

WHCRWA Pumpage Fee to Increase to \$1.75 / 1000 Gallons

The West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) plans an increase in the pumpage fee from \$1.55 / 1,000 gallons to \$1.75 / 1,000 gallons effective January 2012. This increase is to cover costs associated with the mandated conversion to surface water. MUD 132 is now passing through the pumpage fee charged by the WHCRWA to our customers.

The WHCRWA's board president, Bruce Parker; wants residents to be aware that more rate increases are on the way. "This is a massive construction project that we are embarking on, and to pay for this we have to raise the necessary funds," Parker said. "We have no taxing authority, so the only income we have to cover our costs is from pumpage fees and water sales. We're going to try to keep the steps small as we incrementally increase our rates. But, unfortunately, these fees must keep rising in order to pay for the next phase of this critical project."

The MUD 132 board recently approved an almost 35% tax rate DECREASE to offset the WHCRWA fees previously paid from the MUD 132 operating budget. WHCRWA fees are based on individual usage, so we strongly suggest you begin or continue to increase water conservation measures inside and outside of your home. **Conservation is the best way to control your individual WHCRWA costs.**

For more information on the WHCRWA and their conversion mandates/projects, visit the Authority's website at **www.whcrwa.com**.