

MUD 18 Newsletter
July - August 2013
www.mcmud18.com

Meet Your Electronic Water Meter: In 2008, MUD 18 began a 5 year project to upgrade residential water meters to improved electronic meters. Priority was given to upgrade the oldest meters, malfunctioning meters and new connections. The Board is pleased to report that the meter upgrade is complete - all residences now have an electronic meter. Not only are these meters more accurate, they are capable of providing you and/or your service provider with helpful water usage and leak detection information. The display is triggered by a photoelectric eye so you will need a flashlight to see the readings. The meter display will alternate between volume measured in gallons and rate in gallons per minute. Among the situations where the electronic meters can be useful are:

1. To determine if you have a leak in your water system - and whether the leak is continuous or intermittent.
2. To fine tune your irrigation system. With the electronic meter, you can determine how much water is used in a cycle of your irrigation system. You can also measure how much each zone uses in the cycle.

An *Instructional Guide for Reading Your Water Meter* is included with this newsletter. For your convenient reference, a copy is also available on our website www.mcmud18.com under "Documents."



Drainage and Storm Sewer/Inlet Repair: As part of the ongoing improvement and maintenance of the District's storm drainage network, the District has undertaken a major improvement to a portion of Oak Creek south of Bentwater Drive. The area has been plagued by weeds and stagnant water in recent years, in part because the grade change is so small in that area. During the dry weather, the collected water is irrigation system run-off. The improvements include de-silting and extending the concrete lining.



As a continuation of work started last summer, the District has also dredged storm sewer outfalls in the lake to ensure clear pathways for storm drainage.

Mindful Water Conservation Reminders: Because June 2013 was not as dry as June 2012, we pumped 34 million gallons of water compared to 49 million last year. That's good news. However, our pumpage in July is on track to surpass last July: 60 million gallons vs 58 million. During these hot and dry months, we all want to keep our lawns and landscape healthy. All homeowners are encouraged to water lawns and plants mindfully. Our irrigation systems can help us do just that if they are properly maintained and programmed to water wisely. ***Use your electronic meter to ensure you are using your irrigation system effectively.*** An irrigation system specialist can help if needed. Water during the evening hours for more absorption and less waste through evaporation. Divide longer running times into two intervals a couple of hours apart on the same evening. Too often, we over water thus encouraging shallow root systems which cannot tolerate drought conditions extreme cold or winter freezes. Overwatering also sends large amounts of wasted run-off down the

street and into the storm drains - a waste of our precious water supply and needless cost to you. Overwatering also contributes to standing water puddles that create nesting pools for mosquitoes. We all share the responsibility to conserve our water resource.

Back-up Natural Gas Generators Now on 21 Lift Stations: Bentwater covers a large area and has rolling topography, which necessitates the need for sewer pump (lift) stations. Based on a study of lift station load, updated after our lke experience in 2008, the District has been installing generators based on operational priority and budget planning. Bentwater currently has twenty four lift stations servicing residential and club facilities. With the recent installation of three additional generators, twenty one lift stations have power backup in case of an extended outage. In 2014, the District plans to install an additional three generators to complete the overall lift station power backup capability.



Think Green - Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose

Plastic

The amount of plastic bottles recycled in 2010 provided the raw material needed to make about 7 million extra large t-shirts.

Sign-up for E-Blasts:

If you are not receiving our E-Blasts, you are missing out on timely information. Go to our website www.mcmud18.com and give us your email address. Your address will not be shared with anyone and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Need to Report a Problem?

Don't assume the problem has already been identified or reported. If you observe a water leak, sewer odor, discolored water, open manholes, alarms are sounding, or other problems, please help us by calling:

Hays Utility Service @ 936-588-1166.

Hays has someone in Bentwater every day, seven days a week. They can and will respond 24 hours a day. Their general office hours are from 8:00AM to 4:30PM Monday through Friday.

Meetings Open to the Public:

Our regularly scheduled monthly meetings are the **2nd Tuesdays at 2:30PM** in the Country Club Board Room. Meetings are open to the public. The agenda is posted on our web site and the message board in the breezeway entrance to the Country Club Grill near the Golf Pro-shop.

Sincerely,

Your MUD Board:

Lou Tichacek	President	597-7010
Linda Pierce	Vice President	597-5463
Roy Champagne	Treasurer	597-8786
Joe Constantino	Secretary	597-8029
Chris Uzelmeier	Assistant Secretary	449-5198