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**QUARTERLY  
 NEWSLETTER  
 APRIL 2022**



## **YOU MUST CALL BEFORE YOU DIG...**

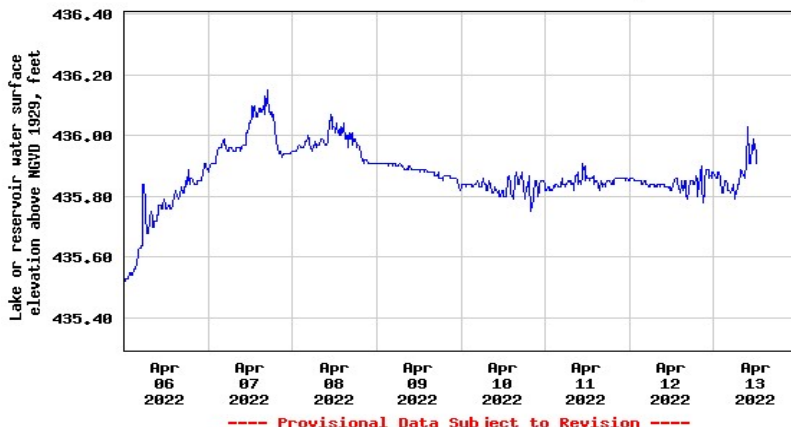
If you plan to do any work (or hiring a contractor to do work) that includes digging, or excavating, on your property, you **MUST** plan ahead and call **BEFORE** you dig. You must call 811 and Cash SUD to have any underground utility lines located prior to digging/excavating. Locating of utility lines is a free service, and one phone call can save you A LOT of money.

If the District’s facilities or equipment are damaged in any respect due to excavation, digging, or any other activity that damages District water lines and facilities, a fee shall be charged equal to the actual costs for all labor, materials and equipment necessary for repair or replacement of the District’s water lines and facilities. **In addition to the fee for the costs of all labor, materials, and equipment, an automatic penalty of \$3,000.00 shall also be assessed, and shall apply upon each occurrence of a violation of this section.** A penalty under this section is in addition to any other penalty or remedy provided by the laws of the State of Texas or this Rate Order.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Cash SUD has up to 48 hours from the time you call to locate and mark our water lines, and that utility line locate is only good for fourteen (14) days. If the work takes longer than the designated 14 days, you must call for another utility line locate in order to avoid the cost of any damages and penalties.

The person doing the digging/excavating must also dig by hand to uncover the utility line to see it before utilizing any machinery in order to avoid cost of damages and penalties.

USGS 08017400 Lk Tawakoni nr Mills Point, TX



“Lake Tawakoni Water Surface Levels.” USGS: *Current Conditions for Texas*, product of U.S. Dept of the Interior & U.S. Geological Survey, [https://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=08017400](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/tx/nwis/uv/?site_no=08017400). Accessed 12 Apr. 2022.



## DID YOU KNOW...?



Did you know that your health, and the health of your community, can be put in jeopardy if you do not do your part to prevent potential contamination?

**Cross connection** - a physical connection between drinkable water and a liquid or gas that could make the water unsafe to drink (wherever there is a cross connection, there is a potential threat to public health from the liquid or gas contaminants)

**Backflow** - water flowing opposite to its intended direction, either from a loss of pressure in the supply lines or an increase in pressure on the customer's side (in either of these situations, if any affected customer's pipes include a cross connection, contaminants could be drawn through the cross connection into that customer's pipes—and, if the backflow continues, perhaps even into the water mains)

You can help to protect the public water supply and make sure your family enjoys safe drinking water by taking steps to control cross connections and prevent the possibility of backflow.

A simple GARDEN HOSE commonly causes a cross connection by:

- forcing it into a clogged gutter, downspout, or septic pipe to flush out a clog
- connecting it directly to a hose-end sprayer to apply pesticide or fertilizer to your yard
- connecting it to a soap-and-brush attachment to wash your car, boat, or siding.
- letting the end of the hose lie in a puddle or pool of water on the ground.

The examples above could lead to contamination of your home and the public drinking water system. Here are two inexpensive ways to solve this problem:

- Never allow the end of your garden hose to be submerged in or connected to a nonpotable substance. Are you ALWAYS going to be THIS careful? (*Ever forgotten to turn the hose off?*)
- Install a hose bibb vacuum breaker on each of your outside faucets. These inexpensive devices can be found at home supply stores. They are designed to allow water to flow in only one direction. This allows you to use a hose-end sprayer without worrying about cross contamination.

Do you have an aerobic system?

The conditions of aerobic systems can be considered a health hazard for irrigators, and therefore, backflow prevention assemblies used in irrigation systems require testing annually.

You, as the customer, do not necessarily have to turn those results in to anyone, but you are required to keep records of each annual test performed by a trained professional.

For further information, you may refer to the following websites that were utilized to obtain the information in this article:

[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac\\_view=5&ti=30&pt=1&ch=344&sch=E&rl=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=30&pt=1&ch=344&sch=E&rl=Y)

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/cross-connection>



## ONLY 1 RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS PER METER

Cash SUD is noticing more and more customers moving second (or more) residences or businesses onto their property. According to state regulations, one meter is required for EACH residential, commercial or individual service connection. If you move a new residence/business onto your property, you will need to come see us about getting a new meter for that additional residence/business. If you attach the second residence to your current meter, you are in violation of state regulation and Cash SUD policies and are subject to disconnection from our water line. Cash Special Utility District's Service Policy Sect. E.19 reads:

*"No more than one (1) residential, commercial or industrial service connection is allowed per meter. The District may consider allowing an apartment building or mobile home/RV park to apply as a "Master Metered Account" and have a single meter. Any unauthorized submetering or diversion of service shall be considered a Multiple Connection and subject to disconnection of service. If the District has sufficient reason to believe a Multiple Connection exists, the District shall discontinue service under the Disconnection with Notice provisions of this Service Policy."*

## **2022 PROMISES TO BE VERY BUSY YEAR!**



Pic 1: Trenching for water lines

Phase 2 of the Fate Transmission Line project (addition of an 18" line) along Hwy 276 is now complete and has increased water capacity to the western side of our service area.

Our Cash SUD crews have been VERY busy. As of April 1st, they had already installed 103 new meters and have 25,000 ft of pipe scheduled to be placed in our system. In 2021, our crews installed 213 new meters.



Pic 2: Installing a fire hydrant



Pic 3: Installing water new water lines

## Cash SUD Board Member Spotlight



**Gary Pendergrass** joined the Cash SUD Board of Directors in June 2021. He has lived in our community for 32 years and works for L-3Harris as a project engineer. Gary shared with us, “Will Reese, former board president, had talked to me over the years about serving. Now that my kids are grown, I decided it was time and accepted his invitation to be considered by the board to finish his term.”

Gary told us, “It’s been a real eye-opening experience. I’ve learned about state regulations, the importance of coordinating digs with the appropriate utility entities, how much it costs to provide quality water to our customers, and just how hard working our Cash SUD team is.” He told us that he has seen some important issues arise just this year. “First, we invested in equipment to help ensure the ability to provide water during extreme cold weather events, and second, we are preparing to deal with a new EPA mandate that all lines be visually inspected to make certain water lines are not at risk of lead contamination.”

Gary serves as an elder at Creekside Church of Christ; he spends a lot of time tending to church matters. He enjoys working in the yard and reading whenever time allows. Gary added, “I enjoy my time on the board and look forward to continuing to serve our community in this way.”

## Cash SUD Employee Spotlight



**Ryan Loss** is the Cash SUD Chief Plant Operator. He has served our community working for Cash SUD for 28 years. Ryan’s years of experience and acquired knowledge help to lead our team of top notch operators at the Cash SUD Water Treatment Plant.

Ryan admitted that he joined the Cash SUD team because he needed a job, but he now enjoys working with our excellent staff of operators to make the best quality of water, even exceeding TCEQ & EPA requirements. During his time with us, Ryan has learned a great deal about the system, new types of instrumentation for testing water, how to repair pumps & motors as well as very detailed safety protocols for handling chemicals for water treatment.

We asked Ryan what he believes are the most important issues facing rural water districts; he replied, “I see a shortage of certified water operators in districts and lack of necessary water conservation measures by consumers as serious problems rural water providers will have to overcome.

When he’s not working, Ryan likes to spend time with his family on camping trips, and he enjoys riding his motorcycle.