Dear Lost Creek Resident,

As you know, we are being annexed by the City of Austin on December 15, 2015, and a lot of work is underway in preparation for annexation and transition to a Limited District. Additionally, the City will assume operation and billing of the water and wastewater service effective December 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 water and wastewater 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 and we request 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

THE CLOCK IS TICKING – IT’S COMING DECEMBER 1, 2014

The City of Austin takes over our water and wastewater service on Dec. 1. The City’s water and wastewater service rates are significantly higher than the District’s and we suggest finding ways to conserve water: Install Xeriscape landscape features and adjust water sprinklers before December 1. Water saving tips and conservation information are available to assist you on our website, www.lostcreekmud.org, and in the District’s office.

LATE BREAKING NEWS!!!!

Marshall Tract - 38-acre Pasture Property

The Lost Creek Neighborhood Association (LCNA) has been approached by a potential developer/buyer of the 38-acre pasture land, known as the “Marshall Tract” just past the entrance to our neighborhood along Lost Creek Boulevard. This land has been privately owned by the Marshall family for more than a hundred years. We have been lucky it has stayed undeveloped for so long. Long-term residents may remember the horses and cattle which used to roam the property and were referred to as the Lost Creek “mascots.”

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New Water Bill Due Date Helps Save You Money in Shift to Austin

Effective February 2014, we changed the water bill due date from the 15th of each month to the 25th of each month. This will allow additional time for you to pay your water and wastewater bill and is being done in preparation of the City of Austin assuming operation of the water service effective December 1, 2014.

Each month we are reading water meters approximately one day later so that by December, our water meter reading date will match the City of Austin’s.

This will prevent our residents from receiving a large bill in December 2014 that would affect the wastewater averaging and the cost of your wastewater bill for the following year.

Construction Yard Advertising Signs

If you are remodeling or constructing a home improvement, please acquire the necessary approvals from the Lost Creek Neighborhood Association’s Architectural Control Committee (http://www.lcna.com/archcommittee.php).

A friendly reminder: It may be a violation of your deed restriction to display a contractor advertising sign in your yard. Please review the deed restrictions for your property at our website at lostcreekmud.org and type your address into the ‘Customize’ bar located on the Water Awareness Dashboard. The Deed Restriction Enforcement Officer will ask you to remove signs that are in violation and will issue citations for noncompliance.

Winter Averaging is Complete

We hope you conserved as much water as possible from Nov. 25 to Feb. 25 because we use your water usage during that time to calculate your wastewater bill for all of the upcoming year. We do allow adjustments if you had a water leak that was repaired and you can document the repair. To request a recalculation of your wastewater bill, please contact us at 512-327-6243 or email us at office2@lostcreekmud.org

Stage 2 Landscape Watering Schedule Still in Effect

Although we have received some rain in recent months, we are still in a serious drought with the lake levels hovering at only 38% of capacity.

Until local rains drop in the watershed and the lake levels increase significantly, Lost Creek is still under its Stage 2 watering schedule of once-per-week watering. The schedule was triggered when the LCRA reservoir system reached 900,000 acre feet of water or less.

Here is the current once per week schedule:

- Single-family residents:
  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.

- Hand watering is still allowed anytime.

Please adjust your watering to no more than the maximum allowed once per week schedule as indicated above 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 is raining.

Lastly, please remember to check your sprinkler timer after a power failure because sometimes the clock will reset during a power failure and cause the sprinkler to water at incorrect times.


Additional water conservation and schedule information can be found at http://austin.waterlgknowyourwater.org and www.lcra.org/water/save/index.html.
Marshall Tract

From Page 1

The potential developers wish to start a dialogue with the neighborhood. They have no definitive plans other than to develop it as high-quality office space.

They seem sensitive to issues about traffic, setback requirements and the impact on the Lost Creek neighborhood. This includes the concepts of primary access via Las Cimas Parkway and not by Lost Creek Blvd., and allowing a significant buffer zone between Lost Creek Blvd.'s residences and the development.

The land is currently zoned “single family,” and the developers need to go through City of Austin for zoning changes. Such zoning changes always involve public notice and hearings. Prior to any rezoning, the City of Austin will want the developer to get the input from the neighborhood association and the MUD. The developers will not be ready to present anything to our neighborhood for an estimated two to three months. When they are ready, the LCNA will post signs and send e-mails to inform the community of the time and place for a meeting. This notice is only being given to make residents aware of proposed development on the only remaining open land next to Lost Creek.

The LCNA Board has not given the developer or City of Austin ANY approval or disapproval of these plans. For more information, go to: http://austintexas.gov/department/zoning

Lost Creek Blvd. Median Landscape Project

We recently completed replacing the electrical wires, breakers and conduit in the entrance median located at Lost Creek Blvd. and Loop 360.

On March 18, a landscape contract was awarded to Perfect Lawns & Landworks for $75,892.03 to make landscape changes to the median. The new plan will have an underground drip irrigation system to save water, a low-voltage lighting system consisting of up and down lighting placed among the new plantings as well as 50 tons of limestone boulders and other hard-scape materials added to the median.

Delivering boulders, plants and other materials will require temporary lane closures on Lost Creek Blvd. for safety reasons.

The lane closures will be coordinated between the morning and evening peak commute periods and we hope it will not inconvenience anyone entering or leaving the neighborhood. See our website for more information about the project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Free Chipper Service Results:** We sponsored a FREE chipper service on February 15 and 16 and we collected 120 cubic yards of chipped brush.

• **The March 22 Bulky Item Pick-Up** collected 13.72 tons of bulky items and brush.

• **Plumbing Permits:** The City of Austin will start managing plumbing permits effective December 1, 2014. If you are planning a renovation project, consider starting your project before then.

• **MUD Board Positions:** After replacing Director Preston Dusey who resigned after moving from the District, the Board selected new officers. New Board officers are:

  - **Gary Sertich**  
  - **Leah Stewart**  
  - **Eric Castro**  
  - **Steve Oregge**  
  - **Nancy Naeve**  

  President  
  Vice President  
  Secretary  
  Treasurer  
  Asst. Sec-Treas.
Be Firewise and Protect Your Property in the Event of a Wildfire

The wildfires in Bastrop and Oak Hill have gotten everyone’s attention and there are many ways to protect your property in the event of a wildfire.

The District has pamphlets available at its office to assist you and more information is available on the Firewise website at www.firewise.org. We have also provided some useful tips below:

1. Trim Trees away from the house. Lost Creek has brochures in its office located at 1305 Lost Creek Blvd. to help you keep potential fuel away from your home.
2. When constructing, renovating or making an addition to your home, use fire resistant or noncombustible materials.
3. Choose a good location because fire will spread up a slope more rapidly than on flat terrain.
4. Set the structure at least 30 ft. from a cliff or ridge.
5. The primary goal needs to be reducing exposure to fuel and combustibles where possible. Some examples include using Class-A asphalt shingles, smaller glass panes in windows, nonflammable shutters, covering under floor and attic vents to prevent sparks from entering the home, and making sure to install at least two ground-level doors for easy safe exit in an emergency.
6. Remember, any structures attached to the home such as a deck, porch or fence can act as a fuel bridge if constructed from flammable materials.

Boulder Trail Park Rules

Boulder Trail Park is a fun place to play and hang out, but there are restrictions on its use because of noise and a lack of parking. The park rules are:

1. The park closes at sunset.
2. No organized sporting events, team practices, team games or similar events of any kind are allowed.
3. The General Manager of the District is authorized to determine whether any event or activity within the park violates the foregoing prohibition, and may terminate any activity if determined to be in violation.
4. Any organized event or activity at any District parks that may include more than 25 participants must receive prior authorization from the District’s General Manager.

These rules are in effect so all may enjoy the park and not disturb the residents adjacent to the park.

Vandals in the Parks

We continue to have an issue with vandals clogging the restroom facilities in our boulevard playground park. If you witness anyone applying graffiti to any public property or vandalizing District facilities, please call 9-1-1.
Navigating www.lostcreekmud.org

Look here for the latest information, current events, boil water notices and other emergency information.

**Water Stage**

Can I water my lawn today?  
**TOWNHOME OR CONDO WITH EVEN ADDRESS**  
Yes  
**ALL OTHER RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**  
No

**Lake Levels**

- **Lake Buchanan**: 39% Capacity  
- **Lake Travis**: 37% Capacity  
- **Combined**: 36% Capacity

**Temperature**: 78.7°F  
**Humidity**: 61%  
**Rainfall Today**: 0.00 in  
**Barometer**: 30.01 in

Type your address here to see which day to water under the Water Conservation Plan and locate the Deed Restrictions for your property.

This is a link to the LCRA water monitoring and drought information.

This is a link to the Westlake Fire Dept. current burn ban information.

This is a link to information on how to prevent oak wilt.

This is a link to the Lost Creek Weather Station for additional weather information.

**Pay Your Water Bill Online**

Online Bill Pay is here. You can pay your water bill online with a credit or debit card on our website, www.lostcreekmud.org. Just click on the “Pay Your Bill” link from any page!
We Need Your Help
Please Take the Office/Community Building Renovation Survey

Lost Creek is considering renovating the MUD office building and community room to meet future needs of the community. Please take a few minutes to take the survey and provide your input on our website located at www.lostcreekmud.org. Additional print copies are available at the MUD office.

Non-Emergency Sheriff Dept. Contact

If you have an emergency please call 9-1-1, but if you need to file a report or need nonemergency assistance from the Sheriff’s Department you can call 512-974-0845 extension 3 for direct contact with dispatchers.

Oak Wilt Remediation

In every newsletter we remind Lost Creek residents about oak wilt remediation and tree replacement. Oak wilt season is here so please spray the wound of any oak tree immediately upon pruning.

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 located at http://www.texasoakwilt.org/assistance/assistance.html. The Lost Creek Neighborhood Association has a representative to help you identify possible oak wilt problems. Please contact their representative, Jennifer Lamm, at jenniferplamm@yahoo.com.