



Lucas City Newsletter

September, 2011

newsletter@lucastexas.us

665 Country Club Road, Lucas TX 75002 • 972/727-8999 • www.lucastexas.us

City Council

- Rebecca Mark, Mayor
(rmark@lucastexas.us)
- Kathleen Peele, Mayor Pro Tem
(kpeelee@lucastexas.us)
- Wayne Millsap, Councilmember
(wmillsap@lucastexas.us)
- Jim Olk, Councilmember
(jolk@lucastexas.us)
- Don Zriny, Councilmember
(dzriny@lucastexas.us)
- Philip Lawrence, Councilmember
(plawrence@lucastexas.us)
- Debbie Fisher, Councilmember
(dfisher@lucastexas.us)

City Manager

Jeff Jenkins
(jjenkins@lucastexas.us)



THOUGHTS FROM THE MAYOR

As I write this article, I am thankful for the small respite from the blistering heat of the past few weeks. This afternoon for a very short time, it was only 84 degrees, and with a light sprinkle of rain, it gave me hope that the end of this difficult summer will come in the next few weeks.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see that we are now going to Stage 2 water restrictions. Our lakes are low, and with little hope of significant rain in the near future, we must reduce our water intake if we are to avoid going to an even more restrictive program. To add to the problem of evaporating lakes, our water supply from Lake Texoma has been lost temporarily due to invasive zebra mussels, which may damage equipment if not brought under control. Lake Texoma normally supplies around 25% of the district's total water supply.

I received an email last Friday advising that our water supplier, NTMWD, set a new production record on Wed., Aug. 3, with 582 million gallons provided to all customers within their district. The prior record was on July 25 of this year, with 554 million gallons. Prior to that, the record was 477 million gallons, which occurred in August of 2010.

Lucas water consumption has gone up dramatically this summer. We almost doubled our water usage from last July, when we used around 52 million gallons. This July our usage was over 91 million gallons. Our previous all time record for a single month was only around 80 million gallons.

I know it is difficult to face brown lawns and wilting landscaping, but we must conserve all that we can if we are to avoid even more drastic water restrictions, or even rationing. I urge everyone to reduce their water consumption in every possible way. Voluntarily restricting your water consumption on such things as washing your vehicles at a car-wash that recycles waste water rather than in your driveway, not letting cold water run down the drain while waiting for the hot water to start (instead, capture it and use for watering plants), and eliminating other wastes of water can help ensure that we make it through this long, hot summer with the ability to still have water for all of our most basic needs.

If you want to know more about the issues facing our water supplier, there is excellent information on their website, www.ntmwd.com.

Meeting Schedule

All meetings begin at 7:00 PM

City Council Regular

Thursday, Sep 1

Planning & Zoning Commission

Thursday, Sep 8

City Council Workshop

Thursday, Sep 15

Municipal Court

Wednesday, Sep 21, 3 PM

Parks & Open Space Board

Monday, Sep 24

Save the Date

Sunday, October 2nd, 1 to 4 PM the Lucas Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting an Open House/Safety Fair. Stop by to see how to make your home & family safer in the future!



IMPORTANT CHANGES IN WATER RESTRICTIONS

Effective August 19, 2011: STAGE 2 of the Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Response Plan will be implemented! 5% REDUCTION GOAL FOR THIS STAGE.

Items included in Stage 2 of the Plan are as follows:

- * Limit landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems to no more than two days per week. The 2 days allowed per week will be based on the map provided as an insert to this newsletter.
- * **ET/Smart irrigation systems are not exempt from this twice weekly watering limitation.**
- * Water may not be trucked or otherwise transported into the City for irrigation purposes.
- * Prohibit landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems from 10 AM to 6 PM beginning April 1 through October 31 of each year. Hand-held hose or permanently installed drip system watering of plant materials during this time may be permitted as long as no runoff occurs.
- * Prohibit planting/watering of cool season grasses (such as rye grass or other similar grasses). **NO WINTER OVERSEEDING ALLOWED.**
- * Please wait until the current drought or emergency situation has passed before establishing new landscaping.

Valued water customer, the drought contingency regulations that were adopted by the City of Lucas, were not adopted by choice but mandated by the State and participation by the City is not voluntary. The City does recognize that the amount of water available to its water customers is limited; and the City recognizes that due to natural limitations, drought conditions, system failures and other acts of God which may occur, the City cannot guarantee an uninterrupted water supply for all purposes at all times; and the Texas Water Code and the regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality require that the City adopt a Drought Contingency Plan. **Any customer, defined pursuant to 30 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 291, failing to comply with the provisions of the Plan shall be subject to a fine of up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and/or discontinuance of water service by the City.** Proof of a culpable mental state is not required for a conviction of an offense under this section. **Each day a customer fails to comply with the Plan is a separate violation.** The City's authority to seek injunctive or other civil relief available under the law is not limited by this section.





SAVE THE DATE

City of Lucas Founder's Day
Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011
Lucas City Hall & Pavilion
665 Country Club Rd, Lucas TX 75002

Actions from City Council

- * Approved an amendment between the City of Lucas and Collin County concerning the renewal of Agreement 12133-08 regarding Jail Services to extend the contract until September 30, 2012, all terms and conditions of the contract to remain in full force and effect.
- * Approved lease between the City of Lucas and Family Promise of Collin County concerning the property located at 325 W. Lucas Road.
- * Approved **Ordinance # 2011-07-00683** of the City of Lucas, Texas, abandoning a utility easement of 12,257 square feet, more or less, as more particularly described in Exhibit "A" and depicted in Exhibit "B", to the property owner, SC Lucas Road, L.P.; providing for the furnishing of a certified copy of this ordinance for recording in the real property records of Collin County, Texas, as a quitclaim deed of the City of Lucas; and providing an effective date.
- * Approved **Ordinance # 2011-07-00684** of the City of Lucas, Texas, abandoning street right-of-way and utility easement of 7,023 square feet, more or less, as more particularly described in Exhibit "A" and depicted in Exhibit "B", to the property owner, Roberta O. Crumpton; providing for the furnishing of a certified copy of this ordinance for recording in the real property records of Collin County, Texas, as a quitclaim deed of the City of Lucas; and providing an effective date.
- * Approved an Amendment # 4 between the City of Lucas and Collin County concerning the renewal of Contract No. 2007-736-09-11 regarding an Interlocal Agreement for Recycling Roll-Off Container to extend the contract until September 30, 2012, all terms and conditions of the contract to remain in full force and effect.
- * Approved an Amendment # 2 between the City of Lucas and Collin County concerning the renewal of Contract No. 05593-09 regarding an Interlocal Agreement for On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) to extend the contract until September 30, 2012, all terms and conditions of the contract to remain in full force and effect.
- * Approved an Amendment # 4 between the City of Lucas and Collin County concerning the renewal of Contract No. 10095-09 regarding an Interlocal Agreement for Animal Control Services to extend the contract until September 30, 2012, total amount for fiscal year 2012 is \$19, 030.00.
- * Approved an Amendment # 4 between the City of Lucas and Collin County concerning the renewal of Contract No. 10096-09 regarding an Interlocal Agreement for the Facility Construction and Use of an Animal Shelter in Collin County to extend the contract until September 30, 2012, total amount for fiscal year 2012 is \$14,570.00.
- * Approved an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Lucas and TML - Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool (TML-IEBP) for the purpose of providing certain benefits and related services for employees for Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012, October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.
- * Approved a facilities agreement by and between the City of Lucas and Pennington Partners, LTD concerning the Shipley Property.
- * Set the dates of August 18, 2011 and September 1, 2011 as Public Hearing dates for the Tax Rate and Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.



Volunteers Needed

Over the next few weeks the City will be accepting applications to serve on the various boards, commissions and advisory committees. Nominations and appointments will be made in November. If you would like to volunteer please complete a volunteer application and mail to ATTN: City Secretary, 665 Country Club, Lucas, TX, 75002 or email to kwingo@lucastexas.us or fax to 972-727-0091.

An application can be found on the City's website: http://www.lucastexas.us/objects/Volunteer_Application_1.pdf

Stormwater Facts

The City of Lucas is required by federal and state guidelines to develop, establish, and advertise a storm water reporting line to solicit information related to illicit discharges and illegal dumping; complaints, and general comments regarding Lucas storm water management program. If you have an opportunity please read the information available on the city website that gives more detailed information on what the community can do to help improve water quality through very minor changes in general daily activities. The number for the hot line is 214-644-0779, the web-site www.lucastexas.us.

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people. Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment also can destroy aquatic habitats. Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels. Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary. Debris—plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts—washed into waterbodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds. Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick or die from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water. Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

CITY OF LUCAS
665 COUNTRY CLUB
LUCAS, TEXAS 75002



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