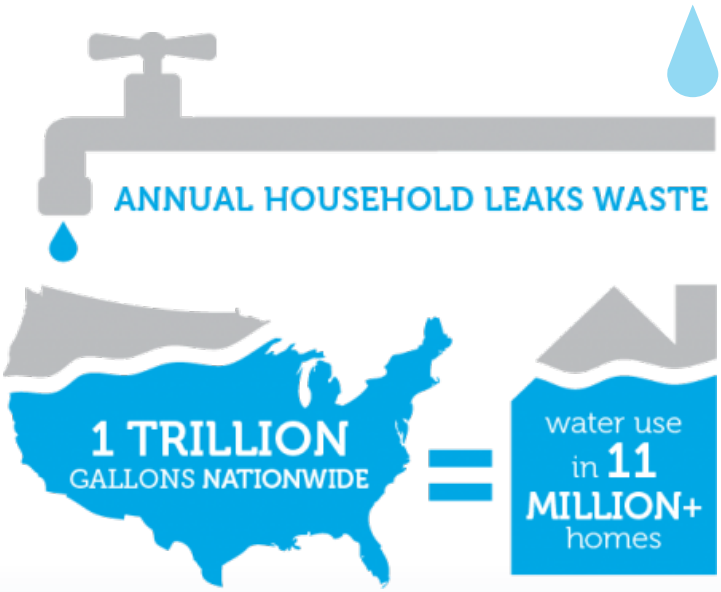
Collecting rainwater is an excellent way to conserve water and provide a source of water for your plants. You can collect rainwater in barrels or other containers and use it to water your garden or lawn.

Only run full loads of laundry and dishes

When using your washing machine or dishwasher, only run full loads. This not only conserves water but also saves energy and reduces the frequency of these machines' usage.

Educate others

Finally, one of the most important steps you can take to conserve water is to educate others. Encourage your friends, family, and coworkers to take simple steps to conserve water in their daily lives. By working together, we can all make a difference in preserving our precious water resources.



In conclusion, water conservation is crucial for the sustainable development of Texas. The state's arid climate, coupled with increasing demand and limited supply, makes it imperative to adopt water conservation practices.

Fortunately, Texas has implemented various measures such as education campaigns, water-efficient technologies, and water management policies to encourage water conservation. It is essential for both individuals and organizations to continue practicing water conservation in their daily activities to ensure that Texas has enough water to meet the needs of its citizens and support its economic growth in the long run. By taking collective action and adopting responsible water usage practices, Texans can secure a sustainable water future for the state.

Scan for WaterMyYard.org info and tips!

Scan for Additional Resources on Water Conservation!

MEMORIAL
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Numbers to Know

Cut this page out and keep for easy reference!

FOR EMERGENCY - 911

Harris County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency - 713-221-6000

Hospitals

Texas Children's Hospital West - 832-227-1000
Memorial Hermann Katy - 281-949-4725
Houston Methodist West Hospital - 832-522-1000
St. Luke's Hospital- The Vintage - 832-534-5000
Poison Control Center - 800-222-1222
Texas Department of Family & Protective Services-CPS - 281-847-7000
24 Hour Family Violence Hotline - 281-855-4673
The Mental Health Authority of Harris County - 713-970-7000

Water Leaks/Billing Information

Si Environmental - 832 490-1500
TOLL FREE - 877 382-7414

Garbage Collection

GFL Environmental - 844-464-3587

Energy Companies

Centerpoint Energy (electric) - 800-332-7143
Centerpoint Energy (gas) - 713-659-2111
Reliant Energy - 713-207-7777
Underground Digging(Gas, Electric,Phone) - 811 or 713-432-0365

Miscellaneous

Texas Parks & Wildlife - 281-931-6471
Animal Control (County) - 281-999-3191
DMV - 888-368-4689
Harris County Flood Control - 713-684-4000
For Assistance with Food, Housing, and Childcare - 211 or 877-541-7905