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The Newsletter for Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17

April 2014

### SEVERE DROUGHT CONDITIONS CONTINUE

WATER EMERGENCY ORDER IS STILL IN EFFECT OUTDOOR WATER USE LIMITED TO ONE TIME PER WEEK, ONE PERIOD PER DAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Its spring and everyone wants to get their yards in shape, but be mindful the continuing drought shows little sign of relenting. January and February rain totals are among the lowest ever recorded and inflows to the lakes are about 18 percent of average. The storage levels of Lakes Travis and Buchanan are down to 37 percent. Lake Travis is 43 feet below average level and LCRA has had to issue another emergency order to stop downstream releases. If the lake level falls another 7 feet, we will be required to cut back even further on water use. Thank you for continuing to conserve water in Lake Travis. As we have been reminding everyone monthly, the watering schedule remains:

#### 12:01 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. only on your one day

Addresses ending:

 Monday
 1, 3

 Tuesday
 2, 4

 Wednesday
 5, 7

 Thursday
 6, 8

 Friday
 9, 0

Saturday All Commercial & HOAs

Sunday The ONLY DAY FOR Hose End Sprinkler Watering

- Watering with a hand held hose, soaker hose, bubbler, drip irrigation or watering can of 5-gallons and less is allowed any day, but not between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- · Climate driven irrigation controllers must be turned off.
- Cars and boats may each be washed once per week ANY DAY, ANY TIME with shutoff nozzle required.
- Pools may be REFILLED ANY TIME.
- · Commercial ornamental fountains must stop.
- Residential ornamental fountains and water features are asked to stop voluntarily.

Remember: Spring and Summer in Texas are not a good time to be planting a new lawn or putting in extensive landscaping. Consider Xeriscaping or drought tolerant plants for any replacements.

For further information, see our website at www.wcid17.org

## PLATINUM LEADERSHIP CIRCLE AWARD

Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17 has been awarded membership in the first PLATINUM Leadership Circle established by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. The Platinum Circle represents the highest level in governmental transparency and demonstrates that District 17 is raising the bar for open government at the local level. Please see the District website at www.wcid17.org.

Customers can also learn more regarding this distinction by visiting the Texas Transparency website.

Shining the Light on Transparency's Best and Brightest: Introducing the First Platinum Leadership Circle Members



Texas Comptroller Leadership Circle

### **VOTE!**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION May 10, 2014

Water District 17 will hold a Vote Center Election May 10, 2014. Early voting locations open April 28, 2014 through May 6, 2014 throughout the County and the meaning of a Vote Center Election is on Election Day, eligible Travis County VOTERS MAY VOTE AT ANY LOCATION and voters are NOT LIMITED to voting in the precinct where they are registered to vote. This also applies to early voting, so please find a convenient place to vote and take advantage of your right. Water District 17 has three at-large positions open for election and four candidates running. You may vote for one, two or three candidates.

#### **MEET THE CANDIDATES**

**Rob Carruthers** is a principal with ClearPath360, a technology consulting and business advisory firm. He was raised in San Marcos and has lived with his family in Steiner Ranch since 2003. He serves as the President of the Steiner Ranch Residential Owners Association. He volunteers with several non-profit organizations including Leadership Austin and CASA of Travis County. He holds an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Dallas.

**Jeffry Lane** is a Data Analyst residing in Steiner Ranch.

**Mickey Decker** is semi-retired, while still being a multi-business owner. She has lived in the District for over 40 years and has worked in the real estate business around Lake Travis. Ms. Decker always contemplates both sides of all issues and is known for being moral, ethical and fair in her decision making and questions issues on a regular basis. Ms. Decker represents District 17 at the Lake Travis Chamber of Commerce monthly meetings; as a member of the Impact Fee Advisory Committee for the District; works with the Central Texas Water Coalition; and is a member of the Lake Travis Fire Rescue Community Foundation.

**David Lewis Steed, PhD** is a longtime resident of the Vista Grande subdivision in the Hudson Bend area. Dr. Steed is a professional environmental scientist and writer, and is a recognized authority on environmental issues confronting the utility, transportation and land development industries in Central Texas. His professional affiliations have included the Texas Water Conservation Association, the Texas Rural Water Association, the Range Management Society, and the Society of Conservation Biology.



# TRAVIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 17

The mission of District No. 17, a public utility, is to provide the District with an adequate supply of safe, potable water, and to ensure the fiscally sound, environmentally responsible development and management of water resources and wastewater facilities.

### WCID 17 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Lewis Steed, President Jeff Roberts, Vice President Jerri Lynn Ward, Secretary Rob Carruthers Mickey S. Decker-Mitchell

GENERAL MANAGER Deborah S. Gernes

Billing Questions 512.266.1111, ext. 18 or 22

Trash Questions 512.266.1111, ext. 22

### Conserving Water for Today and Tomorrow

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