

## Post Wood Municipal Utility District 6018 Knotty Post Ln., Spring, Texas 77373

## **Post Wood MUD**

Post Wood Municipal Utility District (District) provides high quality, safe water that comes out of your tap for drinking, washing, irrigating, etc. The District is also part owner of the Treschwig Regional Wastewater plant that safely handles and treats the waste you flush down the toilet or send down your drain. **Water District Management (WDM)** is the operator for the District. WDM's phone number is 281-376-8802.

# North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA) LOWERS its Fees in 2024

#### What is the NHCRWA?

The District is within the boundaries of the Harris Galveston Subsidence District (HGSD), which was created by the state of Texas in 1975 in an effort to regulate land subsidence in the greater Houston area caused by groundwater withdrawal. The HGSD requires well owners (cities and MUDs) within its boundaries to implement groundwater reduction plans to convert from the usage of groundwater to the usage of predominately surface water over a period of years, with steep penalties imposed upon entities that fail to timely comply or reduce their groundwater usage to mandated percentages.

In order to implement the requirements of the HGSD and spread the cost of surface water conversion over all water users in the area, the legislature created the NHCRWA, a group of local entities (MUDs and cities) encompassing 335 square miles and including approximately 710,000 residents.

## How is NHCRWA reducing groundwater?

NHCRWA is building a surface water distribution system (mostly underground) and purchasing surface water (water from lakes or rivers) from other entities to deliver to its members. The infrastructure and process is incredibly expensive, costing hundreds of millions of dollars.

In order to meet the conversion percentages mandated by the HGSD, some members of the NHCRWA have converted to surface water completely, some have converted to partial surface water usage and some, like the District, remain on groundwater. However, as a group, the NHCRWA's total surface water conversion percentage allows all members to be in compliance with HGSD conversion mandates.

## How does NHCRWA pay for this new surface water system?

The NHCRWA charges a fee to its members on all water pumped from wells within its jurisdiction. The NHCRWA first imposed this fee in January 1, 2003, and the NHCRWA has periodically changed these over the years.

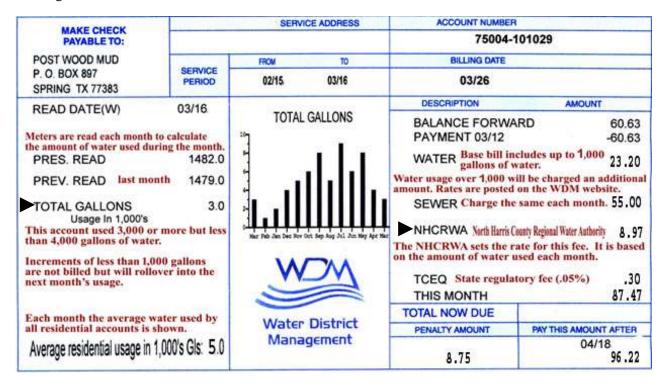
The MUDs and cities that are members of the NHCRWA have no control over the fees imposed by the NHCRWA. The NHCRWA has a Board of Directors that oversee these projects and sets such fees for all water users within its boundaries. To learn more about NHCRWA or to attend its meetings, visit its website: <a href="www.nhcrwa.org/">www.nhcrwa.org/</a>

#### Effects on water rates

While water rates have unarguably sky-rocketed and hurt everyone's pocketbook, the reality is that converting to surface water is the only way to ensure an adequate water supply for our growing population while reducing land subsidence. The District's membership in the NHCRWA provides the most cost-effective way for the District to implement the mandates of surface water conversion.

#### How is the NHCRWA fee calculated?

NHCRWA fees are based on the amount of water used. Below is a sample bill from the District. The arrow ( $\triangleright$ ) on the left of the bill below shows the Total Gallons (in thousands) of water used by the customer that month. The arrow ( $\triangleright$ ) on the right show the NHCRWA fee which was calculated by using the Total Gallons used.



### What is the decrease in NHCRWA fee?

The new fee is \$2.99 for each thousand gallons of water billed. This fee includes an additional 15% to cover the cost of water used by the District in operating the system.

| Water Used | 2024fee |       | 202 | 2023 fee |  |
|------------|---------|-------|-----|----------|--|
| 1,000      | \$      | 2.99  | \$  | 4.72     |  |
| 3,000      | \$      | 8.97  | \$  | 14.16    |  |
| 5,000      | \$      | 14.97 | \$  | 23.60    |  |
| 8,000      | \$      | 23.92 | \$  | 37.76    |  |
| 12,000     | \$      | 35.88 | \$  | 56.64    |  |
| 15,000     | \$      | 44.85 | \$  | 70.80    |  |

Average monthly residential water usage in the District was 5,000 gallons in 2023.

## Learn how to lower your water bill

The best way to lower your monthly water bill is to repair any leaks. Toilets are notorious for having small leaks (either continually running or flushing on their own). Put a couple of drops of food coloring in the tank and leave it for an hour or so – if the water in the bowl is now colored – you have a toilet leak.

Simple water conservation habits can also yield lower water bills. Turn off the water when you are not using it. Wash only full loads of clothes or dishes. Don't overwater outside. Repair leaks.