

Following the rainstorms and tornadoes this past spring, everyone's attention was on the destruction of some roofs and many of our very large trees. That debris has been cleared up, but some of the misery remains. The severity of the rainstorms did much damage to the storm drainage canals which follow some of the ancient creek beds in Bentwater. Much study has gone into how to repair this damage cost-effectively.

Rainwater drains by various routes through Bentwater -- some along streets, some via golf course swales, some through buried drains and some through ancient creek beds.

MUD 18 is responsible for drainage of rainwater within creek beds which are fed by our buried drain pipes; this is a responsibility assigned by Texas law. Some of the remedial work is now in progress, some is still in the engineering and planning stages. This is an update of some of the work that is underway.

Golfers on the Miller course cannot help but notice the wreckage of the drainage channel halfway down fairway #10 where the cart path crosses the creek and fairway. For those who don't golf, here are some photos. Although this problem borders the golf course, the actual responsibility for maintenance is held by MUD 18.

Another high-profile drainage canal can be seen on the south side of Bentwater Drive, west of the Country Club before coming to Bentwood Drive. This area drew little notice because it was covered with trees bearing large vines; the foliage was indeed dense. It is now a naked area. A fairly large creekbed was within this area, but hardly visible. The spring storms caused this channel to accelerate its eroding and wandering; at worst, it seemed to threaten an adjacent home. In order to straighten out the channel and arrange permanent containment, all the growth had to be cleared. Some photos of this area are shown on the next page.

A third large project is also underway where the creek flows out of the gazebo park between Creekwood and Logansport. (no photo taken yet) The cost of making all these repairs is significant. As discussed in our last newsletter, we have increased our current fiscal year budget to accommodate these repairs.





We have received bids for three repair projects and have awarded contracts to successful bidders. Work on two of the projects is well underway. Pictures illustrate some of this work. Work on Miller 10 will begin soon.

As also discussed in a previous newsletter, we keep an evergreen 5-year plan for preventive maintenance and upgrades of assets as needed.

Before setting this year's budget and tax rate, the 5-year plan was revised to include these drainage repairs. The final budget allowed a one-cent lower tax rate despite the unusual weather.



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**Meetings are Open to the Public:**

Our regularly scheduled monthly meetings are the **2nd Tuesdays at 2:30PM**, generally in the Country Club Board Room. Meetings are open to the public. No reservations are necessary. 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:

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