

CITY OF ROBINSON TEXAS

CITY OF ROBINSON PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

JULY 2016



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Calendar:

City Hall Closed - Independence Day
(Garbage will run one day behind)
July 4, all day

City Council Meeting
July 5, 6 p.m.

Building Standards Comm. Deadline
July 8, 5 p.m.

Chipper/Shredder Day
(Due to Holiday it is 2nd weekend)
July 9, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Deadline
July 15, 5 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Meeting
July 19, 6 p.m.

Board of Adjust. Deadline
July 22, 5 p.m.

City Council Meeting
August 2, 6 p.m.

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Contact:

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Robinson, TX 76706

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254.662.1415 ext. 6001

City Utilities
254.662.1415 ext. 6002

After hours & Weekends
254.662.0525

Water Rights in Robinson and What That Means to Citizens

A water system is comprised of the following components: water supply, water treatment, water storage, water pumping, and water distribution. Water supply for the City's water system is provided by two sources which include groundwater and treated surface water.

The City of Robinson's water system began as a groundwater system by water wells that were drilled into a ground water source known as Trinity Aquifer. The city has a total of ten well sites with only five of them currently in service. All of the wells that were drilled in the 1950's have been abandoned. With the growing demand for treated water and a declining water level in the aquifer (ground water), the City constructed a surface water treatment plant in the 1990's to supplement the existing groundwater system. In the late 1990's the city added an upper pressure plane to the system along with providing the City of Lorena with treated water. The City is in a unique position where they are actually able to sell water to another City. Robinson also purchases treated water from the City of Waco, which treats water from Lake Waco.

Currently there are approximately 4,600 water meters served by the City's water system and this is authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Along with providing water for the citizens of the City of Robinson, the City supplies 500,000 gallons per day of treated water to the City of Lorena.

Groundwater systems located in McLennan County are regulated by the Southern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District. Beginning in 2010, each entity pumping groundwater in McLennan County was required to submit an application to the District for the City to receive a Historical Use Production Permit to utilize the groundwater from the Trinity Aquifer. With the ground water levels decreasing, it is a high probability that this source for potable water will diminish over time.

The City cannot retrieve additional groundwater beyond what is allowed in the permit without having it approved by the Groundwater District. It is highly unlikely they would approve this unless another entity releases their current permit rights.

With ground water diminishing, and to ensure the City of Robinson does not face water challenges in the future, the City obtained a Texas Water Right to withdraw water from the Brazos River. This is stored in an off-channel reservoir on Tinsley, just outside the City limits.

The water rights is where the importance of the bond will come into place. For the City to maintain its rights to the Brazos River it must comply with Permit 5085, "Permit to Appropriate State Water". The original Permit No. 5085 had time limitations stating that if four (4) ponds were not constructed by April 30, 1992 the Permit would "expire and become null and void, unless permittee applies for an extension of time..." Reservoir No. 1 was completed within the time limitation, but Reservoirs No. 2, 3, and 4 were not completed and there is no public record of a request for a time extension. The City of Robinson hired the attorney Mike Booth to obtain an extension from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to extend the time the city had to construct Reservoirs 2, 3, and 4. Mr. Booth was able to get TCEQ to grant an extension on August 15, 2014.

TCEQ only recognizes that Robinson has constructed one reservoir with a capacity of 1550 acre-feet. The City chose to construct Reservoir No. 1 as two smaller ponds (Reservoirs 1A & 1B) in an effort to minimize construction costs as well as to provide flexibility of maintenance.

The rights the City of Robinson holds through permit number 5085 grants the City permission to divert up to 13,100 acre feet of water per year from the Brazos once all 4 reservoirs are complete. If Robinson did not have access to these rights they would have to purchase water from another entity. The Brazos River Authority is the only entity with access to that amount of water at this time. The typical price for one acre feet of water is \$70.50, so to purchase the 13,100 acre feet of water from someone else means it would cost Robinson \$923,550 per year. This amount only includes raw water (untreated water), the price more than doubles when you add the price for treatment, which is somewhere around \$900,000. The rights the City holds not only saves hundreds of thousands of dollars per year, but it also allows the City to have direct access to water. If the City had to purchase water from another entity the City takes the risk of being denied access to the water.



Robinson Brookshire's, and joined the City because she loves Robinson and wanted a job with better opportunities. Walter states, "The environment is great and the guys in the Water Department are awesome to work with."

The City of Robinson would like to welcome Jamie Walter as the new Water Distribution Field Assistant for the City's Water Department. Walter is from the Robinson area and is a Robinson High School graduate. After High School she attended McLennan Community College where she completed their Fire Academy.

A typical day for Jamie starts with checking the water wells to make sure the well is functioning properly and that the chlorine is at the right levels to ensure the health and safety of the City's customers. Once water levels have been checked the rest of the day is split between turning water on for customers and fixing leaks.

Walter comes to the City after 8 and a half years with the

Walter says, "My goals are to learn as much as I can about the Water Department and eventually move up." Walter also currently serves as a Volunteer for the Robinson Volunteer Fire Department.



Jana Lewellen, City Secretary, swears in Officer Brandon Hajek. The City is grateful for our Police Officers and the great job they do in keeping our City safe.

Robinson ranked 25th Safest City



Robinson moved up the list for 2016. We're the #25 Safest City in Texas, up from 47, according to Safewise! Thank you to the commitment and involvement from our citizens and police department.

Community News



Risk

Anyone who lives in or travels to an area where Zika virus is found and has not already been infected with Zika virus can get it from mosquito bites. The most current list of the areas endemic with Zika can be found on the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/index.html>

Transmission

- Zika virus is transmitted to people primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito (A. aegypti and A. albopictus) mosquito. These mosquitoes typically lay eggs in and near standing water in things like buckets, bowls, animal dishes, flower pots and vases. They prefer to bite people, and live indoors and outdoors near people.
- Zika virus can be spread by a man to his sex partners.
- A pregnant woman can pass Zika virus to her fetus during pregnancy. Zika is a cause of microcephaly and other severe fetal brain defects. To date, there are no reports of infants getting Zika virus through breastfeeding

Prevention

Enjoy the outdoors, but remember to protect yourself, your family, and your pets from mosquito-borne diseases, your best defense against being bitten is simply to be prepared by taking the following precautions:

- When outdoors, prevent mosquito bites by using an EPA-registered insect repellent that contains one of the following: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Follow product instructions

- When weather permits, wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks. For infants, place mosquito netting over infant carriers, cribs, and strollers
 - Don't feed the storm drain. Sweep lawn clippings, leaves and tree limbs from sidewalks and driveways
 - Once a week, empty, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Check inside and outside your home
 - Install or repair screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside. Use your air conditioning, if possible
- If you plan to visit an area with Zika or are returning to the United States from an area with Zika, you should take additional steps to prevent mosquito bites and Zika transmission. Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention> for additional traveler's information.

For more information and updates on Zika Virus visit the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District (www.wacomclennanphd.org), DSHS (www.TexasZika.org) or CDC website www.CDC.gov/zika



Robinson ISD is pleased to announce that we will offer online registration again for the 2016-2017 school year. Online registration will open on July 1st and run through July 31st. Upon completion of online registration, you will receive an electronic email that will contain a "Fast Pass". You will bring your Fast Pass and proof of residency (water bill or electric bill) with you to pick up your child's schedule on August 2nd or August 4th at the Junior High School Cafetorium. For more information about registering your child for the 2016-2017 school year, please go to <http://RISDWeb.org/>.

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