

MUD 18 Newsletter
May - June 2014
www.mcmud18.com

Latest News from MUD 18 Is Just a "Click" Away. MUD 18 sends newsletters electronically to those customers who have signed up and given us their email address. Until recently, the Newsletter was imbedded in an email from MUD 18. Beginning with our March - April Newsletter, users have access to the Newsletter by "clicking" on a link within the email sent from MUD 18. If you are not receiving our newsletter, you are encouraged to go to our website **www.mcmud18.com** and join our mailing list. In addition to using your email to send our newsletters, it is a time efficient way for us to communicate to you on urgent or time critical topics.

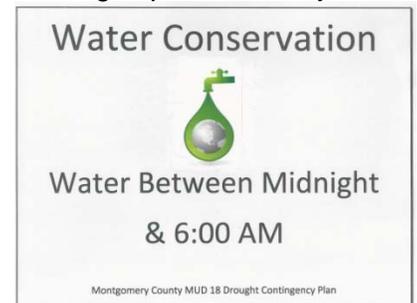


Waste Management Adds to Holiday Pickup Schedule. Effective immediately, the only holidays on which Waste Management will not provide pick-up service are New Years Day and Christmas Day. Trash and recycling services will be provided on all other holidays that fall on our regular pick-up schedule.



Occasionally, Waste Management misses servicing a street or a section. This may happen due to driver error, because the truck was blocked by lawn service or contractor vehicles or other unplanned issues. When a resident realizes their trash or recycle service has been skipped, they should call Waste Management Customer Service Center @ 713-686-6666 or 800-800-5804 to report the problem. The Waste Management commitment is that, once the problem is reported, they will send a truck out to provide the service within 24 hours of receiving the report of a missed pick-up. So residents should leave their containers out for the 24 hour period.

Summer Water Conservation Awareness Begins June 1: Have you noticed the signs posted at major intersections reminding homeowners to voluntarily conserve water? Some may wonder why we are still encouraging water conservation now that we are producing water from the Catahoula. We believe that we all have a responsibility to protect the water supply in this area for future generations. We must use water responsibly. It is the right thing to do. And it requires a change in our mindset and a conscious change in our daily use of water.



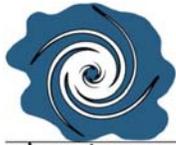
So even with the Catahoula as our water source, the Board will continue to adhere to the Drought Contingency Plan we developed several years ago. Accordingly, the Board has declared a MILD DROUGHT condition to be in effect as of June 1 and to stay in effect until Sept 30. The objectives of this stage of our plan are to:

1. **Encourage responsible water conservation while encouraging healthier lawns and landscapes.** Please continue to actively manage your landscape irrigation system. *Watering between midnight and 6AM is healthier for your lawn and helps us maintain steady water pressure.* Water only as needed to encourage healthier root systems that can better tolerate both drought and freezing conditions. Overwatering undermines a healthy lawn.
2. **Avoid exceeding the "safe operating conditions" of our wells.** If our water supply facilities reach or exceed these conditions, mandatory water usage restrictions will be necessary. With the Catahoula well, our expanded storage capacity and everyone's attention to conservation, we can avoid mandatory restrictions.

Water conservation saves you money and protects our precious water resource.

Bentwater Civic Association Town Hall Meeting. : On June 19th at the Yacht Club at 7PM, the BCA will host a Town Hall meeting focusing water resources and the future of Lake Conroe. Representatives for MUD 18 will talk about the role of MUD and water resource plans for Bentwater. The San Jacinto River Authority will describe the role of SJRA, its plans for Lake Conroe and how those plans will affect the Lake level. This is a FREE event and no registration is required.

Hurricane Season - Be Prepared:



Hurricane season began June 1 and ends Nov. 30. While this year is predicted to have fewer named storms than usual, it only takes one a direct hit from one storm to have big impact. The National Hurricane Center, area news media and civil defense agencies will provide information and advice for residents in the upper Texas coast region. Issues within Bentwater will be addressed by the POA and MUD 18. MUD 18 will focus on potential problems related to water supply, sewage handling, garbage pickup and storm water drainage. The POA will serve as the Command Center and can mobilize a trained Community Emergency Response Team.

Prior to the start of the hurricane season, MUD 18 conducted inspections of all major storm drainage areas to ensure they are clear of any blocking debris. Neither residents nor their yard crews should ever dispose of yard debris in any of the natural drainage areas or in the storm drains. In recent years, MUD 18 has installed natural gas generators on our lift stations to provide sewer service during an extended power outage. In May, preventive maintenance with extended test run times was performed on all generators to ensure readiness to provide back-up power. Residents should understand the importance of minimizing use of water, minimizing the production of waste water and other helpful actions during a large storm event with an extended electrical power outage.

MUD 18's *Homeowner Hurricane Information* is being included with your June billing. This information includes guidelines for advance preparation and important advice for dealing with the aftermath of a storm, including communication procedures to provide access to the most reliable information on conditions within Bentwater. These guidelines are always available on our website at www.mcmud18.com.

Take Action Early. Be considerate of neighbors. Stay informed. Be Safe.

MUD 18 2013 Drinking Water Quality Report. Each year in June, Hays Utility prepares a Drinking Water Quality Report. The quality analysis is made using prior year data from tests required by the EPA. A copy of this report will be included with your June billing. The report is also available on our website.

Sign-up for E-Blasts:

If you are not receiving our E-Blasts, you are missing out on timely information. Go to our website at www.mcmud18.com and give us your email address. Your address will not be shared with anyone. 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
Chris Uzelmeier	Treasurer	449-5198
Joe Constantino	Secretary	597-8029
Rex Cambern	Assistant Secretary	449-5761