



# Update

VOL 28 • NO 10

A PUBLICATION OF BLOCK HOUSE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

Oct 2019

## Board Adopts 2019-2020 Tax Rate

The Block House MUD Board of Directors held a public hearing on the proposed 2019-2020 tax rate on Wednesday, September 25 at the Walker House.

Following the hearing, the Board voted on and approved the operating budget and adopted a tax rate of \$0.8085 per \$100 of assessed value.

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit from last year to this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.7810	\$0.8085
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.0275	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	3.52%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$228,679.49	\$236,025.98
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$5,000 min. 2% max.	\$5,000 min. 2% max.
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$215,364.65	\$224,421.98
Tax on average residence homestead	\$1,682.00	\$1,814.45
<b>Annual increase/decrease in taxes with adopted tax rate</b>	<b>\$132.45</b>	
<b>Percentage of increase</b>	<b>7.87%</b>	

Visit our website for energy conservation tips from Girl Scout Troop 1804

## Shred Away Day October 12

As identity theft becomes more prevalent, it is vitally important to appropriately dispose of documents containing confidential or sensitive information. Block House residents have an opportunity to do just that at the Shred Away Day (sponsored by BHC Owners Association) on Saturday, October 12, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, at Jumano Park, 1301 Block House Drive.

As always, your materials will be finely shredded before your eyes. Any paper documents are acceptable, but please no hanging file folders, three-ring binders, binder clips, or media such as CDs or tapes.

This event is open to ALL residents of Block House Creek. Proof of residency will be required, so please be prepared to present a MUD water bill or driver's license.

## Water Restrictions Still in Force

Block House Municipal Utility District (MUD), as a wholesale water customer of the City of Cedar Park, is required, at a minimum, to establish for its residents any voluntary or mandatory restrictions established by the City for its customers under the provisions of the water supply contract.

Under Stage Two, outdoor irrigation with sprinklers is allowed twice per week, before 10:00 a.m. and after 7:00 a.m., on your designated watering days:

Residential customers with addresses ending in an **odd number**: Wednesdays and Saturdays, before 10:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

Residential customers with addresses ending in an **even number**: Thursdays and Sundays, before 10:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m.

Watering conducted outside of these times could result in a fine assessed to your utility bill.

Washing cars at home is allowed at any time, any day, as long as your hose is equipped with a positive pistol grip nozzle so that water is not allowed to flow freely if the hose is put down. Automatic car washes are preferred because of the potential runoff into our creek.

Variations for watering-in new landscaping are available. Visit [www.blockhousemud.com/watering](http://www.blockhousemud.com/watering) for information on requesting a variance.

**Stage 2 watering restrictions (two days per week) are in effect for Block House MUD**

## Block House MUD Board of Directors

Cecilia Roberts, President  
Steve Bennett, Vice President  
Byron Koenig, Treasurer  
Rayan Horak, Secretary  
Ursula Logan, Asst. Secretary

Contact the Board at  
www.blockhousemud.com

### Block House MUD General Manager

Jacquelyn Smith  
512-259-0959  
gm@blockhousemud.com

### Water Utility Operator/Billing Crossroads Utility Services

512-246-1400  
www.crossroadsus.com  
customerservice@crossroadsus.com

### Restrictive Covenants and ACC Submissions

Pinnacle Texas Management Services  
Tanya Emmons  
512-795-8461  
bhud@pinnacletexas.com



## Amenity Addresses

Tumlinson Park and Pool -  
2600 S. Block House Dr.  
Apache Park and Pool -  
3100 Block House Dr.  
Tonkawa Park - 301 Jacqueline Dr.  
Bike Trail - 2601 S. Block House Dr.

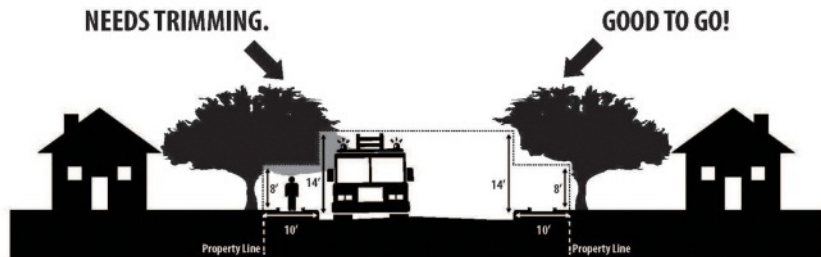
## Upcoming Events

Oct 1: National Night Out  
Oct 10: BHCOA Board Meeting  
Oct 12: Shred Away Day  
Oct 12: Neighborhood Garage Sale  
Oct 19: Lantern Parade  
Oct 23: MUD Board Meeting

## Trim Your Trees for Public Safety

Block House MUD contracts with a certified arborist to trim trees, bushes, and other vegetation in the parks, but streets and sidewalks are maintained by individual residents and/or Williamson County. Tree trimming helps ensure the safety of our neighbors, utility workers, EMS, Fire Department, school buses, etc. Foliage around water meters must also be groomed so the meter may easily be manually read, if necessary. In order to accommodate fire trucks and other emergency vehicles, tree branches should be trimmed a minimum of eight feet above the sidewalk and 14 feet over the street (see picture below).

Trees that encroach upon these heights in the right-of-way may need to be trimmed in order to prevent vehicle obstruction or damage. Residents are encouraged to arrange for their own tree trimming, either doing it personally or by engaging a certified arborist, so that trees appear even and meet owners' aesthetic standards. If Williamson County or Cedar Park crews trim trees and foliage out of public right-of-ways, please be aware that they do not do any aesthetic trimming; it is for safety purposes only and may not meet your standards for how you would like your trees and foliage to look.



The hot summer through cold winter months are the best times to trim trees. This is because the beetles that help propagate oak wilt, the most destructive disease affecting live oaks and red oaks in Central Texas, slow their activity between July and January. Oak wilt is caused by the fungus *Ceratycystitis fagecearum*, which is easily spread when beetles carrying the fungal spores from infected red oaks to fresh, open wounds on healthy oaks.

Fresh tree wounds should be sealed with a tree wound dressing or latex paint, and tree pruning tools should be cleaned with a 10 percent bleach solution or Lysol at all times of the year. The MUD Board recommends contacting a certified arborist to trim your trees.

Visit <http://texasoakwilt.org> for additional resources.

*Thanks to the City of Cedar Park for providing this information and graphic.*

## New Walker House MUD Office Hours

The Block House MUD Board of Directors approved new on-site office hours at its August 28, 2019 Board Meeting:

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and Wednesdays by appointment (please call 512-259-0959 to schedule an appointment).**

Reservation forms may be placed in the drop box at the Information kiosk in the Walker House parking lot at any time.

**Stage 2 watering restrictions (two days per week) are in effect for Block House MUD**