

Brazoria County MUD No.21
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Lakes of Savannah South MUD News

A Newsletter for the residents of Municipal Utility District 21

S.E.A.L. Security Spotlight on Sergeant Kevin Helton

Sergeant Kevin Helton, a former Galveston County Sheriff's Deputy, has been with S.E.A.L. Security Solutions for more than two years. Sergeant Helton supervises a team of officers and works in the community with his K-9 partner, Sax. Sergeant Helton and K-9 Sax have created a strong bond, becoming one of S.E.A.L.'s most effective deterrents against crime. Sergeant Helton is also a member of the Special Operation and Response Team (SORT). SORT's are highly trained tactical teams that support local law enforcement authorities. He ranked 2nd in his Special Operation Response Team training.

As summer vacation season begins, Sergeant Helton encourages residents to sign up for vacation watch checks from S.E.A.L. Security Solutions if you are going out of town. An officer

will routinely check on your home while you are away. The officers will do a perimeter sweep of the home to make sure that nothing looks out of place. The request must be made at least two weeks prior to your departure. Also, have a trusted neighbor or relative or friend pick up your mail and/or packages daily so they do not pile up at your door step. Do not post your vacation plans on social media sites and be careful what you say on your answering machine or voicemail.

The 24 hour S.E.A.L. hotline number is 713-396-5600.



FROM THE MUD 21 BOARD...

The Board of Directors after careful consideration has lowered the 2015 tax rate for all property owners from \$1.40 to \$1.32 on the appraised value of your home. This tax rate decrease was approved with the idea of providing tax relief due to higher appraised values in the community.

Best Trash has increased the monthly rate for curbside service with recycling from \$15.50 to \$15.72. This price adjustment was based on the CPI-U for garbage and trash.

The City of Pearland has increased the monthly Fire/EMS fee from \$14.80 to \$14.84. This is an increase of 4 cents for each single family residence.

Project Updates

Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System

The District's engineer has recommended a reverse osmosis water treatment system to improve the taste, color, and odor of the District's water. The District's engineer has completed all testing and water analysis simulations to ensure the system will remove the unwanted constituents from our water. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") has reviewed the documentation and approved the design of the facility.

The Board has authorized the District's engineer to prepare the plans, specifications, and bidding documents for the construction of the reverse osmosis facility. The reverse osmosis facility will be built on the current water plant site and is expected to be operational in 2017.

Drainage Improvement Project

The northeastern boundary of the District has recently experienced flooding. The Board has authorized NJ Services, LLC, to remove trees and debris from all detention lakes and drainage channels and provide ongoing maintenance in the area. To reduce the flooding in the area, the Board has authorized the District's engineer to obtain specifications and bid proposals to make any necessary repairs to the drainage channels.

The Lakes in the District

Lakes of Savannah South consists of 2 small entry ponds, 9 wet-bottom detention lakes, and 15 floating lake fountains. Wet-bottom detention lakes are designed to capture storm water during times of heavy rain and release storm water to a drainage system to prevent flooding. The wet-bottom detention lakes of Lakes of Savannah South also serve as amenity lakes for the homeowners since they hold water year round. The lakes are relatively shallow with an average depth of 5 to 8 feet, which makes them susceptible to vegetation growth. These aquatic vegetation problems are very common in many wet bottom detention lakes in the Houston area.

Lake Pro, Inc. has been managing the lakes at Lakes of Savannah South for the past three years. Routine site visits are made two times per month to conduct lake maintenance such as applying chemicals for treating aquatic vegetation, inspecting and repairing mechanical equipment such as fountains, conducting water quality analysis, and removing trash and debris from the lakes. All chemicals used for vegetation control are EPA and state certified for aquatic use and will not harm fish or wildlife.

Improperly disposed of materials will pollute the lakes. Do not place yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings or brush into the lakes. Do not dump any materials in the storm sewer drains located in the streets. Pick up and dispose of pet waste in your weekly garbage. Following these simple guidelines will enhance the quality of the lakes in our community.



Save Water . Save Money

Tips for Conserving Water Outdoors:

During the summer months water used outdoors can account for 50 to 80 percent of home water use and much of it is wasted through inefficient landscape watering practices. Here are some tips from the Texas Water Development Board on ways you can save water and money during the hot Texas summer.

How often should I water?

Only water your lawn when needed. A good test is to walk across your yard. If you leave footprints, it's time to water. One inch of water once a week should be sufficient to keep most lawns healthy. Proper watering will help grass and shrubs develop deep roots. Over-watered turf will have a short root system and will not be drought tolerant. By slowly adjusting to longer periods between watering, the turf can grow deeper roots and become drought tolerant.

When should I water?

Early morning or late evening to help prevent evaporation.

When should I mow?

Only when the grass is dry. And don't cut more than one-third of its length at one time. Taller grass holds moisture better, encourages deeper root growth, and is less susceptible to browning. Keep grass 3 inches tall during the summer (taller than 3 inches stresses the grass).

How can I conserve soil moisture?

Use lots of mulch. It will make shrubs and trees more tolerant to the heat.

1 to 3 inches of mulch

- retains moisture
- reduces runoff
- helps moderate soil temperature
- aids in root development
- reduces erosion
- slows weed growth

What is the most efficient irrigation system?

Drip irrigation. It's the most efficient method of watering bedded plants, trees, or shrubs. Soaker hoses are an easy and inexpensive alternative to drip irrigation.

How can I manage my sprinkler system for water efficiency?

Adjust the settings as needed. Don't just set it in the spring and leave it on all season. Reduce the run time of sprinklers on shrubs, which may not need as much water as grass. Shady areas may not need as much water either. Contact a professional irrigation specialist for a maintenance check.

What maintenance is required for my automatic sprinkler?

Check sprinkler heads regularly. Remove dirt or debris that may be clogging the nozzle and make sure the heads are working at the proper pressure and not leaking. Repair or replace broken heads, valves, seals, and pipes. Once a month, run the sprinklers for a short time on each cycle while you are home to make sure they are working properly.

Meetings:

The Board regularly meets the third Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the law offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, 24th Floor, Houston, Texas, 77027.

Meetings of the Board are open to the public.