



## Travis County W.C.I.D. - Point Venture

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# October 2021 Newsletter

Oct. 7, 2021

## Budget and Proposed Tax Rate Adopted

The 2021 tax rate and fiscal year 2022 budget for Travis County W.C.I.D. were both adopted at the September 23, 2021 regular board meeting following a public hearing for the tax rate. Directors present and voting FOR adoption of both the budget and tax rate were Directors Fred Marshall, Chris Lippe, Manuel Macias and Barry Pasarew. Director Annette Kikta was absent.

The District's 2021 tax rate remains the same as last year's rate of \$0.7409 per \$100 of value. The allocation of tax funds will be \$0.3979 for maintenance and operation and \$0.3430 for debt services.

Both the adopted tax rate and budget can be found on the District's website - [Other Information - Travis County W.C.I.D. - Point Venture - Point Venture, TX \(tccwid-pv.org\)](http://www.tccwid-pv.org)

## Protect Your Grinder Pump System

Almost every home in Point Venture has an alternative wastewater system also known as a grinder pump system. These systems serve to grind wastewater at your home into a slurry and pump it into the District's pressurized system. From there the District's system sends the product to the wastewater treatment plant.

Although homeowners own and maintain these home alternative wastewater systems, they are an integral part of the District's overall wastewater system.

**It is the customer's responsibility to protect and repair or replace their personal system. Here are some helpful guidelines.**

- When alarming, turn off the alarm AND the pump until a licensed plumber can arrive to troubleshoot and fix the system. (Alarms are generally both light and audible and

should be near your system.)

- A properly maintained grinder pump should be able to handle wastewater from the kitchen, bathroom, laundry, etc. However, some chemicals and substances can adversely impact a grinder pump and may cause safety hazards. Please check the labels on all chemicals before using / disposing.
- Only send human waste and toilet tissue down the toilet. Other items can clog or damage your system which may cause customers to pay costly repairs.
- If your system doesn't currently have an alarm system, consider calling a licensed plumber to have one installed as soon as possible.

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**WCID Board Meetings are usually held the 4th Thursday each month at 3 p.m.**

Future meeting dates:

**October 28**

**November 18 and December 16**

**due to holidays**

Current lake level Lake Travis  
Full Pool is 681 million acre feet  
As of 10-7-21

663.01

Current combined levels for Lake Buchanan & Travis  
1.59 million acre feet

**Point Venture is currently not under  
water restrictions**



## Protect Your Grinder System (cont. from pg 1)

- If your pump is not 2-horse power, it may have difficulty working properly. Consider upgrading.
- Gutter downspouts should not be diverted into or near a grinder system.
- Remember that grinder pumps are powered by electricity. In the event of a power outage, grinder pumps will not work unless they are powered by a generator.
- If you plan to be away for several days, replace the wastewater in the tank with clean water to help minimize odors. To do this:
  1. Run an inside faucet for about 10 minutes – long enough for the grinder pump to start working (you may need to go outside near the pump and listen to verify it has started).
  2. After the pump starts, turn the inside faucet off.
  3. The pump will run until the tank is empty and shut off automatically. **OR** fill a bathtub about half full of water, and then pull the plug. This process will cleanse the pump and keep it filled with a minimum amount of clean water. Remember to always leave the power to the pump on. (Unless it is alarming.)

## Additional precautions to protect your grinder system

Please never pour the following items down drains or flush down toilets:

- Kitty litter, coffee grounds, gravel, sand (including aquarium stone);
- Hair clippings, coffee beans, egg shells, cigarette butts;
- Feminine products, personal cleaning wipes, flushable wipes, dental floss;
- Diapers, socks, rags, cloth;
- Lubricating oil, grease, cooking oil, cooking fat (lard, oil, grease);
- Glass, metal, wood, seafood shells;
- Plastic objects (toys, eating utensils, etc.), rubber or latex;
- Strong chemicals, toxic, caustic, or poisonous substances (this includes Drano, Mr. Plumber, etc.);
- Any explosive or flammable material
- Gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, paint, paint thinner, anti-freeze; and degreasing solvents.

These items can damage the grinder pump and its controls, cause blockages and backups and may create unsafe conditions in customer's lines and tank.

## NOTICE ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY OF CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Chapter 182 of the Texas Utilities Code as amended in 2021 by House Bill 872 provides that a government-operated Municipal Utility District may not disclose personal information (customer's address, telephone number, and social security number) in a customer's account, or any information related to the volume or units of utility usage or amounts billed or collected for such utility usage, unless the customer elects to allow such information to be disclosed.

The Utilities Code requires the District to provide notice of the customer's right to allow disclosure of his or her information. *Therefore, if you wish to allow disclosure of your personal information, contact the District for the appropriate form.*

The District is allowed to disclose information in a customer's account record to federal, state or local government officials; to District employees, officials and operations personnel; to consumer reporting agencies; to a contractor or subcontractor approved by and providing services to the District, the state, a political subdivision of the state, or the United States; or to any other provider of utility services.

**The District office will be closed Friday, Oct. 15. For immediate assistance that day, please call Austin dispatch 512-246-0498.**

### Amazing Water Facts You Should Know

1. The average cost for water supplied to a home in the U.S. is about \$2.00 for 1,000 gallons, which equals about 5 gallons for a penny.
2. A person can live about a month without food, but only about a week without water.
3. Water expands 9% when it freezes.
4. There is about the same amount of water on Earth now as there was millions of years ago.
5. Americans drink more than one billion glasses of tap water per day.
6. The U.S. draws more than 40 billion gallons of water from the Great Lakes every day—half of which is used for electrical power production.

(Watch for more amazing facts in future newsletters.)