

News from HCMUD #18

Article 3

This month I want to share with you some of the positive improvements that have been instituted within your water district over the last several years.

(1.) Reduced Taxes from a tax rate of 0.42 down to the present value of 0.31 per \$100 of assessed value which represents a 25% reduction. The directors also established tax exemptions for Seniors and the Disabled residents. (2.) Since 9/11, the Security and Safety of both water plants has been improved with tighter safety controls on the equipment and improved procedures for the detection and prevention of any unauthorized activity in and around the two water plants. It is monitored 24 hrs/day by a security protection firm as well as the local constable. (3.) Additional Neighborhood Constable Patrols were authorized 6 years ago with Harris County Pct. 4 for extra patrols within our neighborhoods. They are a great asset to the community, don't hesitate to call if you detect some suspicious activity in the area. Their number is 281-376-3472. (4.) The second phase of the Faulkey Gully Hike and Bike Trail was completed in April 2006 and now runs from Lakewood Forest Dr., under Louetta to Guernsey Rd. -- almost 2 miles long. (5.) MUD 18 sponsors a Water Smart Program at Hamilton Middle School for teaching the importance of water and the conservation of this resource. (6.) Entered into a Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with the city of Houston. I will explain more of this in another issue, but in essence, additional tax revenue collected by the City (in our area) will be shared 50/50 with the MUD for projects that support our water district. (7.) ProActive Maintenance -- Over the last 5 years we have reworked both water wells to improve the reliability and increase water flow, implemented safety changes for better security, and refurbished the large holding tanks to ensure safe storage. (8.) Established our Website which contains the key information for our district. Please browse the site when you get a chance -- www.hcmud18.org.

Next month I will share with you some of the big issues that are facing the water board in the upcoming months and years.