



Pecan Grove MUD

The Pecan Grove MUD Board is pleased to announce the completion of the Pecan Lakes Flood Protection System (PLFPS). Completion of this portion of the project will allow the engineers to certify the PLFPS and submit to FEMA for review and approval, which is the first step in the removal of Pecan Lakes from the floodplain. This comes as good news, given the many challenges during the construction process: the rise of Jones Creek during heavy rains, shortages of necessary materials, and the challenges of working in such a tight space.

The PLFPS is one of the most unique levee systems in the county. While almost all other levee systems in Fort Bend County were planned and constructed as a part of an entire development, the PLFPS was designed and built around an existing community. Pecan Grove MUD was able to work closely with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to coordinate two raised elevation points on FM 359 that correspond with the levee crossings on FM 359. In our agreement with TXDOT, Pecan Grove MUD can shut down all lanes of FM 359 to install a temporary closure device during a flood event. This will not impact area mobility as in these flood events, FM 359 outside the levee will be holding water from the Brazos River floodplain.

The existing Pecan Grove levee system is comprised of approximately 8.6 miles of earthen levee. The PLFPS will add 3,330 linear feet of floodwall and 5,010 linear feet of earthen levee, bringing the total Pecan Grove Levee System to 10.1 miles. While certification of the PLFPS is moving forward, there are still a few outstanding construction items relating to final completion and acceptance. One significant additional construction item is related to the long-term stability of the side slopes of Jones Creek. Engineers estimate that this additional work should be completed in 60 to 90 days. Once the certification is completed (by early November) a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) will be submitted to FEMA to begin the formal process of removing Pecan Lakes from the Brazos River floodplain. The LOMR process can take between 90 to 180 days. Once the LOMR is approved, the District will receive FEMA's Letter of Final Determination (LFD) via email and post office. The LFD will be placed on the District's website and distributed to the Pecan Lakes HOA.

Development in the District

The Terrace at Pecan Grove

Arenosa Development is offering a new community to the Pecan Grove Subdivision: *The Terrace at Pecan Grove*. This community is located on Pitts Road, just south of Austin Elementary. The Terrace at Pecan Grove will have 92 single-family lots and each lot will be approximately 55' wide by 120' deep. This new community will open the Summer of 2015.

Chesmar Homes and Westin Homes are building out The Terrace at Pecan Grove. Both builders are privately owned regional homebuilding companies, based out of Houston, Texas. Their homebuilding operations include Houston, San Antonio, Austin and surrounding areas. They will be offering homes from 2,100 sq. ft. to around 3,700 sq. ft. The price range of the homes in The Terrace at Pecan Grove ranges from the mid-\$200,000's into the mid-\$300,000's. They will offer brick and stone veneers, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, hardwood and ceramic tile flooring, 42" cabinets, and many other upgraded amenities.

This new community is located within the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District. Homeowners' children will attend Austin Elementary for Pre-kindergarten through 5th grade,

Project Updates

Drainage:

The drainage improvements project will allow the District to improve the existing storm water infrastructure and reduce the risk of flooding due to high intensity storm events.

In 2012, the District experienced two extreme storm events that caused significant flooding in the District. The most significant event was on May 12, 2012, which caused extensive flooding in Plantation Sections 4, 5 and 7 and The Grove Sections 4 and 5. In addition to flooding several homes, Plantation Drive through Plantation Section 5, was inundated which eliminated a main access point from the District.

The projects will be constructed in a series of flood reduction measures in Plantation Sections 4, 5 and 7 and The Grove Sections 4 and 5, that will reduce the risk of flooding from storm events similar to the May 12, 2012 event. The improvements will be designed in accordance to local drainage criteria for Fort Bend County and the City of Richmond. The flood reduction measures include new storm sewer systems and detention ponds that will increase the District storm sewer capacity.

Wessendorff Middle School for 6th grade, Lamar Junior High for 7th and 8th grade, and Lamar High School for 9th through 12th grade.

The Terrace at Pecan Grove will be annexed into Pecan Grove Property Owners' Association and will be subject to the Deed Restrictions and Building Guidelines of that Association.

Holiday Garbage Collection & Customer Service Office Hours

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 27th

No trash pickup or recycling on Thanksgiving Day.

Next pick up date is Monday, December 1st.

The Customer Service Office will be closed

Thursday the 27th and Friday the 28th.

Christmas, Thursday, December 25th

No trash pickup or recycling on Christmas Day.

Next pick up date is Monday, December 29th.

The Customer Service Office will be closed

Wednesday the 24th and Thursday the 25th.

New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1st

No trash pickup or recycling on New Year's Day.

Next pick up date is Monday, January 5th.

The Customer Service Office will be closed

Thursday, January 1st.

We advertised to bid the Grove 4 and 5 project in October; the bids will be presented to the Board in November.

Water Plant No. 2 Improvements:

After an inspection of Water Plant No. 2, it was determined the facility is in disrepair and requires improvements including, but not limited to, valve replacement, recoating of steel structures, instrumentation replacement, removal of unused equipment, and replacement of the boundary fence. Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2015. Water Plant No. 2 is located at the end of Old Dixie Drive.

Lift Station No. 2 Improvements:

Lift Station No. 2 is being worked on to convert the power transmission to three-phase from single-phase power. The project also includes a rehabilitation of the wet well, pumps, and replacement of the electrical panels and instrumentation. Construction is anticipated to begin January 2015. Lift Station No. 2 is located on Mayweather Lane near the intersection of Willow Bend Drive.

Christmas Tree



The district will pick up and recycle all clean Christmas trees placed curbside. **The date for recycling is Thursday, January 1st and Thursday, January 8th. Please place trees out by 7am.**

Remember remove your tree base as well as any flocking, lights, ornaments or other decorations. Also, remember to fill up those curbside recycling bins throughout the year!

For more information visit the Fort Bend County Recycle/ Environmental Center offices at 1200 Blume Road in Rosenberg, call their automated telephone line at 281-633-7527 or visit their webpage at <http://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/index.aspx?page=358>.

Hours of operation of the Fort Bend County Recycle / Environmental Center:
Recycling: Monday - Saturday 8am - 4:00 (except holidays)
Closed on Wednesdays
Household Hazardous Waste: Mondays 9am - 6pm & 1st Saturday of each month 8am - 2pm

You may pick-up recycling bins at the Pecan Grove Customer Service Office, Monday through Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm (closed 1pm - 2pm) at 2035 FM 359, Suite 13, Richmond.

Conserving

YOUR Water

- In a freeze, insulate exterior pipes and faucets
- *If you are leaving town, consider turning off your water at the meter to prevent any leaks*
- **Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses in freezing temperatures**
- **Fix any leaking toilets**
- **Know where your shut off valve is. The faster you can turn water off, the less water is wasted.**
- *Wash hands and brush teeth with less water. Wet the hands or the brush, then turn off the faucet.*
- **Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators.**

Find these and other tips at: <http://www.setgcd.org>
Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District

Upcoming Projects

Bull Head Aerators

The aerators installed in Bullhead Slough aim to provide a unique solution to managing the water quality within the channel system, while at the same time offering aesthetic value to the landscape of Pecan Grove. Bullhead Slough has had a constant issue with the development of algae blooms and growth of undesirable aquatic vegetation, given its shallow depth and slow moving characteristics, resulting in the need for constant herbicide applications to control these issues. While these efforts have been effective, the Board saw the need for a more permanent and sustainable solution in the effort to keep the Slough looking its best.

The type of aerators selected for this project were specifically chosen to fit the unique needs of Bullhead, and are purpose-built to improve water quality in several ways.

The majority of the benefits provided by aeration involve the distribution of oxygen throughout the water column. Oxygen is the most critical component to a healthy aquatic environment. In bodies of water with limited movement and agitation, the oxygen

in the water column becomes trapped toward the surface. By aerating the water, oxygen levels increase and evenly distribute this oxygen through all layers of the water column. With oxygen present in the pond bottom, good bacteria can aerobically decompose organic material, like plant matter and animal waste almost completely, without creating foul odors in the process. This allows for faster removal of this organic material, resulting in limited nutrients available for plant growth.

In addition to helping control aquatic plant growth, the aerators will serve to benefit the aquatic life in Bullhead Slough as well. Increased dissolved oxygen levels will provide a healthier environment for wildlife living in and around the water, and will also help prevent fish kills commonly seen with rapid water temperature changes due to oxygen deficiencies.

Overall, the addition of these aerators provide a great improvement to Bullhead Slough, both ecologically and aesthetically. We hope that they benefit your quality of life as much as they benefit the quality of the water and the lives of the creatures that call Bullhead Slough home.

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Did you know how Fort Bend County got its name?

Pecan Grove MUD

In the early 1820s the Spanish government authorized Moses Austin to settle 300 families in the valleys of the Brazos and Colorado rivers; but plans were delayed by his death in June 1821 and Mexican independence from Spain. Stephen F. Austin assumed the responsibility of leadership from his father and gained confirmation of the original Spanish grants from the newly established Mexican government.

Following arrangements with Austin, a group of colonists sailed from New Orleans in November 1821 on the schooner *Lively* and anchored near

the mouth of the Brazos River on the Texas coast. In 1822 a small party of men, headed by William Little, left the ship and traveled inland. On a bluff near a deep bend in the river, they built a two-room cabin on the site that is now Richmond.

As the settlement grew, the cabin became known as "Fort Bend" since it was built in the bend of the Brazos River. This settlement grew to become the city of Richmond. The city of Richmond was incorporated under the Republic of Texas along with nineteen other towns in 1837.