

## DISTRICT NEWS

September, 2012

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Customers purchased 74.78 million gallons of water in August 2012. That's a decrease of 21.44 million gallons compared to last year. Thanks for your water conservation efforts.
- Castle Hills currently has 2,694 homes with an estimated population of 9,429.
- Most roadways in Castle Hills have only one lane in each direction, unless divided by painted lane markings or roadway buttons, regardless of the width of the roadway.

### TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please remember that most streets in the Castle Hills community are 25 mph, with the exception of Windhaven. Following the posted traffic signs will not only help your wallet, but will also help keep our community safe.

### WHO DO I CALL?

Have you ever wondered how to have a street light repaired, a street sign fixed, how to report a water leak, or any other type of "city service" type question? The District has several avenues to assist our residents to answer these questions and respond to areas of concern. During normal business hours you can call (972) 899-4000 to speak to one of our staff members. After hours we have a 24-hour call service, (972) 709-2359, that can dispatch our on-call staff to address emergency issues. Our website, [www.dentoncountyfwsd.com](http://www.dentoncountyfwsd.com) has a link that allows residents to send a notification of an area of concern. We are here to help keep this community safe and working to your expectations. Please let us know if we can be of assistance.

### ANNUAL BUDGET MEETINGS

In August, each of the District Boards of Directors began the Operating Budget review and approval process for fiscal year 2012/13, which begins October 1. If you have an interest in seeing how your tax dollars are used, please attend one of the September Board meetings. If you would like to review budget recommendations, budget documents, or other budgeting information, please visit our website at [www.dentoncountyfwsd.com](http://www.dentoncountyfwsd.com).

### COMING SOON

You Can Help the District (and yourself) by Shopping Castle Hills First!

#### Company

Del Taco

Schlotzsky's Sandwich Shop

Dairy Queen

The Lewisville Medical Emergency Center

#### Location

Lewisville Towne Crossing

Lewisville Towne Crossing

Lewisville Towne Crossing

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### WHY CONSERVE WATER?

Texas' conventional fresh-water supplies are already 75 to 80 percent developed. The more efficient use of our precious water resources through water conservation and reuse holds a real potential to both preserve and extend limited water supplies and to save Texans real money. The largest saver is you, the customer. Consider that even a 10 to 15 percent reduction in personal water use can save Texas' water and sewer rate payers billions of dollars over the next 50 years. However, the effort to conserve water must begin now with each individual.

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## **WATER CONSERVATION IN THE HOME**

A typical family uses 60–80 gallons of water per person per day. That's 240 - 320 gallons for a family of four for one day. As our population increases, an increase in the amount of water used has overburdened municipal and private sewage treatment systems in many areas. In other areas, water is becoming a scarce commodity. There is actually a limit on the amount of water that is available for our use. In some areas, the cost for water has increased drastically.

To get a better understanding of how do we use water inside the home, let's look at the amount and percentage of water used inside your home.

### **TYPICAL SINGLE FAMILY HOME USE**

The largest water users inside the home are the shower, clothes washer, and toilets, accounting for about two-thirds of the water used in an average household. Toilets use up to 27% of the household water supply while clothes washers use 20.9% and showers account for 17.3%. Faucets account for about 15.3% and leaks account for 13.8% of a family's water use. Dishwashers, baths, and other account for the remaining water use. As you can see, about 72.5 gallons of water are used by each family member each day.

By implementing conservation practices and installing water conserving equipment, a family can reduce their inside water use, per person per day, to 49.6 gallons of water or less.

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## **WATER CONSERVATION TIPS**

### **INDOORS**

- Water leaks inside and outdoors should be fixed. Put food coloring in your toilet, if it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. An inexpensive seal can save over 1,000 gallons per month.
- Install water efficient appliances for optimum water savings.
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes
- Letting water run while shaving or brushing your teeth can add up to hundreds of gallons per month that could be saved by just turning the water off.
- Left over water can be reused on house plants, instead of throwing it down the sink.
- Efficient shower heads and toilets can save over 750 gallons per month.

### **OUTDOORS**

- Water early in the morning or after sunset to minimize evaporation. (Stage 2 Water Restrictions)
- Avoid overfilling swimming pools.
- Treat the soil with mulch or compost.
- Employ a pool cover to reduce evaporation.
- Rely on plantings of native and adapted vegetation.
- Stop cutting grass too short. Keep grass 2-3 inches tall to shade root systems.
- End over fertilizing that causes polluted runoff and additional water needs.