

Blue**line**

Fall | 2019



HARRIS COUNTY
MUD 217

MUD Board of Directors:

D. Johnson, J. Ewing, C. Brown,
S. Washington, M. Henderson

Community Events
Neighborhood Amenities
Winterizing Your Home
Security in HCMUD 217
Trash Collection

HARRIS COUNTY
MUD 217

CommunityEVENTS

Harris County MUD 217 hosted several annual community events for the residents in 2019. We would like to thank the residents who came out to participate and celebrate with us. We hope you have been pleased to meet your neighbors and your Directors and enjoyed the games, food, entertainment, and photos as much as we have.

Mark your calendars for our next neighborhood event, Cookies with Santa, coming soon on December 7, 11:00AM-1:00PM.



 **HARRIS COUNTY**
MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT 217

Heritage Village Residents
Easter Egg Stravaganza
Sat. April 13
11am-1pm



Easter

Our Easter event is always fun, especially our egg hunts and family activities!



July 4th

Lots of patriotic fun, train rides, food and face painting.



Semi-Annual Cleanup Day

Residents enjoy this opportunity to get rid of that extra household clutter and old paperwork. Your Directors have now made this a semi-annual event.



Self Defense Class

For the first time our District offered a series of Women's Self Defense classes known as RAD (Rape Aggression Defense). Classes were conducted by the Harris County Sheriff's Office and had over 25 ladies in attendance. Watch for more classes in the future!



National Night Out

Our annual National Night Out in October attracted over 300 Heritage Village residents. Our community enjoys this family friendly event, which is a highlight each year.

Cookies with Santa

Dec. 7th 11AM - 1PM

Bring your whole family to visit with Santa and have some holiday treats! Everyone is welcome to enjoy our photo booth, face painting, DJ, games and activities.



HCMUD 217 Admin Building
12248 T. C. Jester Blvd.
Houston, TX 77067



Have you visited the Harris County MUD 217 Website?

Harris County MUD 217's Board of Directors is passionate about serving the residents of Heritage Village and continuing to make this community a great place to live. The Board also takes great strides to keep residents informed of important District news and is committed to bringing the community together with special events that the entire family can enjoy. The District's website is designed to be your consistent source for staying connected and informed.

We encourage and invite you to stay connected with your District by visiting the website regularly at: www.hcmud217.com

The website offers an extensive list of services, such as:

- ✓ Important District News
- ✓ Community Events and Photos
- ✓ Neighborhood Amenities
- ✓ Meet your Board of Directors
- ✓ Security Information
- ✓ Water Bill Payments
- ✓ Emergency Alert Sign Up
- ✓ Meeting Documents

...and so much more at www.hcmud217.com



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AMENITIES



Banquet Room

The facility offers a banquet room for private rental that is large enough for most events. The banquet room comes with a standard setup with round or square tables with linens and coverings. If you are interested in a custom setup, you are more than welcome to provide your own. The room also features a full service kitchen for food preparation, and custom serving bar. For events that require access to the outside, your guests can access the fully covered patio and garden area via adjacent french door openings.

With beautiful, recently renovated modern decor, and all of its major amenities, the banquet room is sure to be the perfect venue for your next event. Feel free to stop by anytime to take a look for yourself. Otherwise, if you are ready to begin scheduling your event, please complete the reservation request form on our website.

Capacity: 85

- Large round or small square tables
- Large or small rectangle tables
- Large chafing serving dishes available for use
- French doors allow access to patio
- Wood blinds on windows
- Fully covered outdoor patio area
- 65 exclusive use parking spaces
- Use of large screen TV
- Security provided by local law enforcement (required)



Feel free to stop by the Administrative Building anytime to take a look for yourself. Otherwise, if you are ready to begin scheduling your event, please complete the online reservation request form on our website:

www.hcmud217.com/amenities





Fitness Center

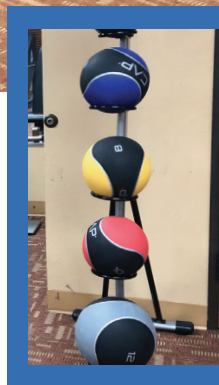
The Fitness Center is a comfortable air conditioned space that is sure to help you reach your physical fitness goals. This space features modern cable weight resistance machines, free-weights and several cardiovascular type machines.

The fitness center also includes several features found in most large scale fitness facilities, such as large mirrors, a water fountain, separate mens and womens changing rooms and even a television for watching your favorite show while burning the calories away. The Fitness Center is only available to residents of Heritage Village Subdivision (proof of residency required).

For a membership request form please visit:
www.hcmud217.com/fitness-center

- 2 Electronic Treadmills
- Leg Press *
- Stair Climber *
- Medicine Balls *
- Water Cooler
- Free Weight Dumbbells
- 2 Workout Benches
- Multi-Universal Cable
- Weight System
- Electronic Elliptical
- Air Conditioning
- Separate men/women changing/restrooms
- Cable Television
- Members only key card access

* Denotes New Equipment



Conference Center

The facility also offers a full service conference/meeting room. The conference room comes with a standard meeting room setup, with the option for additional chairs to be added upon request. With large executive style chairs, large stately conference tables and common technology and Audio/Visual hardware in place, this conference room will serve all of your meeting needs.

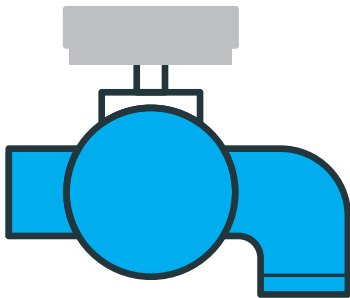
Also, featuring a full service kitchen, you can hold your meeting with all of the common amenities of a normal office environment. The included technology and A/V equipment, will make for an effective presentation. Feel free to stop by anytime to take a look or if you are ready to begin scheduling your event, please complete the reservation form on our website: www.hcmud217.com/conference-center

Capacity: 24

- Large conference style tables
- 12 Leather executive style chairs
- 12 Additional padded conference chairs
- Full Service Kitchen
(refrigerator, oven, microwave, sink, coffee maker)
- Common technology and A/V hardware
- Use of large screen TV
- 65 Exclusive use parking spaces
- Security provided by local law enforcement
(required)



Now that the temperatures are getting colder, it is the perfect time to prepare your home for the winter months if you have not already done so. While Texas winters are not as harsh as northern states, Texas weather changes quickly here and cold snaps can bring temperatures to freezing, potentially resulting in costly damage to your home.



Winterizing Plumbing Pipes

Inspect your home for any uninsulated pipes, running close to the outside walls and windows as well as passing through unheated spaces. Seal any visible cracks around the outside walls and foundations with caulk or spray foam to keep cold air from penetrating to pipes. Outdoor faucets and pipes can be insulated with sleeves, wrapping or using slip-on foam pipe insulation. Copper and steel water pipes are less tolerant to freezing than plastic piping.

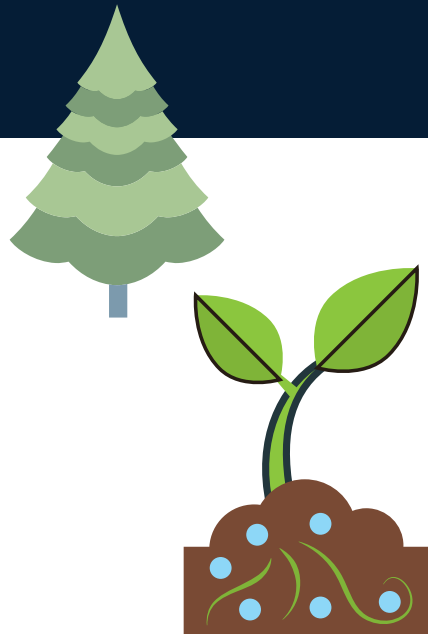


Don't Forget the Sprinklers!

Sprinkler systems are at particular risk for freezing if not winterized properly. Water freezing in the irrigation system can break any or all of the system components, resulting in costly repairs in the spring.

Begin with shutting off the main water valve, then draining the system by use of either a manual or automatic drain valve. If the system has a pump, it should be drained and removed from the system if possible. Otherwise, wrap it well to insulate it from the weather. Depending on your system, there may be additional steps for winterization. Be sure to check with the plot plans and the manufacturer for your specific sprinkler system needs.

Winterize your House...



Keep Plants Thriving

Clear out the blackened stems and foliage of annual flowers and vegetables to prevent the possibility of their harboring diseases and insect eggs over the winter. Clear out old mulch that may contain parasites and weed seeds, and lay down new mulch that is crowned high over the bed. Plant perennials that remain strong and bloom through winter months: calendula, English primrose, pansy, and winter jasmine are all good choices. Native and adapted plants can tolerate even the harshest Texas weather, meaning fewer replacements and less water consumed. Prune injured branches from trees and shrubs. Keep polyspun garden fabric handy to cover annuals if light frost threatens.

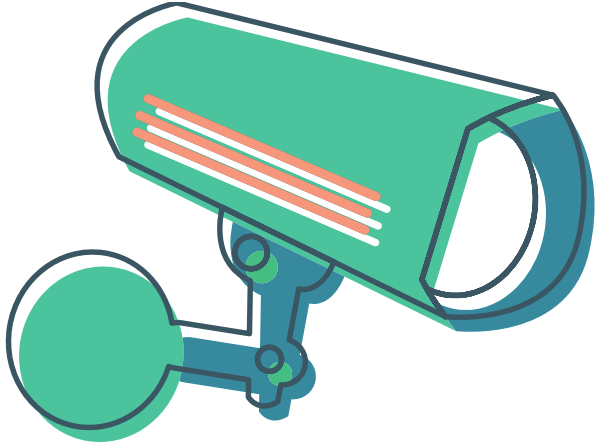


Have a Pool?

As there are many types of pools, make sure you check with the manufacturer on the appropriate way to winterize your favorite recreational home feature. Taking the right steps now will make it easier in the spring to open your pool for the hotter Texas months. Above all, be sure to not fully drain your pool; balance and winterize with chemicals to save on water cost and system use in the spring. Proper use of chemicals and a winterizing kit will better prevent any molds or algae from growing, which we incorrectly assume draining will solve.

All Done!

Once you have checked off all the tasks on your winterization list, make sure you continue to inspect throughout the winter to stay ahead of any potential issues. Rest assured, by taking proper care and consideration you will be able to relax and enjoy the winter without worry!



THE **word** ON SECURITY FOR HC MUD #217

The Board of Directors for Harris County MUD 217 wants you to know that they consider the security of their residents to be paramount. In 2017, the Board agreed to assume the security contract and costs for the District at the request of Heritage Village HOA. Security patrols began with two off-duty deputies patrolling the neighborhood. Since that time the Directors have increased the number of off-duty deputies patrolling Heritage Village as well as increasing their shifts and patrol time.

Harris County MUD 217 provides its residents with additional security that works in tandem with traditional Harris County Sheriff's Office patrols. In addition to the neighborhood and Heritage Park duties, our extra security deputies can be seen at special neighborhood events, such as National Night Out, Cookies with Santa, Fourth of July, etc. Fees for the extra security are ultimately paid for from your current taxes.

Your Harris County MUD 217 Board routinely receives questions from residents such as, "Where are the patrols?" "Where is their route?" "What are the patrols looking for on their regular beat?"

Currently, the extra security is provided by a contract between Harris County MUD 217 and the deputies employed by the Harris County Sheriff's Office independently, which includes payments for Heritage Park security, neighborhood patrols and other security expenses. The extra patrol hours are based on historical statistics for low and peak times/locations of criminal activity in Heritage Village. Patrols are never at the same time of day every day, nor do they follow a set pattern on driving through

the neighborhood. The deputies operate vehicles that may be both marked and unmarked. Deputy patrol shifts provide 4 hours of extra patrol duty per day in Heritage Village and at Heritage Park. Patrols look for unusual activity, suspicious persons and vehicles, open doors, broken windows, etc. Extra patrol services are not intended for call-response and are not meant to supplant the services provided by the Sheriff's office or the Constables, funded through your annual Harris County property tax dollars.



To continue enhancing security in Heritage Village, your Board of Directors recently approved the purchase and upgrade of the entire 12 camera system at Heritage Park. The goal is to improve the safety in our neighborhood and deter activity that might otherwise interfere with community wellness and livelihood of all district residents.

Residents should be reminded that in case of an **EMERGENCY** (imminent danger to life and property or you stumble upon a crime in progress), regardless of the additional security patrols employed by the district, ALWAYS CALL 9-1-1 for the fastest response.

For all other **NON-EMERGENCIES** (suspicious vehicles/activity, stray dogs, vandalism, welfare checks, etc.) residents should call the non-emergency line (713) 221-6000.



A Heritage Village resident may also email the District's security coordinator, Sgt. Jeff McGowen, at mud217sec@gmail.com with security concerns or tips. Please be advised, pursuant to the rules and regulations, the District's employees, Directors or contracted security personnel cannot divulge security patrol schedules to the public.

For more information, go to
www.hcmud217.com/district-security

The Harris County Sheriff's Office looks to its residents as a partner in security and crime fighting. The deputies rely on our residents to report any suspicious activity, so that they can focus more intently on particular areas in the neighborhood. Sgt. Jeff McGowen can be emailed non-emergency issues at: mud217sec@gmail.com



Cameras and lighting were recently expanded in our park to make it even safer.

As the holidays are approaching, the security patrol would like to share some safety tips for you while you are shopping and celebrating this season:

- Stay vigilant; be aware of your surroundings and others in your immediate vicinity.
- Report strange vehicles and odd behavior.
- Don't leave items visible in your car, keep vehicles locked and alarmed.
- Always lock your house doors and windows.
- Keep large gifts and packages away from windows or other visible areas.
- Refrain from leaving boxes of newly purchased electronics or expensive purchases at the curb.
- If there is a street light out in the neighborhood, please advise the MUD by emailing contact@hcmud217.com.



Your guide to **Trash Collection in Heritage Village**



In a combined effort, Harris County MUD 217 and WCA Waste Corporation would like to take this opportunity to explain how your automated trash collection service works. WCA is the trash collection company hired by Harris County MUD 217 to provide trash collection services for the residents of Heritage Village.

Please have trash out at the curb by 7:00am for pick up and keep at the curb until 7:00pm. Do not place containers too close to mailboxes, parked cars or other objects. Bagging trash will help prevent trash from blowing when it is emptied. Bagging also helps with maintaining the cleanliness of the container.



Should a holiday fall on one of your regularly scheduled trash service days, your home will, most likely, not be serviced until the next regularly scheduled service day.*

Holiday Schedule:

New Year's Day

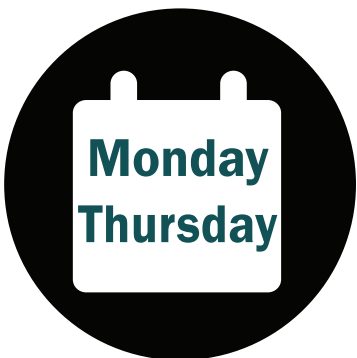
Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day



Garbage Collection is picked up on **MONDAY** and **THURSDAY** of each week. Residents may place **household garbage** collection AND **heavy garbage** items for trash pickup.

* Exceptions May Occur



Accepted Bulk Trash

Lawnmowers
(gas/oil tanks removed)

Carpet in 12 inch rolls max 4 feet

Toilets

Grills (no larger than 40 lbs)

Refrigerators/Freezers

A/C units w/ refrigerant removed

Stoves/dishwashers

Washing machines/dryers

Furnaces/other metal appliances

Furniture (no recliners)

Storm windows and glass panes are accepted, but we ask that you place a large "X" of masking tape across the glass panes to prevent shattering and injury.



Not Accepted Bulk Trash

Piles of bags or boxes of small items

Loose or scattered materials

Closed drums or fuel tanks

Automobile bodies or gas tanks

Construction materials

Lumber

Sheetrock/plaster

Tubs

Large cabinets



Yard waste must be tied & bundled, not exceeding 4 feet in length or 40 lbs. in weight. Individual branches should be no more than 4 inches in diameter. If residents have a significant amount of tree limbs, leaves or grass clippings, those items can be taken to Living Earth for recycling. The closest location to the District is 12200 Cutten Road, Houston, TX 77066.

WCA will clean up any spillage that occurs during the collection process. However, if liquid items such as gasoline, motor oil, paints, cooking oil, or any other liquid items that are not visible to the WCA employee spills and causes a stain, WCA cannot be held responsible.

Excluded Items?

Items excluded from regular collection:

- Dirt/Rocks/Bricks/Concrete
- Tires
- Batteries
- Motor oil/Cooking oil, Refrigeration Freon
- Waste generated by a private contractor or any materials or items deemed hazardous.

WCA will leave you a tag explaining the reason for any non-collected item(s).

Excessive trash?

If your needs exceed the normal amount of residential waste, yard trimmings or bulk items, please contact WCA in advance and they will meet you prior to the collection day to determine a price for special pick-up.

If you have any questions about your trash collection contact WCA customer service:

WCA Waste Corporation
281-368-8397
www.wcawaste.com

*****ECRWSSDDM*****

This Issue:
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**Text YES to (832) 610-2511 or visit
www.hcmud217.com/alerts for Resident Alerts**

We recommend at least two people per household sign up to receive resident alerts. If at any time you want to opt out of the alert system, simply reply "stop" to be removed from the system.

For any other questions or comments regarding the MUD and its functions, please visit our website or email us at contact@hcmud217.com

SITUATION:
Emergency (Life Threatening, Eminent Danger)
Report a Criminal Act
File a Complaint (nuisances & other misdemeanors)
Report Suspicious Persons or Activity
Water or Sewer Issues (WWWS)
Garbage Service (WCA)
Heritage Park Items (MUD217)
MUD Admin Bldg Events
Loose or Stray Animals (HC Animal Control)

Number:

911
911
713-221-6000
mud217sec@gmail.com
281-895-8547
281-368-8397
832-249-7000
832-249-7000
281-999-3191

**NUMBERS
TO KNOW**

