



WATERWORKS

USEFUL FACTS ABOUT YOUR WATER DISTRICT

SUMMER 2004

My, How We Have Grown!

DIRECTORS

Donald F. Hill
President

Beth Murany,
Vice President

Bob Tomlinson,
Assistant Vice President

Joe Wallace,
Secretary

Sylvia Lindley,
Assistant Secretary

DISTRICT OPERATIONS:

Mary Moore Hayes
General Manager

Karyn Hennessy
Administrative &
Billing Manager

John Pate
Operations Manager

Dan Whitcher,
Project Coordinator

In 1978, the first test tube baby was born in Britain, Jimmy Carter was President, everyone was watching "Taxi" and the average price of a house in the District was \$27,050. Times have changed and the District has grown, and continues to grow. The average price of a house in the District today is \$132,050.

Residents in the District are younger than the U.S. national average by six years at average age of 30 years, and the area boasts an ethnically diverse population. The current population in the District is 47% white, 17% Hispanic, 15% Black or African American, 1% American Indian, 15% are American Asian, and of these totals, 7.7% are some other race, and 4% are two or more races.

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 25 is expected to grow by 30% over the next five years, while the national growth of the U.S. is expected to grow by only 6%. Residents of the District are also better educated than the US as a whole with 38% of all residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to 23% of all U.S. residents.

As of December 2003, the land within District included space for 2,157 homes -- including 113 homes under construction -- and 403 vacant developed lots. The development of twenty-three sections of single-family residential lots is complete. In addition to our residential customers, two gasoline service stations and convenience stores, a retail building, dry cleaning establishment, an automobile lubrication facility, car wash, an animal care clinic, and a 240 unit apartment unit are served by the District. Eighty-seven acres within the District are owned by Fort Bend Independent School District on which the Stephen F. Austin High School and Garcia Middle School have been constructed. In the future, the District is expected to include 4,260 lots. Currently, 3,816 residents live within our District, however the population is expected to grow to 6,095 by the year 2008.

Approximately 14.3 acres are earmarked for future commercial and or multi-family development. In anticipation, this area has been provided perimeter trunk underground water distribution, wastewater collection, and storm drainage facilities.

The expansion of Water Plant #2 is complete, as well as the construction of a new ground storage tank, with a second one under construction. The rehabilitation of the Pheasant Creek subdivision infrastructure is planned for the future along with additional waste water treatment capacity.

The District faces numerous challenges in the future, including compliance and conversion to surface water, which will include extra costs that will impact everyone. We also anticipate stricter enforcement of rules that protect our storm sewers, rising fuel and utility costs, and as well as other new regulatory requirements. It is certainly accurate to say that **change is a certainty** in Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 25.

What You Should Know about Storm Water Pollution... and What You Can Do to Prevent it!

Stormwater runoff occurs when rain flows over the ground. Urban storm water runoff is a serious concern because it may be contaminated with pesticides, fertilizers, animal droppings, trash, food wastes, automotive by-products and other toxic substances that are part of the urban environment. Storm water runoff that flows over streets, parking lots, construction sites and industrial facilities can carry these pollutants through the storm water drainage system directly into local bayous, channels and ditches.

Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the bodies of water we use for swimming, fishing, and recreation and which also may provide drinking water.



Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people. Sediment, for example, can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow, and can also destroy aquatic habitats.

Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.

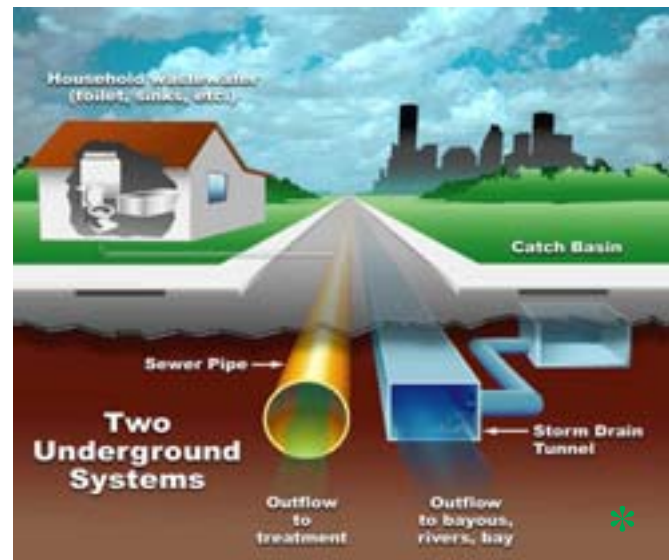
Stormwater runoff can also wash bacteria and other pathogens into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.

Debris -- such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts -- washed into waterbodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.



Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources.



This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

StormWater Pollution Solutions

Education is essential to changing people's behavior. Signs and markers near storm drains warn residents that pollutants entering the drains will be carried untreated into a local waterbody.

Residential

Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil and other auto fluids. Don't pour them onto the ground or into storm drains.



* Graphic source:
www.cleanwaterclearchoice.org

Lawn Care

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.

- Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.



Auto Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

Pet Waste

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters.

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by al-



lowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

Residential Landscaping

- Permeable Pavement -- traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead, these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.
- Rain Barrels—You can collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.



- Rain Gardens and Grassy Swales -- Specially designed areas

planted with native plants can provide natural places for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from rooftop areas or paved areas can be diverted into these areas rather than into storm drains.

- Vegetated Filter Strips -- Filter strips are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.

Construction

Erosion controls that aren't maintained can cause excessive amounts of sediment and debris to be carried into the stormwater system. Construction vehicles can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater and deposited into local waterbodies.

- Divert stormwater away from disturbed or exposed areas of the construction site.
- Install silt fences, vehicle mud removal areas, vegetative cover, and other sediment and erosion controls and properly maintain them, especially after rainstorms.
- Prevent soil erosion by minimizing disturbed areas during construction projects, and seed and mulch bare areas as soon as possible. ♣



Irrigation System Conservation Tips

The goal of any irrigation system is to give plants a sufficient amount of water without waste. By using a zone irrigation system, grassy areas can be watered separately and more frequently than groundcover plants, shrubs and trees.



Sprinkler irrigation is the most common used method of landscape watering. Two types of sprinkler irrigation systems that are common are the hose-end sprinkler and the permanent underground system. Both systems require little maintenance and apply large volumes of water in a short time.



Residents who have permanent sprinkler systems should make sure the sprinkler heads are adjusted properly to avoid watering sidewalks and driveways. Also, a properly adjusted sprinkler head sprays large droplets of water instead of a fog of fine mist which is more susceptible to evaporation and wind drift. The use of a timer for both systems is also recommended.

Studies recommend that St. Augustine and Bermuda grass be watered 1 inch every 5 to 7 days. To determine how much water your sprinkler system applies, follow these steps:

- Set three to five empty cans at different distances from the sprinkler heads.
- Run the sprinkler for 30 minutes.
- Add the number of inches of water in all the cans and divide the total by the number of cans to obtain the average.
- Multiply the average by two to determine how many inches of water are applied in one hour.
- Subtract the rainfall received from 1 inch to determine water needed. Run the sprinkler timer for the correct amount of time based on the number of inches the sprinkler applies in an hour.

Plan to water during the early morning or evening hours since evaporation losses will be up to 60 percent higher during the day. Also, do not water on windy days.



Other items to help reduce water use include:

- Do not cut grass too short. Longer blades of grass will reduce evaporation.
- Use mulches in flower and shrub beds.
- Leave grass clipping on lawn after mowing. This provides a natural fertilizer.
- Use soaker hoses to water flower beds, trees and shrubs. 💧



Source: Texas A&M University Agricultural Extension and the Texas Water Development Board.

Wallace and Tomlinson Elected; Hill Re-elected to the Fort Bend County MUD No. 25 Board of Directors!

On May 15, 2004, local elections were held and three Board of Director positions for Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 25 were determined by the votes of the community. The District is pleased to say that by a solid majority, Donald (Don) Hill was re-elected, and Joseph (Joe) Wallace and Robert (Bob) Tomlinson were elected to serve four-year terms.

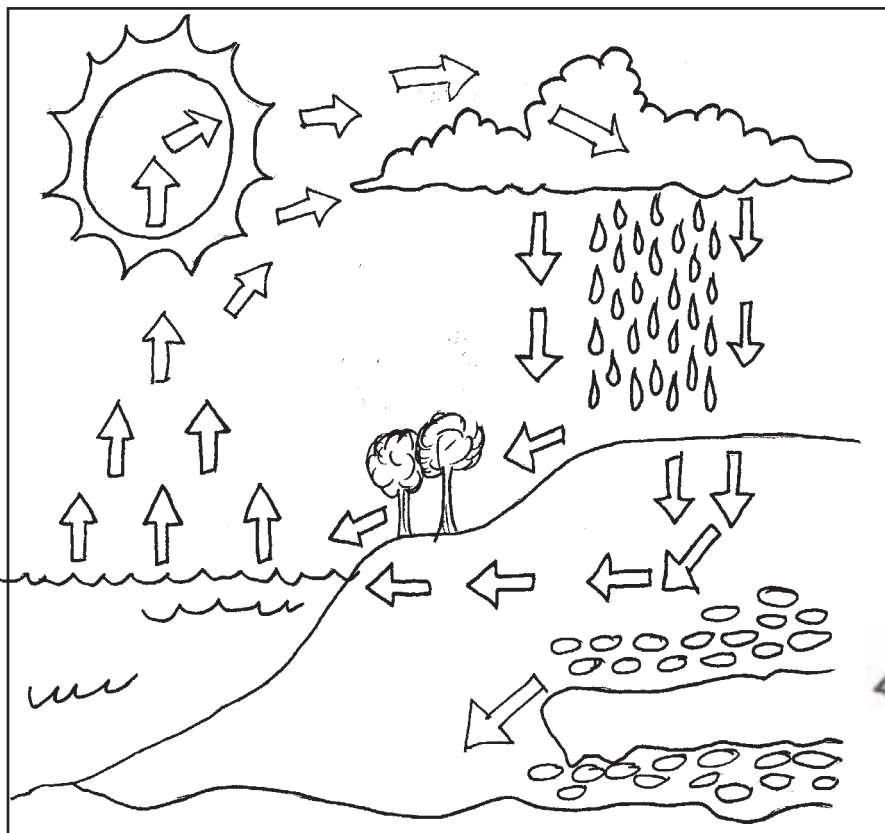
The Board of Directors, its Operations team, and District consultants have worked hard over the last six years to lower taxes, develop and implement both long and short term strategic plans, make needed capital improvements, to provide a superior level of customer service to the residents served, and to operate the district in a proactive yet cost effective manner.

The Board has also worked especially hard to keep residents informed about what is being done to ensure an adequate supply of quality, affordable water from the District. The Board has been successful in all three of these areas, and the newest additions to the Board of Directors will ensure that trend continues.

Elections are a great opportunity to provide feedback to everyone we vote for -- or, in some cases, against. The community holds those elected to represent our interests accountable for the District's actions, and every Board member is acutely aware of the responsibilities associated with this role. The Board also recognizes that it cannot be successful in the long term if election time is the only time the desires of the community are heard, so please don't wait for the ballot box to let us know how the Board of Directors are doing.

The Board invites and values the input of the residents within the District; resident input helps to be sure the Board is on the right track! Everyone recognizes that it is significantly easier to resolve problems before they are allowed to fester and escalate.

Again, thank you to all involved for the support and record turnout at the voting booth on May 15th. The Board pledges that it will continue to do everything reasonable to warrant the continued trust of the community.



Hey Kids...
Spot wants you to
color the Water
Cycle...



Visit Spot and WATERMAN on
the Kid's Page online...
www.waterdistrict25.com

James Cupp Retires after 17 years Service

After 17 years of service to the District and its residents, long term Board member James (Jim) Cupp did not seek re-election at the end of his term (May, 2004). During his tenure, Jim remained steadfast in his commitment to excellence in service to the District and its residents.

In his role as President of the Board for much of his tenure, Jim had the opportunity to watch the District grow from one with limited growth, a package sewage treatment plant, one water plant and ground storage tank, one subdivision (Pheasant Creek) with about 600 connections, and a dubious financial condition to its present day status. Today, we serve over 2,700 connections with multiple subdivisions (Park Point, Pheasant Creek, Summer Field, Stratford Park, Chelsea Harbor, Orchard Lakes and the soon-to-be annexed Oak Lake Court); two schools; and multiple commercial centers.

The sewage treatment plant has been through one expansion with further expansion planned to start in January, 2005. Three water wells with six ground storage tanks provide redundancy in the system that includes emergency generators at each facility.

The District has an extensive web site that offers an online payment capability; we publish a resident newsletter; and are guided by a mission statement and a long and short term strategic plan. The District has reduced the effective tax rate every year for more than five years, and our water rate that has not increased (except for high end users) in more than 15 years. Another highlight under Jim's leadership was the move from a "for-profit operator" -- where charges increased with every connection, to an in-house operations team whose only purpose is to provide improved levels of service to the residents and to gain economies of scale associated with growth.

The District has gone from barely surviving status to one that has completed Phase 1 of its business cycle and has moved into Phase 11. And, by improving its financial condition through its growth and progress, the District has become a business entity that is viable and stable for the long term.

Much of this has come about as a result of the leadership and dedication of board members like Jim, who were involved for the good of the community. Jim's contributions will not soon be forgotten, and will provide benefits to the residents, the District's employees, and future Board members for many years



Jim Cupp

to come.

In honor of Jim's long years of service, the District's new meeting center (adjacent to the District's administration building) has been named the James Cupp Meeting Center, with the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony planned. The building will be available for rental for public and community meetings in addition to meeting the ever-expanding needs of the District.

Thanks, Jim, for your years of service, your commitment to the residents and staff, as well as your commitment to standards of excellence in operations. Be assured that your legacy will remain for years to come.

*The Board of Directors and
the Operations Team FBCM25*



Partners In Education

Karyn Hennessy, Administrative and Billing Manager, and John Pate, Operations Manager, recently participated in the “Partners in Education” program at Garcia Middle School.

The program, “Countdown to Your Future,” was designed for eighth grade students entering high school next year. The program is taught by business leaders from various fields in the community. The primary focus of the two hour presentation and video was to encourage students to plan their “dream future”.

The program discussed the value of high school education and emphasized to students that they would need the academic foundation from high school to continue to learn new technical skills and new jobs in a continually changing economy. The presentation emphasized the importance of the high school transcript as an evaluation tool for future employers and colleges, and stressed that this record plays a key role in the decision making for entrance into community, technical and four-year colleges.

The program examined life after high school by looking at rent, food, car payments, car insurance, utilities, clothing, gasoline and

health insurance on an imaginary salary of \$24,000 per year. Students were then able to calculate how far \$24,000 per year would go.

Students were most surprised at how much Social Security and income taxes were, and were even more surprised that these taxes are withheld from paychecks *before* the final amount is determined.

The program also examined various occupations -- ranging from court reporting to chemical engineering -- and detailed what these jobs paid per year, and what types of certificates and education would be necessary to be hired for these various occupations. The presentation stressed the importance of a strong high school background in math and science and emphasized courses that are part of the Texas Scholars Program.

INROADS Program

The purpose of the INROADS program is to develop and place talented minority youth in business and industry and prepare them for corporate and community leadership opportunities. The program recruits high performing African American, Hispanic and Native American students for internship opportunities and provides a rigorous training process and helps the students set and achieve personal and academic goals.

All INROADS students must plan to pursue a degree at an accredited four-year college or university, have a B or better average and must remain in good standing with their school. All students attend regularly scheduled training and coaching sessions and the student must perform satisfactorily at their corporate sponsor. The stu-

dents are also required to participate in community service and leadership projects. The INROADS is funded through corporate sponsorship fees, foundation and grants, and contributions.

The District will be working with Sonja Gonzales, the INROADS supervisor from Stephen F. Austin High School to identify and train an INROADS student to work in the District in the Accounting/Billing and Collections area. Interested students are to contact Ms. Gonzales, at Austin High School, for further information.

Calendar Art Contest...

The District is excited to announce that it will sponsor an **art calendar contest** for Garcia Middle School 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students to give budding artists the chance to *illustrate* the importance of water conservation. Thirteen entries will be selected for the District’s 2005 conservation calendar, one for each of the 12 months and one grand prize winner that will appear on the cover.

Students whose entries are selected as the winners will receive a gift certificate for their winning entry, and all students will receive a certificate of appreciation for participation. Additionally, the District will host a reception for the contest winners and their parents or guardians, and pictures will be taken of the winners for the appropriate media. Information about this contest appears on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

A blue-ribbon panel of judges will evaluate students on theme expression, originality and creativity, and neatness/artistic execution. The final calendar will be distributed to all district residents (account connections), customers, and vendors. 💧



HEY KIDS!

We need your help to
create our 2005 Calendar...
There are prizes for
winners and their teachers!

Ft. Bend County Municipal Utility District #25 -- the people who supply the water we drink -- is sponsoring a contest for kids to create pictures for a 2005 calendar.

The theme is "USING WATER WISELY" at home, and for our lawns and gardens. Visit WATERMAN and his dog, Spot, on the www.waterdistrict25.com **Kid's Page**, for some ideas about water conservation topics.

The competition is open to youngsters who are in grades 6,7 & 8 at Garcia Middle School. The contest rules and sample entry forms follow this page.

Remember, water is our most valuable natural resource. Without it, there can be no life! So help us get this important message to our friends and neighbors... create an original picture for our calendar!

For more information, please contact the District office, 281-277-0129 ext 107, or contact us through the website, www.waterdistrict25.com.



Ft Bend County MUD #25
18230 Old Richmond Road
Sugar Land, TX 77487

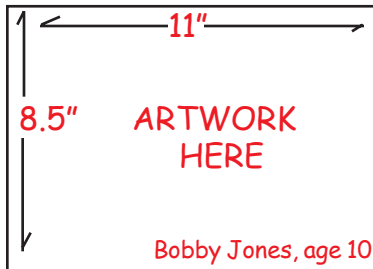




Here are the Contest Rules and Sample Entry forms...



1. Contestants must attend school at Garcia Middle School and be in grades 6, 7 or 8 during the 2004-05 school year.
2. All entries must be original art work, and be in color (crayon, magic markers, colored pencils OK) on an 8.5" x 11" piece of white paper...in the "landscape" position, with half inch margins all around..



3. All entries must be received by Garcia Middle School's Art Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 15, 2004, and each must have an entry form taped carefully to the back of the artwork. **Each entry must be signed in the lower right corner by the student. (Name and age)**
4. 13 winners -- one for the cover and 12 for the months -- will be selected by an independent panel of judges based on content, originality and expression of theme.
5. The Grand Prize winner's entry will appear on the cover, and prizes will also be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries. Teachers of the 4 top prize winners will also receive special classroom prizes.
6. Winners will be notified on November 1st at both their classrooms and homes. A special awards ceremony will be held upon publication of the calendars (time and date to be coordinated through teachers) and all prizes will be awarded at that time.

Class Entry Information:

Teacher's name _____
 Grade level: _____
 Phone: (____) _____
 Total number of students in your class who submitted calendar drawings _____
 (Each student will receive a certificate of participation.)

Student's name: _____

Grade level: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Home phone: _____

Student's name: _____

Grade level: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Home phone: _____

Student's name: _____

Grade level: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Home phone: _____

Student's name: _____

Grade level: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Home phone: _____

Student's name: _____

Grade level: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's name: _____

Home phone: _____

**Need a
Speaker?
We'll be
glad to
come and
Talk About Water!**



Water is making news again these days...and who better to learn about this critical topic from than a representative from the folks who supply and treat your drinking water.

It is not an exaggeration to say that we have all -- at one time or another -- taken our precious water supplies for granted. We turn on the faucet and the water flows at our command, right?

Unfortunately, the days of cheap and plentiful water are coming to a close and we all have a responsibility to use this natural resource more efficiently.

Water is not only essential to life, but to our lifestyle, and it is a topic that deserves your attention.

We'd like to "Talk About Water..." and we have experts available to talk to your organization on a variety of topics... including how a MUD District works; how to conserve water at home and in the yard; where our water will come from in the future.

Please contact our office to arrange a presentation by calling 281-277-0129 or by visiting our website: www.waterdistrict25.com.



GIVE IT A TRY... Pay Your Bill Online!

The District is pleased to announce that you can now pay your water and sewer bills online! All it takes to pay your bill from the comfort of your home or office is a computer with Internet access, a checking account, and your District account number.

Go to www.waterdistrict25.com, click on "**WEBPAY**," and follow the instructions. Eliminate the expense of postage and envelopes as well as the inconvenience of writing checks. Reduce the worry associated with lost mail. Rely on WEBPAY, the fast and easy way to pay your bill!

Online Bill Payment Services

Those who utilize an online bill payment service should **allow seven-ten days for postal mail delivery**, since **online payments are not an electronic transfer of funds**. The check is actually mailed to the District office.

ACH Bill Payments Residents can sign up for ACH bill Payment Service by contacting the District. The payment is an electronic transfer of funds, and your water bill account is credited the same day funds are debited from your account. (**NOTE: Due to the length of time involved in processing and establishing ACH transactions for payment of monthly water bills, the District will implement a \$1.00 processing fee for all ACH payment transactions effective February 1, 2004. The processing fee won't cover the complete cost but will help offset some associated expenses. Thank you for your continued understanding in this matter.**)

BOARD ANNOUNCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR USE OF DISTRICT MEETING FACILITIES

The District Board of Directors has recently voted to allow its new conference room facility, (*James Cupp Meeting Center*) to be used by groups and individuals as a benefit to the residents of the District, as well as the local community. The facility is adjacent to our office and is located at 18310 Old Richmond Road, Sugar Land, Texas 77478.

The District will block out the times during which all or part of the Meeting Center will be used by the Board or for District purposes, and the remaining times shall be available for use by groups in accordance with the procedures and policies adopted by the board.

Any group or individual may reserve the James Cupp Meeting Center on a first-come, first-served basis, after completing a *Reservation Application Form* provided by the District. The form must be signed by persons over eighteen years of age who agrees to be ultimately responsible for the facility use and to be present during the use of the Meeting Center. The form must be accompanied by the appropriate deposit.

Once the application is reviewed, accepted, and the reservation is acknowledged by the District's representative, the fee must be paid when the key and entry codes are picked up.

No User shall allow any group or individual to use the **James Cupp Meeting Center** during the User's term of occupancy other than those making the application and approved for use of the Center.

Fees and deposits for use of the James Cupp Meeting Cen-



ter are determined by the type of "User" and are as follows:

■ Non-profit, public service organizations having a significant relationship to the District, represented by the number of District residents enrolled in or served by the organization, will be required to make a \$25.00 deposit for each use of the Center, and pay a \$50.00 fee for each use of the Center. (*Youth groups, local churches, school-affiliated groups, and the local fire department meet this definition, and other groups or associations may constitute this category of Users.*) A political subdivision of the State of Texas that uses the Meeting Center will only pay the \$25.00 deposit.

■ Individual and groups (excluding the above) using the Center for private uses -- including, but not limited to, parties, receptions, or social gatherings -- shall pay a \$100.00 fee for each use and shall make a \$250.00 security deposit.

■ For-profit groups that will provide a benefit to the District (in the form of education or health-related activities) and which charge a low or nominal fee for services

open to residents of the District, will pay a \$100.00 fee for each use with a \$100.00 deposit.

■ Purely commercial, for-profit organizations not meeting any of the standards set forth above -- including, but not limited to organizations such as Mary Kay Cosmetics, AmWay, or any commercial business, located within the District or any social or seasonal gathering of the employees affiliated with them -- will pay a fee of \$200.00 for each use and shall make a \$250.00 deposit.

Deposits must be made at the time of application and will be held by the District until an inspection following the activity determines the costs of cleaning and/or repairing the Center following the activity. Any code card or keys issued to the User must be returned to the District's representative at the scheduled inspection.

If the User fails to contact the District's representative prior to use of the Center, or to meet with the District's representative at the scheduled inspection, or to return the code card and/or keys will re-

Continued on page 8

Meeting Center Rules

Continued from page 7

sult in the forfeiture of the deposit. Costs of cleaning and/or repair or any additional charges for failure to comply with the usage agreement requirements will be deducted from the deposit and the balance, if any, returned to the User. (If the costs are greater than the amount of the deposit, the User will be liable for the entire amount. No user will be allowed to use the Center again until all costs previously incurred are paid.)



In the event that keys and/or codes to the Center are lost, User will be required to pay the cleaning and repair costs plus 20% of the cost to re-key and recode the James Cupp Meeting Center. Cleaning costs will be \$85.00 per use.

A fee of \$25.00 will be assessed for any returned checks or NSF's. Acceptable methods of payment for deposits and annual fees will be personal or business check, cashier's check or money order payable to Fort Bend M.U.D. #25, or major credit card. Cash will not be accepted.

No User may reserve the Meeting Center for more than two meetings per month unless such User is an approved organization meeting at a regularly specified

meeting time, which does not unduly interfere with the use of the Center by other authorized Users. All such Users must re-submit their application to the Board on an annual basis.



No User may use the James Cupp Meeting Center if User is found to be delinquent in either utility payments or taxes to the District.

Users are limited to the specific area approved for their use and *may not use* any other area, including the exterior of the Meeting Center, for the display of banners or signs of any sort or any other unauthorized use, except for temporary poster-sized signs placed on an area approved by the District to announce the meeting. Placement of each sign being at the sole discretion of the District.

Users are responsible for returning the Meeting Center to the same condition as they found it, and are responsible for their guests' damage and conduct, as well as their own. Drugs and alcohol are forbidden on the District's property. The District disclaims any liability for injury to or by the User or the User's guests due to the use, consumption, or influence of alcohol or any other substance.

Users may be charged a \$20.00 fee (which may be deducted from the User's deposit) if

he or she fails to secure the Center upon leaving (i.e., fails to reactivate the security system or fails to lock the facility), or User may be required to forfeit User's deposit, at the discretion of the District.

The District reserves the right to terminate any User's occupancy at any time. The District reserves the right to require that a bonded security guard be present during the times the Board deems such security necessary. Users are required to refrain from disturbing residents in the vicinity of the Center.

The District must be notified at least two days prior to the reservation date if there is a cancellation.

The hours of operation for the James Cupp Meeting Center are 8:00 AM to Midnight. Extended hours may be granted on a per case basis. The Center has a maximum capacity of 60 persons.



Special Provisions:

■ The James Cupp Meeting Center will be available for church services from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Sundays, including clean-up time. Churches may also reserve the James Cupp Meeting Center at other times for non-service functions.

■ Political organizations may reserve the Center for meetings similar to other Users, but when con-

ducting forums or panel discussions at which non-members of such groups are encouraged to attend, opposing candidates or viewpoints must be represented and allowed to make their presentations.



■ Users reserving the Center for wedding-related functions may not throw rice but may use birdseed for this purpose.

■ No firearms or other weapons will be permitted in or around the Meeting Center at any time. Nor will smoke machines be permitted in the Meeting Center.

■ No animals or pets may be allowed in the Center, unless required for medical assistance, not limited to seeing-eye dogs.

■ The James Cupp Meeting Center may not be used for any purpose which violates any State Statute, local or county ordinance or regulation, or administrative rule to which the District is subject.

■ The Board has the right to amend these Policies and Procedures at its discretion at any time without actual notice to those reserving or requesting use of the James Cupp Meeting Center. ♦

New Water Plant Now in Operation

The construction of major improvements to our water supply system is complete, and will provide increased reliability to the District's facilities by reducing the load on existing facilities and providing sufficient capacity to maintain full service if a plant component is out of service for repair.

The major improvements include construction of a new water plant in the Chelsea Harbor-Orchard Lakes area, south of Stratford Park.

Water Plant No. 3 includes all the components of a typical water plant, including two 500,000 ground storage tanks, with the first one complete and on line and the second one at approximately 80% complete. Proximity is important to overall water system pressure, and the third plant provides a source of water near new development in the District. This third plant will allow the District to provide redundancy of individual water supply compo-

nents, and has been designed so that if a particular component of one of the three plants fails, the overall system can continue to operate at full capacity.

Overall, the three water plants will provide increased flexibility to deal with drought conditions or component failure with the least impact to residents, and will allow for efficient repair of a failed component instead of an emergency "patch" to get the system back online.

The water system improvements will enable the District to withstand a major failure of a water system component through increasingly dry summers should one occur. While no water supply system can overcome every scenario of drought or component failure, the District is constructing a system which does not rely on the "keep your fingers crossed" philosophy so common in water supply systems throughout the area. ♦



DISTRICT NEWS!

DISTRICT TAX RATE REDUCED AGAIN!

Fort Bend Co. Municipal Utility District No. 25 has set its 2003 tax rate at \$0.89 per \$100 of assessed value. The **\$0.89 tax rate represents a decrease in taxes for the seventh straight year!**

The District continues to realize the economic benefit of recent growth within our area as well as sound fiscal management by the District's Board of Directors and employees.



Attention Seniors!

The Board of Directors of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 25 voted to give our resident senior citizens a break! Senior citizens are entitled to a discount on annual MUD taxes. For more complete information or to find out if you qualify, please contact Tommy Lee at Assessments of the Southwest, at 281-482-0216.

May we help you?

Our District Operations staff is here to serve you, the residents and customers of the District. Do you have a problem with your water bill? Do you have a bill that seems too high and need help to track the problem? Missing a payment? Do you have a leak, or think you have a leak, and need assistance? Do you have a problem with a backflow device? Do you need an inspection of a backflow device? Do you have a concern about a repair that may have affected your landscaping?

We are here to help! Call us at:

Billing Problems:

Talk to Liz, Karen, Ron or Tony at 281-277-0129 ext. 105, 109, or 112.

Leaks, Inspections, Problems associated with Excavations:

Talk with John, Brian, or Don Ehler at 281-277-0129, ext. 101, 113, 111, or 106.

We also have a number of methods in place to allow you quick and easy access anytime...

Communicate!



1. E-MAIL -- Our staff can be reached through the Internet! Residents may contact us at our E-Mail addresses listed on our website -- www.waterdistrict25.com -- in the "Contact Us" area.

2. REGULAR MAIL -- You can mail your comments to our Post Office Box:

Fort Bend County Municipal
Utility District No. 25

P.O. Box 2847

Sugar Land, Texas 77487-2847

3. BY PHONE --

Phone: 281-277-0129

Fax: 281-277-0028

4. MONTHLY MEETINGS --

Come to our District meeting! Your Board of Directors holds a public meeting the second Friday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at our office, located at:

18230 Old Richmond Road
Sugar Land, Texas 77478

It's up to us...Let's use our water resources wisely!

Quiz Answers: 1. One week 2. 25-50 gallons 3. 100 gallons a day 4. 75 percent 5. Two percent 6. Two to seven gallons 7. Take shorter showers -- see conservation article for more ideas, or visit the Kid's Club online, at www.waterdistrict25.com



Fort Bend County Municipal
Utility District No. 25
P.O. Box 2847
Sugar Land, Texas 77487-2847