



www.harriscountymud208.com

In Memory of Director Richard Huhn

On June 18, 2011, Richard Huhn, our longtime friend and Director of Harris County MUD 208 passed away. Rich had been a Director for MUD 208 since 2000, serving as the Secretary of the Board. Rich was very active on the Board and always a strong contributor. Several years ago Rich contracted Parkinson's disease. He was able to maintain a good lifestyle over the years. Rich put up more than a good fight and never lost his good attitude and sense of humor, but he finally succumbed to complications from the disease. Rich will certainly be missed by the Board, his family and all those who knew him.

Conservation Committee Formed

A little over a year ago a Conservation Committee was formed by the Board. The charge of the committee has been to find ways to (1) provide information to our customers and (2) find practical ways to encourage conservation. We wanted to share some of the products of the committee and the Board.

1. The monthly usage by our customers has been monitored for the top 10 users each quarter. Letters are sent to these users to notify them their usage far exceeds the average usage. It appears that some high usage has been caused by a leak or other identifiable cause since the usage has dropped to a more normal level after the letters were sent.
2. A graphic usage presentation was added to our water bill to allow our customers to see how their usage compares to both the average for the District and their own usage from the previous year. We think this is a valuable tool for our customers to monitor their usage.

3. A new Landscape Irrigation Audit program is being tested. With landscape irrigation being the largest single usage of water, we wanted to help our customers make sure their irrigation is set up properly and not wasting their water and money. This program is currently being initiated as a pilot program and we hope to make it available to all our customers with irrigation systems. If you are interested in the program, please contact our operator – H₂O Consulting for more details.
4. Our summer rate structure was reviewed and updated to encourage conservation. For most customers, the rates stayed the same. But for the users that have monthly usage far above average, a new higher rate tier was created for usage in excess of 30 thousand gallons. The primary purpose is to encourage conservation.
5. Several years ago the District funded the recirculation system that was a part of the new splash pad. Last year the system came under new regulations which were going to require a significant expenditure to maintain the recirculation system or convert to single use water usage. The Board decided to fund half the cost to bring the system in compliance with the regulation and maintain the recirculation system.
6. The irrigation systems for the common areas maintained by the Homeowners Association were reviewed. The District decided to fund the installation of new controller systems that self-adjusted in response to weather conditions in an effort to reduce the water usage and the associated cost.

These are some of the things we have done to help everyone conserve our water. Information from our current usage data indicates that there is a reduced usage even in the drought we are experiencing. We will continue to work to help save water and money. If you have any ideas, we would be glad to hear from you.

Voluntary Water Conservation Measures

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality "TCEQ" has requested that water utilities throughout the state implement voluntary water conservation measures due to the extreme drought conditions. Effective upon receipt of this notice and until notified otherwise, the Board of Directors of Harris County MUD No. 208 is hereby requesting that residents of Harris County MUD No. 208 participate in voluntary water restrictions in an effort to reduce water demands during this period of drought.

Currently the District's water requirements are being met by surface water from the West Harris County Regional Water Authority "WHCRWA", and the District's water well. If the District's water supply from WHCRWA is reduced due to high water supply demands or line repairs, the Board may implement mandatory water conservation measures.

Voluntary Water Restrictions

District residents and other users of water within the District with even-numbered addresses may only use water outdoors on even-numbered dates. District residents and other users of water within the District with odd-numbered addresses may only use water outdoors on odd-numbered dates. In the event no address exists, users may only use water on even-numbered dates.

Outdoor water use shall be restricted to between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. and between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 p.m. (midnight) to limit evaporation loss.

The District also would like to discourage all waste of water, for example:

- Mis-directed sprinklers.
- Using water to clean sidewalk or street.
- Washing grass clippings to storm sewer line.
- Watering landscaping during and after rainfall events.

The Board of Directors appreciates your cooperation to reduce the stress on the District's and WHCRWA water systems. If the District implements water conservation rates, mandatory water restrictions or removes the voluntary water restrictions, information will be mailed to the customers and updated on the Districts website. Signs will be posted at the entrances to the District.

If you have any questions or concerns about the District's water supply, please contact the Districts operator, H₂O Consulting at 281 861-6215. Conservation information and updates can also be obtained at the Districts website www.harriscountymud208.com.

Water Websites

- **Harris County M.U.D. 208** - www.harriscountymud208.com
- Texas Water Resources Institute - twri.tamu.edu
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - www.tceq.state.tx.us
- Texas Water Development Board - www.twbd.state.tx.us
- Lower Colorado River Authority - www.lcra.org
- American Water Works Association - www.awwa.org
- Environmental Protection Agency - www.epa.gov
- EPA children's website with related activities - www.epa.gov/lids
- West Harris County Regional Water Authority - www.whcrwa.com