# Harris County Municipal Utility District

## THIRD QUARTER • 2022



PATRICK CATHCART

BRUCE COX

MICHAEL OLSEN SECRETARY

GEORGE GOFF TREASURER

**DONNA BROWN** ASSISTANT SECRETARY



WATER BILL MDS: 281-290-6500 (24/7)

**WATER OR SEWER ISSUES** MDS: 281-290-6500 (24/7)

**TRASH SERVICE** BEST TRASH: 281-313-2378

TAX BILL/PAYMENT WHEELER & ASSOCIATES: 713-462-8906

GENERAL QUESTIONS ABHR/LEGAL: 713-860-6400

HARRIS COUNTY MUD 81

805 Hidden Canyon Katy, Texas, 77450 281-392-8112 hcmud81@comcast.net hcmud81.com

# Note from the Roard of Directors

Happy Summer from the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 81 (MUD 81) Board of Directors! This summer, Harris County and MUD 81 will be continuing multiple improvements projects throughout the community, which are designed to improve the resiliency of our facilities, reduce future flood risk, and prepare our infrastructure to serve all of us for another generation. Although MUD 81 will use its best efforts to minimize the impact of these projects, they will require temporary disruption



to certain neighborhood streets, sidewalks, driveways, and other areas. The MUD 81 Board encourages you to visit http://www.bjconcepts.com/hcmud81/ signup.html to sign up for our voluntary e-mail and text alert system to receive the latest MUD 81 information directly to your inbox or text app. We thank you for your understanding and patience as we work to complete these important improvements to our system.

#### **Report from Spring Community Shred Event**



On April 30th, the MUD 81 Board and its garbage and recycling provider, Best Trash, held the most recent free community shred event for MUD 81 residents. Residents delivered 2,600 pounds of materials to be shredded and recycled, which translates to:

- 25 trees saved
- 685 gallons of water saved
- 1,050 kilowatts of energy saved
- 7.1 cubic yards of landfill space saved

The MUD 81 Board would like to thank all the residents who participated and helped to make this event such a success!

#### Save the date for the next FREE community shred event for MUD 81 residents!



• DATE: Saturday October 15, 2022, from 9 am-noon

 LOCATION: Parking Lot across from the MUD 81 administration building, at 805 Hidden Canyon, Katy, TX 77450

• Please remember to bring a current MUD 81 utility bill as proof of residence!

#### **Storm System Improvements**

For nearly four years, MUD 81 has been coordinating with Harris County regarding Harris County's proposed drainage improvements within MUD 81 for the Memorial Parkway Subdivision and Cimarron Subdivision – Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5. Harris County has hired the MUD 81 Engineer, BGE, Inc. (BGE), to provide engineering services for both projects, and the engineering work is underway. As discussed in previous newsletters, the purpose of the projects is to improve the District's decades-old drainage system and reduce the risk of future flooding within the community. Costs for the projects will be shared between Harris County, MUD 81, and as appropriate, other area MUDs that will benefit from the improvements. MUD 81's share of the drainage improvements will be funded by the issuance of bonds, which were authorized by MUD 81's voters at the election held on May 1, 2021.

Sign up for MUD 81 email and text alerts at http://www.bjconcepts.com/hcmud81/signup.html

# Harris County Municipal Utility District No.

#### Cimarron Sections 2,3,4, & 5: **ATTENTION!**



Following advertisement for competitive bids, during spring 2022 Harris County awarded the Cimarron Subdivision – Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 drainage improvements project to the lowest qualified bidder. However, due to concerns related to the bidding process, Harris County recently rebid the contract, which will delay the start of the project. The proposed improvements include upsizing storm sewer lines, installing additional surface drains, and upsizing the outfall into the adjacent Harris County Flood Control District channel to help increase drainage capacity.

In March 2022, Harris County held a public meeting for affected residents and other interested members of the public to discuss the improvements project and its impact on

adjacent residents. The areas expected to be most directly impacted from the project include: (1) Indian Ridge Drive between Cimarron Parkway and Copper Creek Drive; (2) Copper Creek Drive between Red Rock Canyon Drive and Powder River Drive; (3) Rock Canyon Drive between Indian Ridge Drive and Red Rock Canyon Drive; (4) the corner of Red River Drive and Red Rock Canyon Drive; (5) Cimarron Parkway between Indian Ridge Drive and Red Rock Canyon Drive; and (6) Red Rock Canyon Drive between Cimarron Parkway and North Fork Drive. Residents in these areas may experience street, sidewalk, and driveway disruptions as work progresses in their area. Please be on the look out for additional information regarding the start date for the project and closures in those areas.

#### **Memorial Parkway:**

BGE has completed the field work and is continuing with the design of the Memorial Parkway drainage improvements. The proposed improvements include upsizing storm sewer lines, installing additional surface drains, and constructing a new detention pond underneath the power lines north of Highland Knolls. In late August 2020, Harris County notified MUD 81 that the County had redefined the scope of the Memorial Parkway project to include significant additional detention/ mitigation capacity, which they stated would be required due to new drainage criteria. Discussions are still ongoing regarding the design and location of new detention facilities. Because of the regional benefit that the detention facilities would provide, MUD 81 has requested and Harris County has agreed to coordinate with other nearby MUDs to request that those MUDs also share in the costs of the project.

#### **Future Improvements to Barker Reservoir:**

Improvements to the drainage systems as outlined in the two projects above are expected to impact Barker Reservoir. Barker Reservoir's operations and improvements are controlled by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Any future mitigation/detention projects within Barker Reservoir will affect all MUDs that contribute stormwater to this reservoir. It is anticipated improvements to Barker Reservoir would be considered as a regional improvement and, therefore, costs will be shared by all affected MUDs.

#### **Ongoing Construction Projects:**

- Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Memorial Parkway Sections No. 1 & No. 2. MUD 81 advertised for competitive bids for the Memorial Parkway Sections 1 and 2 sanitary sewer rehabilitation project and has awarded the project to the lowest qualified bidder, Texas Pride Utilities, LLC. Work is nearing completion.
- Alternate Fill Lines for Ground Storage Tanks at Water Plant No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4. MUD 81 advertised for competitive bids for the addition of an additional fill line for the ground storage tanks at water plant nos. 1, 2, and 4 and has awarded the project to the lowest qualified bidder, Blastco Texas, Inc. Work is in process.
- Disinfection System Upgrades at Water Plant No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4. MUD 81 advertised for competitive bids for the upgrade of disinfection systems at all four water plants and has awarded the project to the lowest qualified bidder, W.W. Payton, Inc. Work is in process.
- **Capital Improvement Plan Update.** MUD 81 is updating its existing Capital Improvement Plan to ensure that all water and wastewater facilities remain fully operational and are resilient to extreme weather events. The plan includes future rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer collection lines and replacement of water plant equipment that is at the end of its useful service life.

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SEVERE

WEATHER

#### **Getting Ready for Summer Weather**

Summer in the Houston area can bring extreme heat, floods, hurricanes, thunderstorms, and other dangers. Get ready now so you will be prepared when disaster strikes. Please visit Harris County's emergency preparedness website, http://www. readyharris.org, to sign up for emergency alerts and for more important information.

#### **Dealing with the Summer Heat:**

When temperatures soar, it sometimes can be difficult to find enough activities to beat the heat. Harris County Public Libraries currently are open and can be a great place to cool down and enjoy a new book. The closest location for MUD 81 residents is at 1815 Westgreen Blvd., near the intersection of Westgreen and Highland Knolls. For more information regarding hours and occupancy restrictions, please visit https://www.hcpl.net/.

It also is helpful to familiarize yourself with the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Know the signs and be ready to seek immediate medical attention if needed.



#### Severe Weather:

When a hurricane, tropical storm, thunderstorm, or other severe weather is in the forecast, monitor your local TV, radio stations, and websites for the latest information. Fuel your vehicles and any generators, and check and replenish your disaster supply kit as needed. Secure or bring in any outdoor furniture or other objects that could blow away and cause damage during high wind events. Be ready to evacuate immediately, if advised.

After severe weather, continue to monitor the weather forecast and follow the recommendations of local authorities. Assess any damage as it is safe to do so, and report downed power lines to CenterPoint Energy at (713) 207-2222. **Do not touch downed power lines!** 

For rainfall totals, please visit: https://www.harriscountyfws.org/. If streets or other areas are still flooded, remember to never walk, swim, or drive through flood waters.

### TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!

#### **Helpful Phone Numbers:**

- In the event of an emergency, dial 911
- Harris County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Number: 713-221-6000
- MUD 81 24-hour line for water/sewer issues: 281-290-6500
- Harris County: 713-755-5000
- Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management: 713-881-3100
- Harris County Toll Road Authority Roadside Assistance (daily from 5:00 am-midnight): 281-584-7500

#### Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Residents of MUD 81 and other areas in Harris County outside of the City of Houston city limits may make an appointment to use Harris County's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility, located at 6900 Hahl Road, Houston, TX 77040, to properly dispose of HHW items from their homes that they no longer want. HHW disposal services are **free** for residents of unincorporated Harris County!

#### Which HHW Items Do They Accept?

Some jobs around the home may require the use of products containing hazardous components that are flammable, corrosive, toxic, or reactive. Some of these products are identified by such words as "warning," "danger," "toxic," "corrosive," "irritant," "flammable" or "caution" on their labels.

When HHW is disposed in our trash cans, it can contaminate landfills, and subsequently, our groundwater. When dumped onto the ground or poured into the storm sewer, HHW can contaminate surface water. In either case, water contamination results in higher water treatment costs and may have a detrimental effect on the ecosystem.

You can make a difference by bringing these items to Harris County's HHW Facility so they can be properly disposed for a cleaner and safer environment.

## ACCEPTED ITEMS

Items accepted include, but are not limited to:

- Household cleaners
- Yard products (fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, etc.)
- Automobile products (gas, motor oil, antifreeze, etc.)
- Pool chemicals
- Paint and paint related products
- Fats, oils and greases (FOG)
- Batteries (small to car battery size)
- Tires (up to 4 per visit)
- Items containing mercury
- CFL and fluorescent tubes
- Aerosols (except for Freon and mace)
- Fire extinguishers
- Small and BBQ sized propane cylinders

Harris County Household Hazardous Waste 6900 Hahl Road (at SH 290 and Gessner) Houston, Texas 77040



### **ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED**

The HHW Facility does NOT accept the following items:

- Electronics (computers, TVs, etc.)
- Traditional recyclables (paper, cans, plastic, glass, etc.)
- Smoke detectors
- Business waste
- Household appliances
- Medical, biological or radioactive waste
- Explosives (including ammunition and fireworks)
- Compressed gas cylinders (including freon, helium and oxygen cylinders)
- Heavy trash or household trash

#### Household Hazardous Waste Contacts:

Program Manager, Cheryl Burton-Fentress Information: 346-286-4299 · hhw@eng.hctx.net

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY:** Please visit www.eng.hctx.net/Consultants/Household-Hazardous/Appointment-for-HHW-Facility to schedule an appointment to properly dispose of your HHW.