



Harris County Water Control & Improvement District No. 36

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“A RECOGNIZED SUPERIOR WATER DISTRICT & WATER SMART PARTICIPANT”

January 2010 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year! We hope everyone's holiday season was an enjoyable and peaceful holiday time.

The District has discussed in prior newsletters that the District is proactive in applying for Grant Project funding. The District is very proud to announce that we were successful and are being awarded Grant Money for public infrastructure needs, or commonly known as water and wastewater line replacements and facilities upgrades. The state government calls it the “ARRA” funding meaning “American Recovery Reinvestment Act”. The District is pleased as this means that the District will not have to sell bonds for this construction work, and there should not be an increase on water taxes.

However, this means that there will be a lot of construction going on all at one time in the District. Part of the rules of the “ARRA” funding is the projects had to be shovel ready, and the money has to be spent in a very timely manner. This will mean some inconvenience for you the customer, but please be patient, as the ditches and driveways that are disturbed will be put back as they previously were if not better than it was.

This construction work is not expected to interfere with garbage collections however, if there is a problem please notify the District during the week Monday – Friday 8-5 or you may contact WCA directly at 281-368-8397. Trash must be at the street by 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday and Saturday. Trash being put out late will result in no trash pick-up. No remodeling material, tires, trees, or trash bags over 40 pounds will be accepted. All trash must be in containers and not set out loose at the street. WCA will not pick up any trash at vacant homes. WCA does provide special handling for customers that need this service however, this is an additional cost to you, and must be handled separately from the District. Please contact WCA directly at telephone number 281-368-8397 for special, or heavy bulky items pick up.

We know by now that you have received your water bills reflecting the increase on the water rates. Harris County WCID No. 36 is required to purchase surface water from the City of Houston, and as the City of Houston rates, increase the District must increase the rates. The first increase was January 1, 2010 at 16% and there is expected to be another second increase in March or April of this year of about 4%. We have no control or authority over the City of Houston and their setting of the rates but District 36 must comply and meet the terms of their rates. *Please remember to be “Water Smart” and for any information or questions, please call us!*

One way to keep your water bill low is through water conservation efforts. According to the Texas State Water Plan, Texas population is projected to increase by 90% by the year 2050, and water demand is projected to increase by 67% by 2050. Even with water conservation efforts and savings in the next 50 years, water supply from existing sources will only meet 75% of the projected water demand needed for the year 2050. The District has water conservation pamphlets at the office and on the website for your convenience. The District does our share for water conservation, and in doing so has received a “Water Smart Award” for being accountable for the water that we use. Please take the time to do your part for our precious water commodity. Please report any water leaks that you may notice to the District's office immediately.

The District accepts Master Card & Visa Credit cards for water bill payments and for tax payments. We also offer direct draft from your checking accounts for water bills. Please contact the office for more information.

“The Board of Directors wants to thank you for your Continued Support”

Gerardo Parra, President, Ola Mae Watts, Vice President

Gerardo Leal, Secretary, Ronald Holder, Assistant Secretary

Maria Koukoulakis, Director