

DCFWS D 1-A NEWS

October, 2011

STAGE 1 WATER MANAGEMENT IN EFFECT

On October 3, 2011, the District changed from Water Management Stage 2, which involves mandatory restrictions back to Stage 1 Water Management, which is voluntary. While the outdoor water restrictions have been relaxed, all customers are encouraged to continue to conserve water. The ability for the District to provide a dependable water source for fire protection and customer use is one of our highest priorities. The wasteful use of water strains the District's water system and makes it difficult to allow voluntary watering use. There have been many articles and news stories regarding the potential for North Texas to be in a drought period that will last several years. Our main water sources, Lake Lewisville and Lake Ray Roberts have maintained levels which are higher than many places within Texas which allows us to have minimal restrictions. However, if the predictions are accurate, everybody in North Texas should expect much stricter water restrictions in the future.

District 1-A would like to thank everybody who made a conscious effort this summer to restrict your water use. Because of your help, we have been able to provide the required water to each customer without having to increase water subscription levels which ultimately cost everybody.

FY 2011/12 ANNUAL BUDGET

As the result of a series of meetings of all Castle Hill's District's in August and September, District 1-A has adopted a fiscal year operating budget which reflects a 0.1% overall increase (\$9,410). The total combined budget for operations, maintenance, and administration of Castle Hill's has remained constant, for the second year, at \$9.7 million. The cost per connection over a 4-year cycle has been reduced from \$4,085 to \$3,704 or 9.33%. District 1-A continuously looks for ways to provide the highest level of service at an affordable price. If you are interested in reviewing the budget it can be found on our website at www.dentoncountyfwsd.com.

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 charge the 1.25% 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.

UTILITY BILLING

Over the past several months, District 1-A has implemented several billing features and enhancements designed to make the utility billing process more user friendly. We now offer budget billing, e-billing, and many other payment and notification options for your convenience. For more information on utility bill payment options, please visit our website at www.dentoncountyfwsd.com.

WHY IS WATER CONSERVATION IMPORTANT?

Did You Know...

WATER WASTE AT 40 LBS. PRESSURE

(Castle Hill's pressure ranges from 60 lbs. to 90 lbs.)

A 1/32" LEAK WASTES 180 GALLONS IN 24 HOURS
A 1/16" LEAK WASTES 690 GALLONS IN 24 HOURS
A 1/8" LEAK WASTES 2,760 GALLONS IN 24 HOURS
A 1/4" LEAK WASTES 11,030 GALLONS IN 24 HOURS

Water Usage Facts...

TOILET FLUSH = 5 TO 7 GALLONS
SHOWER = 25 TO 50 GALLONS
HAND WASHING = 2 GALLONS WITH RUNNING TAP
TOOTH BRUSHING = 2 GALLONS WITH RUNNING TAP
OUTDOOR WATERING = 5 TO 10 GALLONS PER MINUTE
AUTOMATIC DISHWASHER = 10 GALLONS
DISHWASHING BY HAND = 20 GALLONS
STANDARD TUB BATH = 36 GALLONS

DID YOU KNOW?

- You can pay your District utility bill either on-line through our website at www.dentoncountyfwsd.com or by setting up a monthly automatic bill pay through our office staff.
- There were 22 new homes permitted August.
- Customers purchased 96.2 million gallons of water in August, 2011, an increase of 3.5 million gallons from August, 2010. That represents an average decrease of 3,593 gallons per connection for August of this year compared to last year. Please help conservation water.
- Castle Hills currently has 2,438 homes with an estimated population of 8,533.
- If you need after hour assistance from the District, you can call (972) 709-2359 for our on-call service.