

CHISHOLM TRAIL S.U.D.
P.O. BOX 249
FLORENCE, TX 76527
(254) 793-3103
WWW.CTSUD.ORG

Chisholm Chat

9TH EDITION

APRIL 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- **Banking Online Bill Pay May Result in Late Fee**
- **Investment in Fire Hydrants to Help Protect Customers**
- **Board of Directors Election May 8, 2010**
- **Spring Is Here: Time to Conserve Water**
- **Sign Up for Automatic Bank Drafting**
- **Projects Underway**

Board of Directors

Gordon Eurom
President

Marcus Canipe
Vice President

Cash Mullen
Secretary

Mary Wilson
Treasurer

Mike Giguere
Director

Gary Goodman
Director

Bob Johnson
Director

General Manager
Jennifer McKnight

Online Bill Payers Beware of Late Fees

Many customers are now using online bill pay through their banks to pay their water bills. The banks indicate an estimated delivery date for the payment to be received at the District office. Unfortunately, many of these payments are not reaching the office by the due date and the customers are incurring a late fee penalty. Many customers believe

that because the bank automatically debits their account for the charge that the District has received the payment. Yet in reality the bank mails the District a check and it can take up to ten days to reach our



office. Additionally, if payment is not received by the due date on a final notice, a collection fee will be assessed and water service can be disconnected. Customers should beware that since payment may take several days to reach the office, online bill payments should be scheduled at least ten (10) days in advance.

Fire Hydrant Project To Start Soon

To better serve customers, Chisholm Trail is starting a fire hydrant installation project. District staff inspected the service area to determine locations without hydrants or flushing valves that can be used to fill pumper trucks during a fire. Staff identified a total of 17 areas to install hydrants for fire department use and the District plans to install up to five hydrants per year.

Bids were currently solicited from area contractors to install four fire hydrants. The cost to install each hydrant is estimated to be \$4500. Although Chisholm Trail does not provide fire flow to allow fire trucks to directly connect to and pump from hydrants, having fire hydrants in populated areas can aid in fire fighting by providing a water source in close proximity. Fire departments can

refill pumper trucks at the hydrant and use the water to put out a fire.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION MAY 8, 2010

The District is holding a joint election with Williamson County to elect three members to the Board of Directors. Election Day is May 8, 2010, and early voting is April 26, 2010 to May 4, 2010. Polling locations are available on the Williamson County website at www.williamson-county.org and select "Elections." Also, see the insert enclosed with your bill.

**CONSERVE WATER
THIS SPRING!**

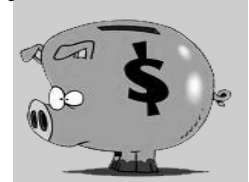
Spring is finally here which means, blooming flowers, green lawns, and warm and dry weather. Water conservation will be most critical for the next few months. Here are some tips to help conserve water.

- Eliminate leaks by turning faucets off completely and replace old gaskets. A single dripping faucet can waste as much as 3600 gallons a year.
- Reuse bath water or excess water as you await water temperature to adjust for other uses such as watering plants in or near the house.
- Hold your garden hose close to the roots of plants so that there's little waste and evaporative loss (soaker hoses are even more efficient).
- Use the principles of Xeriscape (pronounced ZERE-AH-SCAPE). This landscaping method uses native and drought-tolerant plants, mulch to hold in moisture, and grouping plants according to your water and light needs. Xeriscaping information is available from the District office for FREE. Call (254) 793-3103 to order yours today!

Automatic Bill Pay: Free and Easy

Automatic Bill Pay will help you in several ways:

- Save time – fewer checks to write.
- Payments are always on time – even if you're on vacation or out of town.
- No lost or misplaced statements, your payment is always on time.
- Save postage.
- Easy to sign up for, easy to cancel.



Please include a voided check or savings slip. If you have any questions, we would be happy to assist you. Call us at (254) 793-3103. Complete and mail or deliver to:

C.T.S.U.D. • 851 FM 970 • P.O. Box 249 • Florence, TX 76527

I hereby authorize Chisholm Trail Special Utility District to initiate debit entries by electronic means to my account at the Bank indicated below. This authorization shall remain in effect until both Chisholm Trail Special Utility District and my Bank have received written notification from the undersigned to terminate this agreement. I understand that I am required to provide written notice of cancelation of bank drafting at least seven (7) business days in advance of the drafting date, that I will be charged a return check/draft fee if a bank drafting is rejected for any reason, and that any changes to this agreement must be submitted in writing to Chisholm Trail Special Utility District.

_____ Name on Account	_____ Service Address	_____ Water Account Number
_____ Bank Name	_____ Bank Routing Number	_____ Bank Account Number
<input type="checkbox"/> Checking <input type="checkbox"/> Savings	_____ Telephone Number	
	_____ Signature	_____ Date

Please include a voided check.

Projects Underway to Serve You Better

Chisholm Trail S.U.D. has been busy keeping up with the incredible growth in the area and with improvements to serve all customers of the District. Currently major improvement projects are underway at an estimated cost of over \$24 million dollars! These projects include water line upgrades, improvements to the existing surface water treatment plant, and a future new water treatment plant.

Smaller water lines are being replaced with larger lines to ensure water can be distributed to customers throughout the system. On Williams Drive the District is upgrading the existing 15" water line with a new 24" water line. An 8" waterline is being relocated

and replaced on Highway 195 north of Florence, and 4" and 6" waterlines on Highway 195 south of Florence are being replaced with an 8" water line. A new 24" transmission line was recently completed on the first phase of Ronald Reagan Drive.

The District is also working in partnership with the City of Georgetown to improve the water plant at Lake Georgetown. New sludge handling facilities, a new 3 million gallon ground storage tank, and a new pump station are some of the improvements underway at the plant. The initial improvements will result in an additional 1 million gallons per day of water available for District customers. The second phase

of the project will result in an additional 4.4 million gallons per day of available water. The initial phase should be online this summer and the second phase will be completed in the spring of 2012.

The District and the City of Georgetown are also working together to build a second water plant at Lake Georgetown. The environmental impact study is currently underway.

Chisholm Trail S.U.D. is committed to providing high quality drinking water to our customers. If you would like more information on any of these projects, please contact the office by telephone at (254) 793-3103 or by e-mail at info@ctsud.org.