



# Harris County

## Municipal Utility District

No. 81

FIRST QUARTER • 2025

### HC MUD 81 Board of Directors

**PATRICK CATHCART**  
PRESIDENT

**BRUCE COX**  
VICE PRESIDENT

**MICHAEL OLSEN**  
SECRETARY

**GEORGE GOFF**  
TREASURER

**DONNA BROWN**  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY



### Have a question?



**WATER/SEWER BILLING  
OR SERVICE ISSUES**  
MDS: 281-290-6500 (24/7)



**TRASH SERVICE**  
BEST TRASH:  
281-313-2378



**TAX BILL/PAYMENT**  
WHEELER & ASSOCIATES:  
713-462-8906



**GENERAL QUESTIONS**  
ABHR/LEGAL:  
713-860-6400



**MUD 81 OFFICE**  
281-392-8112  
(8 AM - 2 PM, M-F)

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 81

805 Hidden Canyon  
Katy, Texas, 77450

281-392-8112  
hcmud81.com

### Note from the Board of Directors

Happy New Year from the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 81 (MUD 81) Board of Directors! We hope that you and your family had a safe and happy holiday season. We hope you have enjoyed the cooler weather we have experienced. While a break from the heat is welcome, extended cold temperatures can cause damage to homes and property. Read on for more information regarding preparing for winter weather. Also, learn more about the West Harris County Regional Water Authority and the fees charged by the Authority that appear on your water bill.

As always, the MUD 81 Board encourages you to visit <http://www.bjconcepts.com/hcmud81/signup.html> to sign up for text and/or e-mail alerts that will allow MUD 81 to deliver important news directly to your inbox or text app.



### Report from Fall Community Shred Event

On October 12, 2024, the MUD 81 Board and its garbage and recycling provider, Best Trash, held the most recent free community shred event for MUD 81 residents. Residents delivered 2,500 pounds of materials to be shredded and recycled, which translates to:



- 26 trees saved
- 7,200 gallons of water saved
- 800 kilowatts of energy saved, and
- 8 cubic yards of landfill space saved

The MUD 81 Board would like to thank all the residents who participated and helped to make this event such a huge success!

Be sure to keep an eye out for the next Community Shred Event. We hope to see you there.



Sign up for MUD 81 email and text alerts at  
<http://www.bjconcepts.com/hcmud81/signup.html>

## Storm System Improvements

Since Hurricane Harvey made landfall in August 2017 and resulted in flooding in MUD 81 and throughout southeast Texas, MUD 81 has been working with Harris County regarding Harris County's drainage improvements within Cimarron Subdivision – Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5, which were completed during 2024, and Harris County's proposed drainage improvements within MUD 81 for the Memorial Parkway Subdivision. The purpose of the projects is to improve the District's decades-old drainage system and reduce the risk of future flooding within the community. Costs for the projects will be shared between Harris County, MUD 81, and as appropriate, other area MUDs that will benefit from the improvements. MUD 81's share of the drainage improvements will be funded by the issuance of bonds, which were authorized by MUD 81's voters at the election held on May 1, 2021. The MUD 81 Board also has worked with Harris County to ensure that MUD 81's total contribution for both the Cimarron and Memorial Parkway drainage improvements projects will not exceed the original \$8,200,000 amount approved by MUD 81's voters at the May 1, 2021 bond election.

### **Cimarron Sections 2,3,4, & 5:**

After many years of planning and over a year of construction, the Cimarron drainage improvements are complete.

### **Memorial Parkway:**

BGE has completed the field work and is continuing with the design of the Memorial Parkway drainage improvements. The proposed improvements include upsizing storm sewer lines, installing additional surface drains, and constructing new detention facilities to meet current drainage criteria. Harris County has submitted an application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to request approval to allow peak flows into Barker Reservoir in connection with the project and is awaiting their response.

### **Ongoing Construction Projects:**

- **Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – Memorial Parkway Sections Nos. 3, 4, and 5.** MUD 81 advertised for competitive bids the sanitary sewer rehabilitation for Memorial Parkway Sections Nos. 3, 4, and 5 and awarded the project to the lowest qualified bidder, Champion Cleaning Specialties, Inc. Construction of this project began on November 18, 2024.
- **Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – Cimarron Subdivision, Section Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and Memorial Parkway Section Nos. 6, 7, and 8.** The MUD 81 Board authorized the televising and cleaning of the Cimarron Subdivision, Section Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and Memorial Parkway Section Nos. 6, 7, and 8 sanitary sewer lines. The cleaning and televising of these lines is now complete, and the MUD 81 Board authorized BGE to design a rehabilitation project based on BGE's evaluation of the information received from the televising and cleaning.
- **Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – Cimarron Subdivision, Section Nos. 4, 5, and 6, Memorial Parkway Section Nos. 9, 11, and 13, Silverstone, Section No. 1.** NEW PROJECT - The MUD 81 Board authorized BGE to design the televising and cleaning of the Cimarron Subdivision, Section Nos. 4, 5, and 6, Memorial Parkway Section Nos. 9, 11, and 13, and Silverstone, Section No. 1 sanitary sewer lines. After the cleaning and televising of these lines is complete, BGE will evaluate the information received to identify any areas in need of repairs.
- **Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – Sewer Line Along Kenlake Drive.** NEW PROJECT - The MUD 81 Board authorized BGE to design the rehabilitation of portions of a sanitary sewer line along Kenlake Drive.
- **Park York Force Main Replacement.** Design is underway for the replacement of the sanitary sewer force main along Park York. This decades-old line has nearly reached the end of its useful life and requires replacement to continue to serve the residents of MUD 81.
- **Water Plant No. 3 Elevated Storage Tank Rehabilitation.** BGE is working on the design for rehabilitation of MUD 81's elevated storage tank. This aging facility requires improvements to ensure it will continue to function as designed.



## Preparing for Winter Weather



It's time to protect your pipes. Although we live in a warm climate, cold weather sometimes occurs—sometimes suddenly. Being prepared may help to avoid disastrous consequences that can be expensive to repair. Below are a few steps to consider to prepare for cold weather:

- Insulate any and all pipes that are exposed to cold air. Hardware and building supply stores sell pipe insulation materials that are easy to install. If you use electric heat tape, be sure it is UL listed and that any extension cords are properly grounded.
- If the temperature is expected to stay below freezing for several hours, it's a good idea to cut off the water to your home and drain the pipes. When water freezes inside a pipe, it expands and can cause the pipe to burst.
- Many water lines are installed behind cabinets and in the attic. Keeping the doors to cabinets, closets, and the attic open during the coldest periods may allow your interior heat to help protect the pipes. IF YOU LEAVE CABINETS OPEN, PLEASE REMOVE ANY CLEANING SUPPLIES OR CHEMICALS TO KEEP CHILDREN OR PETS FROM GETTING TO THEM!
- If you plan to be away for several days during expected freezing weather, don't turn off your heat. Keeping the air in the 60s will help keep your pipes warm. Better yet, cut off the water to your home and drain the pipes.

For more information, please contact a licensed plumber or building professional.

### Know Your Winter Weather Terms


When winter weather is approaching, there are a variety of terms you may hear on the news or see in the newspaper or your favorite weather app. Knowing what to expect can help you prepare to keep you and your family safe when severe weather occurs.

When it comes to winter storms, two common events you might hear about are a winter storm warning or winter weather advisory:

When temperatures begin to drop and freezes may occur, two common notices are for a freeze warning or frost advisory:

<h3>Winter Storm Warning</h3> <p>Dangerous winter weather is expected within the next <b>12 to 36 hours</b> or is occurring. <b>Considerable travel problems</b> are expected.</p> <p><b>take action.</b></p>	<h3>Winter Weather Advisory</h3> <p>Potentially dangerous winter weather is expected within the next <b>12 to 36 hours</b> or is occurring. <b>Travel difficulties</b> are expected.</p> <p><b>be aware.</b></p>
---	--

<h3>Freeze Warning</h3> <p>Temperatures of <b>32°F or colder</b> for several hours over a widespread area during growing season. A <b>hard freeze</b> is when temperatures are below 28°F.</p> <p><b>Plants left outdoors may be killed.</b></p>	<h3>Frost Advisory</h3> <p>Temperatures of <b>33 to 36°F</b> with clear skies and light winds over a widespread area during growing season, which would promote the development of frost.</p> <p><b>Plants left outdoors may be damaged.</b></p>
--	--

 [weather.gov/safety/winter](https://weather.gov/safety/winter)

If you lose power during a winter storm, remember to NEVER use your generator or grill indoors. Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines. A gas stove or oven should NEVER be used to heat your home either because this increases your chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Stay tuned to weather reports and warnings of freezing weather and winter storms. You also may sign up for emergency alerts from Harris County's Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, at <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736729064#/signup>.

## Understanding the West Harris County Regional Water Authority Fee

A common question MUD 81 receives is: What is the line item on my water bill labeled "WHCRWA"? That item refers to the pumpage fees MUD 81 is required to pay directly to the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) each month.

The WHCRWA recently released a video titled "What is the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) Fee on my water bill?" that explains these fees. A link to the video is available on the District's website at <http://www.hcmud81.com/information.html/> and is also available on the WHCRWA's website at <https://www.whcrwa.com/what-is-the-whcrwa-fee/>.

The Fall 2024 edition of the WHCRWA's Partners in Progress newsletter also provides additional information about the WHCRWA, the WHCRWA's rates, winterizing your irrigation system, and more. You can view the newsletter at <https://www.whcrwa.com/newsletters/>.

Please visit one or both of these publications from the WHCRWA to learn more about the WHCRWA fee on your water bill. The fee you pay is based on the amount of water you use. The less water you use—the lower the fee will be on your water bill.



*Visit us online*

HCMUD81.COM