



# from the office of the City Manager

College Station ★ Texas

## ***A Monthly Report to the Honorable Mayor and City Council July 2005***

### June in Review...

**I**s it hot enough? With temperatures soaring and rain almost nonexistent, it is clearly obvious summer is here. The hot weather and lack of rain have combined to produce the highest water usage days of the year, with Fourth of July figures peaking at more than 21,000,000 gallons. Information featured in this report on **water usage and conservation tips** also will be included in the July utility insert, featured on the web page, and highlighted in City View on Channel 19.

★ As you can see from the picture at the right, the June 28 emergency exercise drew a crowd and lots of equipment. **Brian Hilton**, Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of College Station, worked with local agencies and the State monitoring group as they conducted the training exercise for a hurricane evacuee plan.



★ We were saddened in June at the unexpected death of **Mike Patterson**, a 26-year employee with the College Station Police Department who had been promoted through the ranks to Assistant Chief in charge of operations.

Assuming those duties will be Lt. **Larry Johnson**, a 27-year veteran of CSPD who has commanded the Uniformed Patrol Day-watch shift.

Johnson's promotion to Assistant Chief was announced July 1.

★ **Major traffic changes** are in store for Texas Avenue in July as the section from George Bush to FM 2818 sees a lane shift toward the west, utilizing newly constructed pavement. Southbound traffic on Texas at the Harvey Road intersection will receive a red light

while traffic merges from Harvey onto Texas. Once these changes are made, there will be two southbound lanes, two northbound

lanes, and one center lane.

★ Congratulations to **Chris Haver**, our new building official in Planning and Development Services. His promotion from Plans Examiner was announced in June. Chris (TAMU '99) began work with the City in June 2002 as a Building Inspector.

City Manager





# Spike in Water Demand Prompts Questions on Drought Contingency Plan

With the recent spike in water demand hovering around 20,000,000 gallons per day usage (90% of water system capacity), College Station’s water division is taking steps to remind citizens of conservation measures.

A recommended five-day watering schedule (below) will be included in the City’s utility insert, with a reminder that this is a voluntary effort unless conditions warrant mandatory compliance.

“Even when to water makes a difference during these dry periods,” said **Jennifer Nations**, Water Resource Coordinator for CSU. “While bucket,

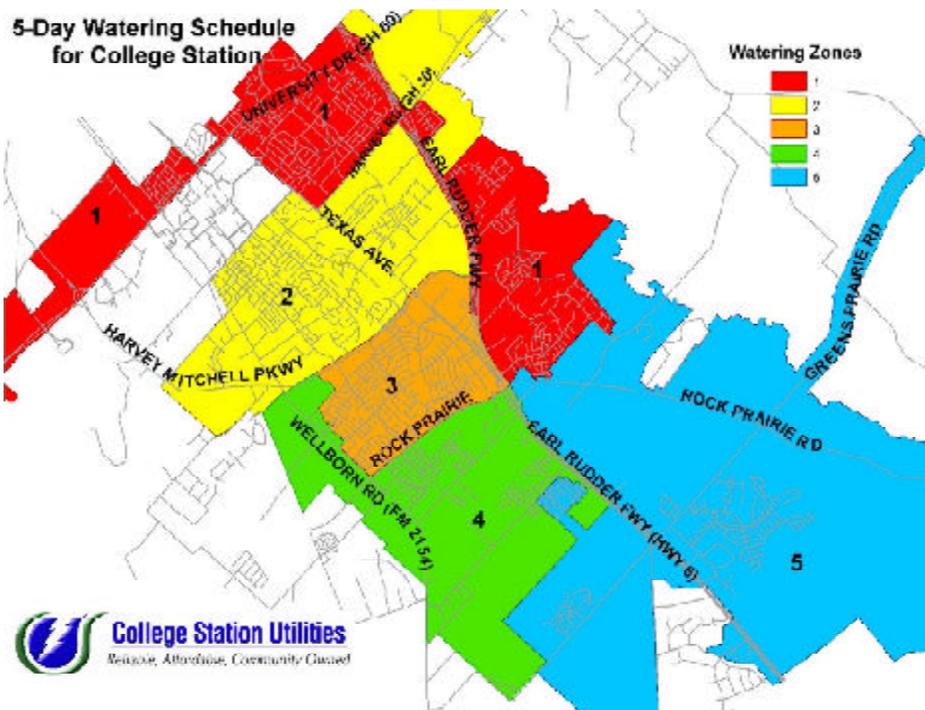
hand-held shutoff nozzles or drip/soaker hoses can be used anytime, we recommend hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems be used only from midnight to 9 a.m. or 8 p.m. to midnight.”

Although College Station Utilities encourages all of its customers to use water efficiently year round, she said water usage in the hot summer months can still be two to three times higher than winter water usage. Steps that can be taken to use water resources efficiently include the following:

- Avoid watering during the heat of the day. As much as 50-60% of water applied at that time is lost to evaporation.
- Follow the recommended five-day watering schedule. Deep, infrequent watering encourages plants to develop deep root systems that can better withstand drought.
- Adjust sprinklers so they water the lawn and vegetation, not surrounding areas such as streets and sidewalks.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to sweep sidewalks and porches.
- Check for leaks and fix them immediately. Unrepaired leaks waste thousands of gallons of water each month.
- When adding plants to your landscape, consider native and adapted plants, which often require very little additional water once they are established.
- Indoors, replace old showerheads with new water-efficient ones that use 2.5 gallons of water or less per minute. This one step can save a family of four over 7,000 gallons of water each year.

For more water saving tips, contact Jennifer Nations at [jnations@cstx.gov](mailto:jnations@cstx.gov) or call 764-6223.

**Note:** This watering schedule applies during Stage 1 and Stage 2 of College Station’s Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Plan. Stage 1 runs May 1 - September 30. Participation in the 5-day watering schedule is **voluntary** unless the City of College Station enacts mandatory watering restrictions.



Watering Zone	Watering Days Each Month
1	1st, 6th, 11th, 16th, 21st, 26th
2	2nd, 7th, 12th, 17th, 22nd, 27th
3	3rd, 8th, 13th, 18th, 23, 28th
4	4th, 9th, 14th, 19th, 24th, 29th
5	5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th





# Inside College Station...

## ***Seal Coating Important Part Of City Road Maintenance Program***

Like painting a house to add to its longevity, the seal coating process adds life to city streets. Armed with a color coded roadmap of College Station that reflects ratings of all areas, candidates for seal coating are identified and placed on the Public Works calendar. With almost 27 lane miles completed in 2005, Public Works crews have already increased their production over the 17.65 lane miles finished in 2004.

“Surface preparation is important and roads must be properly filled and patched before applying hot asphalt to seal any cracks or imperfections,” said Gary Balmain, streets and drainage superintendent. “Once the coating of asphalt is applied over existing streets, a layer of gravel is spread to complete the process.”

Seal coats are applied as relatively low viscosity mixtures with water so the resulting surface is very smooth. It is not intended for fast traffic. Projects completed in 2004 included the following roadways (with corresponding lane miles): Landfill, 1.2; Wellesly, .39; Vasser, .39; Ave B, .25; Churchill, .57; Preston, .32; Pasler, .59; Peyton, .31; Chappel, .13; Banks, .40; Ashburn (Francis to Lincoln), .76; Columbus, .20; Turner, .23; Ash, .39; Liveoak, .39; Nimitz, .91; Poplar, .39; Eisenhower, .48; Tonkaway, .36; Deacon (Welsh to Wellborn), 2.53; Pebble Creek Pkwy (Sec. 1) .58; Pebble Creek Pkwy (Sec. 2), 4.30; 12th Man, .22; Royal Adelaide, 1.33.

## ***College Station Utilities Receives Peak Performance Awards***

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) selected College Station Utilities to receive Peak Performance Awards, recognizing their public wastewater treatment facilities for outstanding compliance records in the 2004 calendar year. Announcement was made at the annual conference in Washington, D.C.



Both of College Station’s wastewater treatment plants, the Carter’s Creek plant and the Lick Creek plant, received Gold Peak Performance Awards honoring achievement of 100% compliance. It marks the third year College Station has received the national recognition.

Credit for the high marks goes to a team of skilled, licensed operators, technicians, and support staff who work together to effectively treat wastewater so that the end product is returned to the environment in a safe, environmentally responsible manner.



# City briefs...

★ Emergency personnel from College Station joined other area agencies in June as they trained to deal with a possible influx of Gulf Coast hurricane evacuees.

The exercise was part of a larger program across Texas that tested evacuation and shelter plans. College Station, along with Brazos County, is designated as an evacuee reception hub in Texas for category 4 or 5 hurricanes.

“Activation of the Gateway Reception Center, a designated shelter, is one of many activities occurring locally in support of the statewide initiative,” said **Brian Hilton**, Emergency Management Coordinator for College Station.

He reported that National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center evaluators assigned to the June exercise were impressed with operation of the Gateway Center.

★ College Station will join community, heritage and veteran organizations in Brazos County in supporting the “Texas in World War II” event scheduled Saturday, September 3, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of the war.

Hosted by the Museum at the George Bush Presidential Library, the day’s activities are planned from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and include WWII films showing in the theater, gallery talks throughout the museum on WWII, veteran panels, military and domestic vehicle displays, plus a hot dog luncheon complete with a style show featuring 1940’s fashions.

**Katie Elrod**, City of College Station representative on the planning committee, said free admission is being provided through the Bush Presidential Library.

★ **Sales tax** receipts for May (*April sales*) have been received from the State Comptroller’s Office. The City collected \$1,173,426.22 for the month of April, representing a 3.78% **increase** in revenue from the same month a year earlier. Sales tax collections for FY 05 YTD are 3.07% **above** FY 04 collections, or \$10,402,996.76.

Overall, tax revenues continue to grow at or about the projected 3% trend. We will continue to monitor sales tax revenue projections and report accordingly should there be any changes from the forecasted amount. Monthly and year-to-date sales tax collections are summarized as follows:

### **May FY05 Receipts**

\$1,173,426.22  
Actual Difference  
Percent Difference

### **May FY04 Receipts**

\$1,130,719.43  
\$42,706.79  
3.78%

### **FY05 YTD Receipts**

\$10,402,996.76  
Actual Difference  
Percent Difference

### **FY04 YTD Receipts**

\$10,093,079.63  
\$309,917.13  
3.07%





CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
Heart of the  
Research Valley

1101 Texas Avenue  
College Station, TX 77842  
www.cstx.gov

## COUNCIL CALENDAR

**Monday, July 11**

Work Study Session, 5 pm

**Tuesday, July 12**

-Transportation Committee Work-  
shop, Noon, Administrative  
Conference Room

-Special Meeting, Interviews for  
Parks Board, 5:30 pm, Council  
Chambers

**Thursday, July 14**

Executive Session, 5 pm  
Council Meeting, 7 pm

**Tuesday, July 18**

Intergovernmental Committee,  
Noon, Bryan

**Wednesday, July 19**

Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 am

**Thursday, July 20**

Research Valley Partnership, 3 pm

**Monday, July 25**

Work Study Session, 5 pm

**Thursday, July 28**

Executive Session, 5 pm  
Council Meeting, 7 pm

**Saturday, July 30**

Kickoff Event, National Night  
Out, Post Oak Mall, 11 am - 4 pm

**Tuesday, August 2**

National Night Out, 6 pm

**August 9-12**

8th Annual Transportation  
Summit, Irving

# Shining moments...

★ After 21+ years with the City of College Station's Electrical Division, **Len Jenicek** has announced his retirement. He is affectionately known as the "T-shirt Dude" to those who attend the Starlight Music Series programs. CSU will bid "farewell" and "best wishes" to Len July 8.



★ From **Chris Scotti**, Resident and City Councilman:  
*"As a resident affected by a power outage this AM and a city councilman, I want to pass along some positive feedback. I live at 710A San Mario and was awakened around 7 this morning to the sound of a transformer blowing at the end of the street. Before I could even get through to dispatch, a crew was on the scene. They had the problem resolved and power back online in a little more than 20 minutes, which is pretty amazing to me. I stopped by to say thanks as the crew was working and happened to recognize a friend, Ryan Busa. I don't know the names of the other folks that were working there, but please pass my compliments on to Ryan and the rest of the crew."*

★ From **Shawn Hokanson**, Vice President, Brazos Valley Cyclists:  
*"On behalf of the Brazos Valley Cyclists organization, I would like to extend our appreciation to the City of College Station, and specifically Mr. Ken Fogle of the City Planning Department and Mr. James Woodward of the College Station Police Department for their assistance and support in planning the College Station Ride of Silence that was held through the streets of College Station at 7 p.m. on May 18, 2005.*

*"The Ride of Silence is a nationwide ride designed to increase awareness of bicycle traffic and cyclist fatalities due to traffic accidents with motorists. Local rides like the one held here in College Station were held at the same time in cities throughout the United States; they are slow paced rides on city streets where participants remain silent throughout the ride.*

*"Mr. Fogle and Mr. Woodward were invaluable in helping us determine the ride route, determine permitting requirements and providing motorcycle escorts to insure a safe event that minimally impacted traffic but was still highly visible."*

★ From **Rhonda Lazenby**, Angelina Circle:  
*"I have lived at this address for six years and would like to express my appreciation for the services that the city provides for us. We have been so pleased with the response by the city departments whenever we have needed information or service. During the time that we have lived here, we have needed to have trees trimmed away from power lines and had immediate attention to the problem. Someone came to check the problem within hours. Yesterday I called in regards to an odor from a sewer main next door to my property. Someone was out checking the main within 30 minutes and promised to resolve the issue. Every service down to the bulk trash pick-up is handled professionally and is well done. I would just like to say thanks to every city office that I have dealt with since moving here. If you have a list-serve, please pass this email along. We are happy to call College Station our home."*

