

**MUD 18 Newsletter**  
**January 2015**  
[www.mcmud18.com](http://www.mcmud18.com)

**Change in Board of Directors:** The MUD 18 Board of Directors consists of 5 members elected by registered voters in the District for four year terms. In November, Joe Constantino resigned his position on the Board due to Joe and Marta's relocation out of Bentwater to be nearer to family. We thank Joe for his eight years of service to the MUD 18 Board and the valuable experience he brought to us from his prior work experience and commitment to our community.



A vacancy due to a resignation during an uncompleted term, may be filled by the Board. The Board is pleased to announce that Susan McFarland has been designated by the Board to serve the remainder of Joe's term. Susan brings valued financial and executive experience to the Board. We welcome Susan onboard.

**Weiskopf Course to Benefit from Reclaimed Water:** Montgomery County MUD 18 has entered into an Agreement with the Bentwater Yacht & Country Club ("the Club") to provide treated effluent from the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for irrigation of the Weiskopf Golf Course.

Irrigation water from Lake Conroe for the Weiskopf Course (and Grand Pines) had been bought by the Club from the San Jacinto River Authority until the drought of 2011. At that time, the Club contracted to have irrigation wells drilled at both courses, to supplement the lack of lake water available. These wells have provided an interim solution. However, the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District in Montgomery County, which has a mission to help the County progress to a long term sustainable and balanced portfolio of water resources, established groundwater pumping reductions that go into effect in 2016. The Club had to devise a longer term source of water for golf course irrigation.

The solution is "Reclaimed Water". The Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) allows effluent from treatment plants to be "re-used" under strict rules for design, operations, and monitoring of such facilities. Other communities in Montgomery County use reclaimed water for golf course irrigation, including Panorama Village and River Plantation.



In November, 2013, MUD 18 entered into an Agreement with the Club, to sell them the effluent currently being discharged into Lake Conroe. The project is being totally funded by the Club.

The Club's engineer designed Phase 1 (transfer lines and a holding pond for the course near the treatment plant), and these facilities have been completed. A permit was granted by the TCEQ early in 2014 to use the reclaimed water for irrigation. Phase 2 (the valves and connection points) were designed by the Club's Engineer and approved by the TCEQ in the fall of 2014, and the construction is currently scheduled for early 2015. Once

the construction of Phase 2 is completed, the Weiskopf Course will be irrigated using the reclaimed water from the treatment plant and runoff water from rainfall.

It is important to note that the effluent discharged from the district's WWTP meets or exceeds the TCEQ's strict quality requirements. In fact, routine testing of our effluent by our operator has

demonstrated that it exceeds the quality of the water in Lake Conroe. We currently treat approximately 400,000 gallons of wastewater per day at the MUD 18 wastewater treatment plant. The clean treated water or effluent is then discharged into Lake Conroe. We are regulated by the TCEQ to make sure that our effluent is of a quality that will not negatively affect the quality of water currently in the lake. For example, we are not allowed to discharge effluent with E-coli present over 126 CFU's (colony forming units) per 100 ml of water. Our average over the past year for E-coli present in our effluent is less than 2 CFU/100ml. In contrast, a sample of water pulled from Lake Conroe has been measured at anywhere from 100 to over 1,000 CFU/100ml. Another example is TSS or (total suspended solids), meaning any small organic or inorganic particles present that are not dissolved in the water. Regulations require us to keep the TSS in our effluent below 15 milligrams per liter. A sample out of the lake has been measured at over 22 milligrams per liter, whereas our average is less than 5 milligrams per liter. So the effluent to be used in irrigation on Weiskopf meets a higher standard than lake water.

As the demand for water continues to grow and resources become more expensive to develop, water conservation becomes a more important and viable part of managing groundwater and surface water resources. This project will help reduce the demand for groundwater and lake water, and will be a long term solution benefitting the Bentwater community.

**Need a Recycle Bin?** If you do not have a recycle bin and want to have one, call MUD Board member Rex Cambern at 936-449-5761 and he will be happy to arrange delivery.



As you dispose of the following recyclable items, **think green** and place the items in your recycle container, not your regular trash container:  
Glass bottles and jars, tin/steel cans (including large coffee cans), juice boxes, metal 2 ft or less in length, paper board, magazines, aluminum cans, 12" x 12" card board, newspaper, junk mail and plastic with codes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7. The top of the yellow lid has a table of acceptable items to serve as a handy quick reference guide.

**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](http://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
Susan McFarland	Treasurer	597-7503
Chris Uzelmeier	Secretary	449-5198
Rex Cambern	Assistant Secretary	449-5761