

Blue**line**

Spring | 2023

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HARRIS COUNTY

MUD



217



DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT



Director Jerry Ewing

As a former City of Houston and Municipal Service water and wastewater utility maintenance worker, my job entailed repairing water and sewer lines, meter installations, line tapings, fire hydrant installations and routine repairs at a sewer plant of the pumps and motors. This experience is what drove me to pursue a position as a Director on the Board of Harris County MUD 217.

My goal has been to ensure that all maintenance and operations of our sewer and water plants are of the highest quality and standard. I have also worked diligently to stay up to date with the newest technology in our industry. Working closely with our Engineer and Operator to keep our costs down and

then passing these savings on to our residents is of the utmost importance to me. The water and wastewater industry are ever changing and very challenging, especially since it's regulated by the State, to whom we are accountable.

As a resident, it's important that you understand our water sources and suppliers and how we receive and pay for it. Currently, the Central Harris County Regional Water Authority (CHCRWA) supplies our surface water. Contrary to popular belief, our well is not our main source of water. In cases of an emergency, our district is able to utilize a connection with a neighboring district at a cost. One of my personal goals as a Director is to work towards becoming a self-sufficient District. Dependence on others as emergencies arise cannot always be counted upon. We have seen this in recent years with unforeseen weather occurrences and disconnects from the CHCRWA with no or little notice. I believe we can remove that risk of dependency and all the unknowns that could come with it.

It's important that The Board of Directors knows your views about managing our water options. Attending the monthly meetings, every 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the HCMUD217 Admin Building, would help to ensure your concerns around this issue are heard! If you're unable to make the meetings, feel free to contact my email at jewing@hcmud217.com to share your thoughts.

This is our neighborhood, and we need to manage it based on your input. Don't be silent, your opinion matters so I know how to advocate for our direction.



Upcoming Events



PLEASE JOIN HC MUD 217 AS WE
CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY!

JULY 1 @ 11-1PM

FOOD • GAMES • PRIZES • MUCH MORE!

HEAVY TRASH DUMPSTER GUIDE



Acceptable

Wood	Green waste (leaves, grass)
Trees	Roofing materials
Wire	Old Furniture
Dirt	Clothes/Fabric
Concrete/Brick	Appliances with freon removed
Plastic	
Metals	



Unacceptable

Hazardous waste	Paints
Oil	Tires
Bleach	Batteries
Asbestos- materials	Chemical Drums
Medical waste	Household trash /food
Liquids	Flammable liquids

Annual Cleanup Day

June 17th 9^{AM}-2^{PM}

It's that time again to toss out items that have been taking up space and are too big to toss in the regular trash. Dumpsters, a shredding truck and an electronics recycling truck will be on-site June 17th.



past events



We greatly appreciate the involvement of our residents in making our events a success! Harris County MUD 217 extends heartfelt thanks to every individual who joins us in supporting our community through these events. Your presence enables us to host more events, and we eagerly anticipate your participation in our next one!

- **Easter Egg-travaganza** - An annual favorite of our community, our Easter Event was a tremendous success! We look forward to the Easter Bunny visiting our neighborhood every year.



- **Annual Fall Clean Up Event** - The Board of Harris County MUD 217 would like to thank each and every participant in our Annual Clean Up Day. Thank you all so much for participating in this initiative to help keep our community beautiful and clean!



- **Cookies with Santa** - Harris County MUD 217 had a fantastic time celebrating our Cookies with Santa Event alongside our amazing community. We are so grateful for all of the families who were able to attend and the wonderful vendors and donors who put in the effort to make it all possible. We hope to see you again next Christmas!



HARRIS COUNTY
MUD 217

ENGLISH ESPAÑOL Search this site. CONTACT

Galleries



2023 Easter Egg-travaganza
April 4, 2023
52 images



2022 Cookies with Santa
December 12, 2022
21 images

Galleries

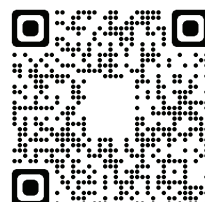
2023 Easter Egg-travaganza
April 4, 2023

2022 Cookies with Santa
December 12, 2022

Annual Cleanup Day - Fall
2022
December 6, 2022

2022 National Night Out
October 10, 2022

MORE GALLERIES



Don't forget to visit our website to check out pictures from past events and stay informed about our upcoming events.

WHAT IS THE RWA?



HCMUD 217 residents may have noticed a line-item on their water bill titled “CHCRWA Fee”.

What is this fee and where does the money go?

The Central Harris County Regional Water Authority (CHCRWA) was created by the Texas Legislature at the request of eleven water districts in Northwest Harris County. HCMUD 217 was one of the founding districts. HCMUD 217 had experienced issues with its well water quality (discoloration, odor and excessive chemicals) since its creation in the early 1980's. The Board and its consultants spent in excess of \$1.5 million to produce clean and clear water that meets State of Texas and the Environmental Protection Agency standards, but to no avail. Since the District has limited property and no place else to drill a well, when the opportunity came along to switch to surface water through the CHCRWA, the District seized the chance.

The RWA was originally formed because the State of Texas had put water districts in the Harris/Galveston region on notice that subsidence (the sinking of land due to the rapid growth in population and strain on the water table) was causing a shift in the ground due to heavy pumping by wells in the area. The Harris Galveston Subsidence District was formed around the same time. Its goal is to slow subsidence in the area by reducing the reliance on groundwater and moving as many districts as possible to surface water.

The RWAs in the Houston area are empowered to negotiate for a secure, long-term, reliable, quality supply of wholesale drinking water for all the independent neighborhoods, municipal utility districts, small municipalities, and permitted well owners within its boundaries. The RWAs also face an epic challenge: they must secure the future water supply, construct the new water delivery infrastructure, and generate the funding to accomplish it.

All customers within the boundaries of the RWAs pay a fee as a line on their bill, which is collected by the individual water district that supplies them. This amount is then passed to the Authorities to fund water supply delivery infrastructure and groundwater conservation efforts. The Authorities charge the water districts groundwater and surface water fees based on a Rate Order adopted by their Board of Directors. These fees funded construction of the initial infrastructure and will continue to cover debt service requirements, fund the maintenance and operation of the surface water delivery system, and construction of future infrastructure.

Conservation and sustainability efforts require time and money, especially in areas with such significant population growth like Houston has experienced over the past 60 years. The Regional Water Authorities are providing the ways and means to make sure water continues to flow and subsidence is abated as Houston and surrounding areas continue to grow.

Water Con

Water conservation is a critical issue for Texans, especially during periods of drought when water supplies become scarce. Conserving water not only helps to ensure that we have enough water to meet our needs, but it also helps to protect our environment and save money on our water bills. In this article, we will provide you with some practical tips on how to conserve water in your daily life.

Fix leaks promptly

One of the most important steps you can take to conserve water is to fix any leaks in your home as soon as possible. Check for leaks in faucets, pipes, toilets, and irrigation systems regularly. A dripping faucet can waste up to 5 gallons of water a day, so be sure to check for leaks regularly and repair them promptly.

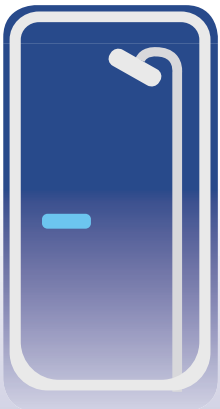


Install low-flow showerheads and faucets

Another effective way to conserve water is to install low-flow showerheads and faucets. These devices can reduce your water usage by as much as 50% without sacrificing performance or comfort.

Take shorter showers

Reducing the time you spend in the shower is a simple and effective way to save water. Aim to take showers that are five minutes or less, and turn off the water while you shampoo and soap up. You can also consider installing a shower timer or a low-flow showerhead to further reduce your water usage.



Use a broom to clean outdoor surfaces

Rather than using a hose to clean outdoor surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways, and patios, use a broom to sweep them clean. This saves a significant amount of water, and the exercise is good for your health.



Water your lawn and garden efficiently

Watering your lawn and garden can be a major source of water usage, but there are ways to do it more efficiently. Water your plants early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation. Use a drip irrigation

system or soaker hoses, which deliver water directly to the roots of your plants and reduce water waste due to runoff.

Use a pool cover

If you have a swimming pool, consider using a pool cover. This not only reduces evaporation but also helps to keep the water warm, which can reduce the need for heating.

Conservation



Collect rainwater

Collecting rainwater is an excellent way to conserve water and provide a source of water for your plants. You can collect rainwater in barrels or other containers and use it to water your garden or lawn.



Only run full loads of laundry and dishes

When using your washing machine or dishwasher, only run full loads. This not only conserves water but also saves energy and reduces the frequency of these machines' usage.

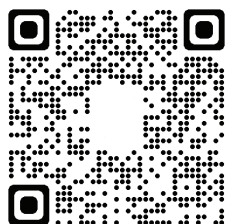
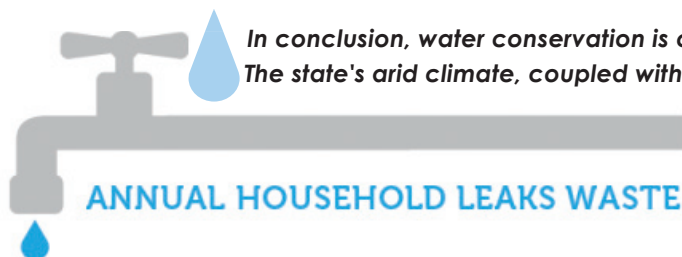


Educate others

Finally, one of the most important steps you can take to conserve water is to educate others. Encourage your friends, family, and coworkers to take simple steps to conserve water in their daily lives. By working together, we can all make a difference in preserving our precious water resources.

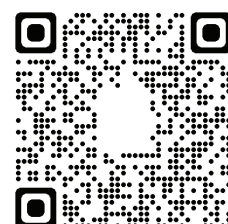
In conclusion, water conservation is crucial for the sustainable development of Texas. The state's arid climate, coupled with increasing demand and limited supply, makes it imperative to adopt water conservation practices.

Fortunately, Texas has implemented various measures such as education campaigns, water-efficient technologies, and water management policies to encourage water conservation. It is essential for both individuals and organizations to continue practicing water conservation in their daily activities to ensure that Texas has enough water to meet the needs of its citizens and support its economic growth in the long run. By taking collective action and adopting responsible water usage practices, Texans can secure a sustainable water future for the state.



Scan for WaterMyYard.org info and tips!

Scan for Additional Resources on Water Conservation!



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HARRIS COUNTY
MUD 217
★

**Sign up for text-message
alerts by texting YES to
(832) 610-2511**

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

HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY BEAUTIFUL!

Please DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS OR IN YARDS

Parking on the grass is prohibited and could result in an HOA violation!



Using any portion of a residential lot, other than a driveway or garage, for the parking of any motor vehicle, negatively impacts the overall appearance and the property values of the entire community. It is considered to be noxious and offensive for any vehicle to be parked at any time on a residential lot in any area other than on a paved driveway or within a garage. Boats, trailers, motor-homes, recreational vehicles, campers, semi-truck tractors, construction trailers, or any kind of similar vehicles may not be parked or kept within the Heritage Village neighborhood for any period of time, other than for temporary purposes, including loading and unloading.

Please do not park high-profile vehicles near an intersection as it can cause visibility issues for drivers.