

DISTRICT NEWS

December, 2010

YOU CAN HELP THE DISTRICT (and yourself) SHOP CASTLE HILLS

When you shop, choose a Castle Hills retailer first. Through an agreement with the City of Lewisville, retailers in Castle Hills now charge the 1% Lewisville municipal sales tax rate. Those tax dollars collected by the retailers are used to cover the expense of providing public safety services to the District, reducing the need to cover those expenses through property taxes or utility revenues. Funds in excess of the public safety expense are shared by the City of Lewisville and the Districts offsetting District debt obligations or as a new revenue source.

The District website, www.dentoncountyfwsd.com, provides a list of retailers in the Village Shops and the Lewisville Towne Crossing (Target center) for your convenience. By shopping at our retailers first, you are providing a direct benefit to the community.

NEW FEATURE - BUDGET BILLING

For the past few months, District 1-A has been testing a new Budget Billing feature in our Utility Billing software that will provide customers an easy way to even out your water bills on a year-round basis. The amount of your monthly payment is based on a rolling 12-month average of your consumption amount. Changes to the average monthly usage will result in changes each month of the budget bill total amount. The average is recalculated during each billing cycle, which will cause your payment amount to fluctuate somewhat from month to month, but it should help reduce your highest summer water bills. This feature will be available beginning January, 2011.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation is typically thought of during the hot summer months when the water system is taxed at its highest levels. However, it is just as important to be conservative during the winter months when the need for outdoor water use is at its lowest. During the winter months, overwatering landscaping causes excessive water run-off in the streets and alleys which can cause icy conditions. Check your irrigation system controller and reduce the number of days, reduce the time each zone is running or turn the system off and manually operate your irrigation system only when needed.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT GROUND STORAGE TANK AND PUMPING FACILITIES

The District was awarded funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 to construct a new 1 million gallon ground storage water tank and new water pumping facilities. This project is nearing completion and is expected to be fully operational by the end of January, 2011. Customers will enjoy increased redundancy and reliability which will provide a more reliable water system.

DID YOU KNOW?

- You can pay your District utility bill either on-line through our website at www.dentoncountyfwsd.com or set-up monthly automatic bill pay through our office staff.
- Rosa's Mexican Cantina is now open in the Lewisville Towne Crossing Development adjacent to our Target.
- There were 294 new home permits issued from October 2009 through September 2010.
- There have been 16 new home permits issued for October, 2010. 6 new home permits were issued in November, 2010.
- Customers purchased 56.8 million gallons of water in October, 2010 an increase of 28.9 million gallons from October, 2009. That represents an average increase of 10,366 gallons per resident this year.
- Castle Hills currently has 2,309 homes with an estimated population of 8,035.
- If you need after hour assistance from the District, you can call (972) 709-2359 for our on-call service.
- School is back in session. Please watch before and after school for children walking to and from our schools.