Dear Lost Creek Resident,

Lots of things are going on in Lost Creek as we prepare for annexation by the City of Austin on December 31, 2015. Listed below are some short articles intended to keep you informed of any changes and improvements in the services we provide to you. The MUD sends many notices and emergency information to our residents via email and eblasts to save time and money. Mailing letters costs about $1,000 for material and postage, so we request you send your email to office2@lostcreekmud.org to ensure you are on the list. All resident email addresses are kept strictly confidential.

Sincerely,
Lost Creek MUD Board of Directors

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**Lost Creek Follows Once-per-Week Watering Schedule**

We are still following the Stage 2 watering schedule, which is once per week. The schedule was triggered when the LCRA reservoir system reached 900,000 acre feet of water last fall. Lake levels are currently at 41% capacity with 381,000 acre feet of water remaining in the lakes.

If we do not receive significant rains in the spring, and the lake levels continue to drop, the Stage 3 watering schedule will trigger at 600,000 acre feet of water remaining in storage. Here is the current once per week schedule:

- **Single family residents** may only water outdoors once a week.
  1. **Odd addresses**: Saturday
  2. **Even addresses**: Sunday

- **Businesses and multifamily units** may only water outdoors once a week.
  1. **Odd addresses**: Tuesday
  2. **Even addresses**: Friday

- Watering by sprinkler or irrigation system is allowed on an assigned day only before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m.
- Watering with a handheld hose is allowed anytime.

Our goal is to work with you to help you understand how to operate your sprinkler system and controller. However, we have had to issue some administrative penalties. In the past two months, we have issued 263 courtesy notices and assisted 32 residents to adjust their sprinkler system.

Please adjust your watering to no more than the maximum allowed once per week schedule, as indicated at left, to avoid penalties and potential loss of service for noncompliance.

We also ask that you keep this new schedule in mind when planting new landscaping or lawns and that you install a rain sensor on your sprinkler that turns off your sprinkler when it's raining.

Also, please check your sprinkler system timer settings after any power outages that may occur to your home because a power outage can change the date and time settings on your sprinkler controller.

Free Chipper Service
We have scheduled a free chipper service for February 9 and 10. Bring your cut brush to the Whittemarsh Valley Trailhead from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday and Noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Burn Ban IS in Effect
Travis County reissued a ban on outdoor burning on November 13, 2012.

Work in the Greenbelts
A special thanks goes out to Scout Troop 1991 for a scout project that organized a clean up on the trails in October. They assembled volunteers to carry brush out of the trails to a staging area on Augusta National, where the wood was chipped.

New Pet Water Fountain Installed
A new pet water fountain has been installed next to the MUD office, in front of the Boulevard Park on Quaker Ridge Drive.

Another one is available for your “best friend” at Boulder Trail Park.

Holiday Decorations
Each year you probably notice the beautiful decorations at the Lost Creek Blvd. Park and Quaker Ridge Drive.

A special thanks to the Lost Creek Home and Garden Club members who install and remove the lighted fence garland and red bows each year.

This year’s work was organized by Alex Spradley. She, along with Kathy Hopke, Ruth Ann Abraham, Sheila Medford, Judy Crank, Deanna Ryan, June Cooper, Donna DeGiovanni, Trudy Defoyd and Katie Gwynne, did all of the work. A special thanks to them for doing such a great job.

Oak Wilt Remediation
In every newsletter we remind Lost Creek residents about oak wilt remediation and tree replacement.

Unfortunately, the MUD is prohibited by statute to spend funds to remediate oak wilt on private property; however, the Texas Forest Service has an Oak Wilt Assistance Program that provides training, assistance and advice on identifying, treating and stopping the spread of oak wilt.

This information is available on their website at www.texasoakwilt.org/Assistance/assistance.html and the Lost Creek Neighborhood Association has a representative to help with identifying possible oak wilt problems. Please contact Jennifer Lamm at jenniferplamm@yahoo.com.
Other News of Interest

Here are some simple ways you can help prevent stormwater pollution:

1) Make sure to follow the directions and application rates when applying fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals to your lawn or around the house. If you apply too much, water runoff will wash the chemicals into local waterways.

2) Don’t blow leaves into the street when mowing or trimming. Lawn clippings will clog local storm drains and also pollute local waterways.

3) Conserve water by turning off the tap when running water is not necessary. This helps prevent water shortages and reduces the amount of contaminated water that needs treatment.

4) Be careful about what you throw down your sink or toilet. Don’t throw paints, oils or other forms of litter down the drain.

5) Use environmentally safe household products, such as washing powder, household cleaning agents and toiletries.

6) By having more plants in your garden, you are preventing fertilizer, pesticides and contaminated water from running off into nearby water sources.

7) Don’t throw litter into our creeks, rivers or lakes. Help clean up any litter you see on our greenbelt trails, streets and parks. Make sure it is safe to collect the litter and put it in a nearby trash receptacle.

Lost Creek Projects Put on Hold

Lost Creek has placed several projects on temporary hold pending bids to repaint the interior of the water ground storage tanks next to the District’s offices.

The tanks are inspected annually and a recent inspection showed the interior of the tanks need to be painted, as well as some repairs to the roof of both tanks.

The Board decided to put the sidewalk and landscape median projects on hold until bids are received to repaint the tanks.

Online Bill Pay is here! You can now pay your water bill online with a credit/debit card on our website, located at www.lostcreekmud.org.

Vendor and Contractor Advertisement Signs If you are remodeling or constructing a home improvement, please note that it is a violation of the deed covenants to display a vendor or contractor advertisement sign.

ACC Approval and MUD Permits Make sure to submit any home improvement or remodeling projects to the Lost Creek Neighborhood Association (LCNA) Architectural Control Committee (www.lcna.com) and secure the appropriate plumbing permits from the MUD.

Mark Your Calendars! The LCNA has scheduled the annual Neighborhood Garage Sale for Saturday, March 2, 2013. The holidays are over, so start cleaning out your unneeded and unused furniture and other household items to be sold!

Non-Emergency Sheriff Department Contact Need to report or need non-emergency assistance from the Sheriff’s department? Call 974-0845 Extension 3 for the direct line to dispatchers.

Coyote Sightings If you see a coyote, please report it to 311. Texas Wildlife Services uses information reported to 311 to coordinate their efforts, so please call 311 with every sighting.

January 2013 www.lostcreekmud.org
Wastewater Averaging:
Save Water Now, Save Money All Year

You can lower your water bill all year by saving water through February. Winter wastewater averaging is in effect and will end with the February meter reading. The MUD will average the usage from all three months to determine your wastewater bill for the year and the month with the highest usage is dropped.

These months are used to determine the average because, typically, less outside water is used during the winter, so it’s a good measure of the volume flowing through your wastewater system. For more information, contact the Lost Creek MUD Office at 512-327-6243.

Ways to Conserve Water During the Winter
- Fix all leaky faucets, both inside and outside.
- Check toilets for leaks.
- Turn off your irrigation system during the winter months.
- Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Install water-saving showerheads that use 2.5 gallons per minute or less.
- When buying new appliances, look for the WaterSense label.

ABOUT LOST CREEK MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT
Lost Creek Municipal Utility District is the local government serving more than 1,250 families in the Lost Creek neighborhood by providing drinking water, wastewater, solid waste collection, deed restriction enforcement, beautification and recreational services.