Dear Lost Creek Resident,

As you know, we are being annexed by the City of Austin on Dec. 15, 2015, and we will convert to a Limited District at that time. A lot of work is underway in preparation for annexation and transition to the Limited District. **Additionally, the City assumes operation and billing of the water and wastewater service effective Dec. 1, 2014.** Included in this newsletter are some short articles intended to keep you informed of any changes and improvements in the services we provide to you and to help prepare for the City's annexation and transition to the Limited District.

We make every attempt to contact you during emergencies and we send many announcements, notices and surveys via email to save time and money. It saves you tax dollars if we send notices via email, so we request that you send your email contact information to office2@lostcreekmud.org to ensure you are on the list. All email addresses and other contact information is kept strictly confidential.

Sincerely,
Lost Creek MUD Board of Directors

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**The Clock is Ticking:**
**It's Coming Dec. 1, 2014**

The City of Austin takes over our water and wastewater service in less than 45 days, as of Oct. 17, 2014.

- That means that besides taking over the operation of our wastewater treatment plant facilities by City of Austin employees, there will be a change in how and where you will pay water utility bills.

- You will notice a significant increase in the City's water and wastewater rates as compared to the Lost Creek MUD's rates. Therefore, any water conservation measures you can take to lower your water usage will result in lower COA water bills. (see rate comparison on next page)

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**Lost Creek MUD Directors Approve Budget, Reduce Tax Rate by 30%**

At its September meeting, Lost Creek approved its fiscal year 2014-2015 budget. The budget decreased from $2.4 million to $1.4 million and taxes were reduced from $0.115 to $0.08 per $100 valuation. The reduction is caused by the operation of the water and wastewater utility transferring to the City of Austin on December 1. There were no changes in utility rates.

**November MUD Election Cancelled**

Three Directors were up for re-election in November. Leah Stewart and Eric Castro applied to serve again and Steve Verege has decided to not serve another term. Since the directors are unopposed, the election has been cancelled. When Steve Verege's term expires in November, we will seek applicants to fill his vacated position. Interested applicants should contact the MUD office at 512-327-6243.
• Also, the residential watering days and times are significantly different than the Lost Creek MUD’s watering days. After December 1, you will need to follow the City’s water schedule which is:

  › Odd Addresses on WEDNESDAY
  › Even addresses water on THURSDAY

For more information please visit the City’s website at www.austintexas.gov/department/stage-2-watering-restrictions.

• The Lost Creek MUD will continue in existence after Dec. 1, 2014. We will continue to maintain and operate our parks, greenbelts and median, publish quarterly UPDATE newsletters, coordinate private trash services, as well as enforce neighborhood deed restrictions. Next year, on Dec. 15, 2015, we will convert to the Lost Creek Limited District and continue to maintain those same services.

In order for us to help you with the water utility transition, please read the important information below:

• In October, the City sent each water user a Welcome Letter from the City’s Water Utility Department.

• On Thursday, November 6, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., the City’s Water Utility Department will hold a Town Hall meeting in the MUD building’s Community Meeting Room to answer any questions you may have about the transferring of your water service to the City.

Meter Readings and Bill Due Dates

• The Lost Creek MUD will read your meter for the last time on Monday, December 1. You will then receive your final Lost Creek MUD bill by approximately Friday, December 5. It will be due and payable to the Lost Creek MUD on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014.

• The MUD office’s Quaker Ridge Drop Box will be available to receive bill payments through Dec. 31, 2014. After that time, it will not be available to receive any water bill payments for either the MUD or City of Austin.

• The City will read your meter approximately Jan. 1, 2015. You will then receive your water service bill sometime in January. It will not be a separate water statement but will be included on the electric bill you currently receive from the City.

• After December 31, the Lost Creek MUD online bill pay service will be inoperable. You will need to set up a new online bill payment through the City of Austin’s online customer care at www.coautilities.com.

Below is a comparison of Lost Creek and City of Austin Water and Sewer Rates. City rates are significantly higher than Lost Creek and as we have informed you in previous newsletters please find ways to conserve water to avoid high water bills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lost Creek MUD Rates</th>
<th>City of Austin Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Base Fee</strong></td>
<td><strong>Water Base Fee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$14.50</td>
<td>$7.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-10,000 Use</td>
<td>0-2,000 Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4.42</td>
<td>$1.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000-35,000 Use</td>
<td>2,000-6,000 Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5.16</td>
<td>$3.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35,000+ Use</td>
<td>6,000-11,000 Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7.20</td>
<td>$6.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sewer Base Fee</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sewer Base Fee</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost per 1,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reserve fund/1,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>$1.39</td>
<td>$0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sewer Base Fee</strong></td>
<td><strong>0-2,000 Use</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$4.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2,000+ Use</strong></td>
<td>$8.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample Cost Comparison:**
Water and sewer bill at 20,000 gallons water usage, assuming wastewater average of 10,000 gallons:

| Lost Creek MUD: | $133.20 |
| City of Austin: | $235.05 |

**Possible Refund of Meter Deposit**

• We will refund any remaining water meter deposits on the October water bill. Many longtime Lost Creek residents meter deposits have been returned previously.

• Being an existing Lost Creek MUD customer, you will not need to provide a new water deposit with the City of Austin.
MUD Office Burglary
You may know the MUD office was burglarized on August 9. We are happy to report that all items except two computers and two flat screen televisions have been recovered. We’d like to extend a thank you to the observant Austin Police Dept. officer who tried to pull over the stolen MUD truck on Hwy 183 near the airport, which led to the chase and arrest of the suspect. We also appreciate the further investigation by Travis County Sheriff’s Detective Marc Taub, which led to the recovery of most of the District’s stolen property.

Another Successful Chipper/Shredder Event
The free chipper service provided on September 27 and 28 as part of the continuing Firewise Program was a huge success. Lost Creek residents brought and chipped six truck loads equaling 72 cubic yards (chipped) of tree/wood material.

Winter Wastewater Averaging: Save Water Now, Save Money Later
As a reminder, you can lower your water bill all year by saving water through the winter months. Winter wastewater averaging will take place between mid-November and mid-March, so if you cut back your water use during this time, you can save money later.

These months are used to determine the average because, typically, less outdoor water is used during the winter, so it’s a good measure of the volume flowing through your wastewater system.

Lost Creek’s water system will transition to the City of Austin during this winter wastewater averaging period. The City assumes the operation and billing for Lost Creek’s water and wastewater service starting Dec. 1, 2014.

The City handles their wastewater averaging period based on customer billing cycles rather than specific dates, so it’s best to just conserve water during this time under the assumption that it will affect your water bills in 2015.

Here are a few conservation tips to help lower your water use:
- Don’t water the lawn during fall and winter – turn off automatic irrigation systems.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- Take shorter showers.
- Fix leaky faucets and toilets.
- When buying new water-using appliances and fixtures, look for the WaterSense® label.
Being a “Good Neighbor” in Lost Creek

Your Lost Creek MUD and Lost Creek Neighborhood Association (LCNA) spend an inordinate amount of time addressing disputes among property owners and maintaining property values in Lost Creek. The vast majority of these disputes would disappear if we all took a step back and resolved to be an even better neighbor whether you are a homeowner or a renter.

The MUD does engage the services of a property management deed restriction enforcement company to help in this endeavor. Pinnacle Texas Management Services is the District’s deed restriction enforcement company who will respond and investigate potential deed restriction violations. Complaints are kept anonymous. The contact information for Pinnacle Texas Management Services is lostcreek@pinnacletexas.com.

Besides the formal deed restrictions, which apply to the section of Lost Creek your home is located in, here are eleven “Being a Good Neighbor” common sense tips which we all know but should be reviewed occasionally:

1) YARD and HOME MAINTENANCE
Ask yourself, are you timely maintaining and repairing your home and premises? Are you keeping your property up to the same standards as the other Lost Creek residents? A significant number of complaints concern neglected homes and yards. Mow, weed, edge and water according to current water restrictions (but do not over water) your yard on a regular basis. Trim your trees and shrubs when needed. Don’t forget that trees need occasional deep watering too in order to help them survive and stay healthy. Remember, healthy trees add value to your property, as well as provide help in lowering your electric bills. Consider xeriscaping or using native plants and trees in your landscaping to help reduce water usage, too.

2) BOATS, TRAILERS, RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (RVs) and JET SKIS
These are not allowed in most sections. Please be mindful of your neighbors and remove them from your premises or park them where they are out-of-sight from your neighbors or the street.

3) YARD PARKING OR PARKING ON A SIDEWALK
Don’t park your car, truck, boat, or RV on your yard or grass. It is also illegal to park a vehicle across a sidewalk that blocks pedestrian access to the sidewalk. Be thoughtful of your neighbor across the street by not parking your vehicle immediately across from their driveway. Not parking on the street at all will do much to improve the appearance and safety of our streets and neighborhood.

4) TRASH CANS
Please put your empty trash cans and recycling boxes out-of-sight the same day the trash company empties them. Remember too that you are not required to only use the large trash containers provided by the garbage company. You may use your own smaller containers that may be easier to store inside your garage and out-of-sight from your neighbors.

5) NOISE, MUSIC and OUTDOOR LIGHTING
Be sensitive of noise, music and outdoor lighting so as not to disturb your neighbors. Set your motion sensors so as not to go “on with the wind” or to shine directly into a neighbor’s home or windows.

6) BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER
Keep your pet on a leash when outside of your yard or walking in the greenbelts or Boulder Trail Park. No dogs are allowed in the Lost Creek Blvd. Park playground. Travis County does have a leash law and will enforce it if dogs are loose and running free in the neighborhood. Be sure to “curb your dog” and “Scoop the Poop” with you when walking your dog. Your neighbors don’t appreciate cleaning up after your dog any more than you would enjoy cleaning up after theirs. Barking dogs: Please be mindful of your dog’s barking so as to not disturb your neighbors’ peace and quiet.

7) FENCES
Keep yours in good repair, within the allowable height and material restrictions and within your property boundaries. If you are building or recoing your fence, make sure it does not extend over onto the property of your next door neighbor. If necessary,
refer to the survey of your property plat or have a new engineering survey made. It’s also “neighborly” to discuss a new or replacement fence project with your neighbors before you start so there are no misunderstandings.

8) SIGNS IN YOUR YARD
Only “For Sale” signs are to be placed in your yard when you are selling your home. Political signs should only be placed a few weeks before an election then promptly removed afterwards.

9) BASKETBALL EQUIPMENT IN STREET
Basketball equipment should be located in your driveway and not on a public street or easement where they can become safety hazards to drivers and pedestrians, particularly at night.

10) DEED RESTRICTIONS
One of the responsibilities of the Lost Creek MUD is to enforce deed restrictions. They were written to keep our neighborhood attractive and to maintain property values. Know the deed restrictions that pertain to your property. As you may not have received the deed restrictions for your property at closing when you purchased your home, they are available to you online at lostcreekmud.org. There is also a “Street Lookup” section that will allow you to look up your address and then refer to the deed restrictions that pertain to your area.

11) HOME ADDITIONS, REMODELING and FENCES
As a general rule, additions and changes to homes and fences require prior approval from the LCNA’s Architectural Control Committee. This three-person committee will review your proposed plans for conformity to the deed restrictions and easement issues and answer any other questions you may have about your project before it is built. You may get the LCNA’S ACC Building/Remodeling Request form at lcna.com or from the MUD office at 1305 Quaker Ridge during office hours.

Thank you for your cooperation in being a good neighbor and in keeping Lost Creek a beautiful and wonderful place to live!
The developer floated balloons over the Marshall Tract to demonstrate how tall the buildings would be. The Lost Creek Neighborhood Association (LCNA) is working with and monitoring the progress of the development of the 38-acre Marshall Tract, just past the entrance to our neighborhood along Lost Creek Blvd. The land is currently zoned Single Family, but the developer is seeking to change this to PUD (Planned Unit Development) designation and has begun the process with the City of Austin to rezone this property.

Although the MUD is not involved in the development process, we strongly encourage Lost Creek residents to stay informed and to support the Lost Creek Neighborhood Association in its efforts to educate residents regarding this project. The LCNA email distribution list is the best source of current information about the proposed development, including upcoming actions by the city/developer and potential impact to our neighborhood. Any resident of Lost Creek who is not on the list should go to www.lcna.com and sign up to receive the most current information about the development.

The next City Council briefing on the Marshall Tract re-zoning case is set for November 20. Briefings are open to public, but NOT open for public comment. At the briefing, the city staff from the Planning and Development Review, Watershed Protection, Transportation and likely the real estate services (regarding fire station) will make recommendations to the City Council based on the information in the submitted development assessment.

The re-zoning process is long and LCNA will keep you informed of upcoming opportunities. To date, there has been no commitment by LCNA to support development of the five- and seven-story buildings. A petition has been generated by the LCNA for citizens to voice their collective objection to the buildings as proposed. The LCNA has requested and is open to considering revised plans from the developer, but at this point in time has not received any such information. The LCNA will have future membership votes to decide how to proceed.

Here are conceptual drawings of the proposed development:
When Wildfire Approaches

Should homes be threatened by wildfire, occupants may be advised to evacuate to protect them from life-threatening situations. Homeowners, however, do have the right to stay on their properties if they so desire and so long as their activities do not hinder firefighting efforts. If occupants are not contacted in time to evacuate or if owners decide to stay with their homes, these suggestions will help them protect their properties and families.

- Evacuate, if possible, all family members not essential to protecting the house. Evacuate pets as well.
- Contact a friend or relative and relay your plans.
- Make sure family members are aware of a prearranged meeting place.
- Tune into a local radio station and listen for instructions.
- Place vehicles in the garage, have them pointing out, and roll up windows.
- Close the garage door, but leave it unlocked. If applicable, disconnect the electric garage door opener so that the door can be opened manually.
- Place combustible patio furniture in the house or garage.
- Shut off propane at the tank or natural gas at the meter.
- Wear only cotton or wool clothes. Proper attire includes long pants, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and boots. Carry gloves, a handkerchief to cover your face, water to drink, and goggles.
- Close all exterior vents.
- Prop a ladder against the house so firefighters have easy access to the roof.
- Make sure that all garden hoses are connected to faucets and attach a nozzle set on “spray.”
- Soak rags, towels, or small rugs with water to use in beating out embers or small fires.
- Inside, fill bathtubs, sinks, and other containers with water. Outside, do the same with garbage cans and buckets. Remember that the water heater and toilet tank are available sources of water.
- Close all exterior doors and windows.
- Close all interior doors.
- Open the fireplace damper, but place the screen over the hearth to prevent sparks and embers from entering the house.
- Leave a light on in each room.
- Remove lightweight and/or non-fire resistant curtains and other combustible materials from around windows.
- If available, close fire resistant drapes, shutters, or Venetian blinds. Attach pre-cut plywood panels to the exterior of windows and glass doors.
- Turn off all pilot lights.
- Move overstuffed furniture (e.g. couches, easy chairs, etc.) to the center of the room.
- Keep wood shake or shingle roofs moist by spraying water. Do not waste water. Consider placing a lawn sprinkler on the roof if water pressure is adequate. Do not turn on until burning embers begin to fall on the roof.
- Continually check the roof and attic for embers, smoke, or fire.

Lost Creek Fire Exit Plan
Thank you for allowing us to serve you!

Lost Creek MUD Board of Directors

President       Gary Sertich
Vice President  Leah Stewart
Secretary       Eric Castro
Treasurer       Steve Veregge
Asst. Sec.-Treasurer  Nancy Naeye

Non-Emergency Sheriff Department Contact

If you have an emergency, please call 911. If you need to file a report or need non-emergency assistance from the Sheriff’s Department you can call 512-974-0845, extension 3, for direct contact with dispatchers. The Travis County Sheriff’s Department will still be providing service to Lost Creek until Dec. 15, 2015.

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.

Have a question about your deed restrictions? Are you concerned that a neighbor may not have applied for and/or received the required ACC (Architectural Control Committee) approval prior to beginning the new construction or remodeling project that is currently underway (or about to commence)? Has that fence been approved?

For these and any other questions or concerns that you may have regarding deed restriction enforcement in Lost Creek, please contact Tanya Emmons via email at lostcreek@pinnacletexas.com, by phone at 512-795-8461, by fax at 512-795-8463, or online at www.pinnacletexas.com (Residents link).