

(325) 388-4559

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## District Newsletter Content

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## New General Manager's Mission

On September 19, 2005, I began employment with Kingsland Municipal Utility District. I have a twenty year work history in the water & wastewater industry. Beginning as an entry level operator for Trinity River Authority then advancing to superintendent of water and sewer operations at the City of College Station and most recently the Utility Manager and General Manger of Lake LBJ MUD in Horseshoe Bay. During my career I have gained the necessary knowledge and skills required to effectively manage the business of the District. My formal training is in economics and international management

which has driven my management emphasis on providing quality services at the least cost to the customer. One of my first task was to create a District mission statement that defines for our customers and employees the services and the business ethic of the District.

The Mission of the Kingsland Municipal Utility District (KMUD) is to provide to the Kingsland area communities the safe collection, transportation, process control and legally disposal of all domestic, industrial or communal wastewater while operating at the lowest reasonable cost and in

a service oriented, forward looking and financially responsible manner.

KMUD will also serve a leading role in improving the quality of life; safeguarding public health; and further economic development of our community. The District will provide services to meet other needs that may arise in the community as authorized under state law.

It is my goal to provide clear leadership for our organization to best serve our community. I look forward to long working relationship with KMUD and the customers we serve.

## Public Health, Streamlining Expenses and Improved Odor Control are High Priorities.

With a newly defined mission it is important to clarify what are the District priorities. The highest priority of any government is to protect safe environmental conditions and well being of the people who make up the community. The most specific function of our District is to provide a safe guard against disease and illnesses that are potentially in wastewater generated by our community. This is why the District was created in 1972 and is still the reason for our existence. The District has had past problems with the treatment of regulated permitted contaminates and related compliance issues. Due to these compliance issues the District has had to place sometimes unpopular restrictions on specific undesirable contaminants that were entering

the public sewer system. The implementation of: a food service grease trap ordinances; the discontinuance treatment of water plant treatment sludge; and ceasing to accept septic tank hauler material at the sewer plant site, all contributed to restoring the sewer treatment plant to a safe and compliant operation. As inflationary pressures cause expenses to increase it has become a higher priority for the District to investigate new treatment technologies and practices. The District's goal is to focus on streamlining expenses without compromising service levels. Major emphasis will be on electrical consumption and customer installations expenses. One of the most noticeable issues

facing KMUD is odor control. Although this is not a new problem for our staff, we have recently made great strides in reducing odors at three lift stations within the District. Odorous compounds measurements after lift station modifications were completed have consistently averaged sixty percentage reductions. Plans are to modify all remaining lift stations with the expectation of similar results. In addition the District will purchase this spring an air bio-filter system to reduce odors emitted from the sewer plant's head-works building, the highest odor producing component at the sewer treatment plant.

## District Election Schedule for May 13, 2006

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KMUD District Board of Director Places 3rd, 4th and 5th will be determined from the May 13, 2006 Elections.

*The new facility is online and will provide disposal services for septic system owners. Rates charged to haulers will be set so as to pay for all KMUD operational expenses to provide this service. Current rates are \$7.00 /100 gallons received.*

*Since 2000 the District has added 495 new services to the sewer system and annexed 66 additional properties containing 492 lots to be served as they are built upon. Our goal is to provide for safe and dependable services at the lowest reasonable rates for our customers while planning to ensure superior financial health.*

The District will conduct elections on May 13, 2006 for three Board of Director positions. The three positions up for election are places 3, 4, and 5. The Directors currently in these positions are Joyce Alishie, Larry Denny and Weldon Brice, respectfully. All three incumbent Directors will seek re-election in their current place. Candidates seeking to be placed on the ballot for these positions may pickup applications and related election forms at the District offices during normal working hours.

Early voting will run from May 1 – 9, 2006, at the Kingsland Library. Mail in ballots will be available at the same location during normal business hours. Election day voting will also be held at the Kingsland Library. Voting hours are from 7:00AM to 7:00PM.

Beginning in January 2006, new federal and state election laws require all polling places to provide electronic visual & hearing impaired assisted voting

equipment to meet the Help America Vote Act mandates. For KMUD to meet the requirements of the new regulation, two individual machines will be required. The cost for each machine exceeds \$2,500, plus significant additional software and programming expenses. In an effort to moderate these expenses the District has contracted with Llano County to provide election services. Election expenses will be shared with other participating entities with elections scheduled for May 13, 2006.

## New Septic Treatment Facility Now On-Line

*In 2002 the District stopped taking materials pumped from septic tank haulers directly into the sewer treatment plant. The decision to stop this service was based on compliance issues related to the sewer plant keeping within regulated treatment parameters. The Board of Directors directed the District Engineer and Staff to investigate what options were available to continue providing*

*service to the owners of septic systems in the Kingsland area. The best option was to lease a small package sewer plant and place it in an area buffered from any nearby residents. The intent is to treat the septic materials to normal domestic sewer parameters prior to it entering KMUD's collection system. The new facility was*

*put on-line in September 2005 and now receiving septic materials daily. Rates the District charge to haulers will be set to pay for all KMUD operational expenses to provide this service. The current rates charged to septic haulers is \$7.00 per100 gallons received and will be reviewed and revised annually. **No materials pumped from any Grease traps will be accepted at this time.***

## Planning for District Growth & Financial Health

Like many other Central Texas communities, Kingsland is seeing extensive community growth. Since 2000, the District has added 495 new services to the sewer system. The annual average number of services connected to the District is approximately 90 representing a four percent annual growth rate. The District has also annexed 66 additional properties containing 492 lots to be served as they are built upon and has recently been approached to potentially annex three new residential developments with estimated 200-300 additional lots to be served by KMUD. Annexation fees collected from these developments will be utilized to fund future treatment plant and

collection system expansions. The treatment Plant flows have increased at a lesser rate than the growth in connection at 3.5% annually. The District's recent efforts to decrease storm water inflows have reduced treatment cost related to these flows and extended capacity of the plant. Currently the average flows account for 50% of the sewer plant capacity. However, at 75% the District is required by regulation to begin engineering design for additional capacity.

*To accommodate the eminent capacity and aging infrastructure issues facing the District, we must begin planning*

*now for Kingsland's future. Planning now to deal with these issues is essential for the cost-effective and competent management of the District's assets, both physical and financial. The challenge is to set realistic customer fees to cover operational expenses as well as the development financial plans to provide for timely replacement of aging equipment and for community growth.*

*Our goal is to provide the most safe and dependable services at the lowest reasonable rates for our customers while planning to ensure superior financial health.*

## Pressure Sewer System:

### What you can do to help maintain the system and how it works.

Unlike gravity sewer systems located in areas where the terrain is relatively level or soils are less rock, your sewer system requires a grinder pump to grind solid waste small enough to be carried through smaller pressurized sewer mains to the treatment plant. Replacement of a damaged grinder pump cost the District approximately \$1,000, a cost that ultimately is passed on to the customer.

#### The majority of Grinder pump systems service calls are:

- #1 source of service calls -- Grease causing float switch failure.
- #2 source of service calls -- garbage causing grinder to jam
- #3 source of service calls -- electrical/plumbing component failure.

#### Preventive measures that will help maintain a long and dependable service are:

- 1) Ensure that no trash is flushed down the sewer drains. (plastics, wipes, feminine products causes the grinder blades to seize up and pump will not work);
- 2) Pouring grease in a container and putting it in the trash instead of pouring it down the drain (grease coagulates in cool water of grinder basins, restricting on/off float switches);
- 3) Utilize liquid soaps for dish washing and laundry (powder soaps coagulate in cool water of grinder basins, restricting on/off float switches);

4) Never disconnect or turn off the breaker to the grinder pump when leaving town. Toilet or faucet leaks can overflow grinder basins, back up into house drains.

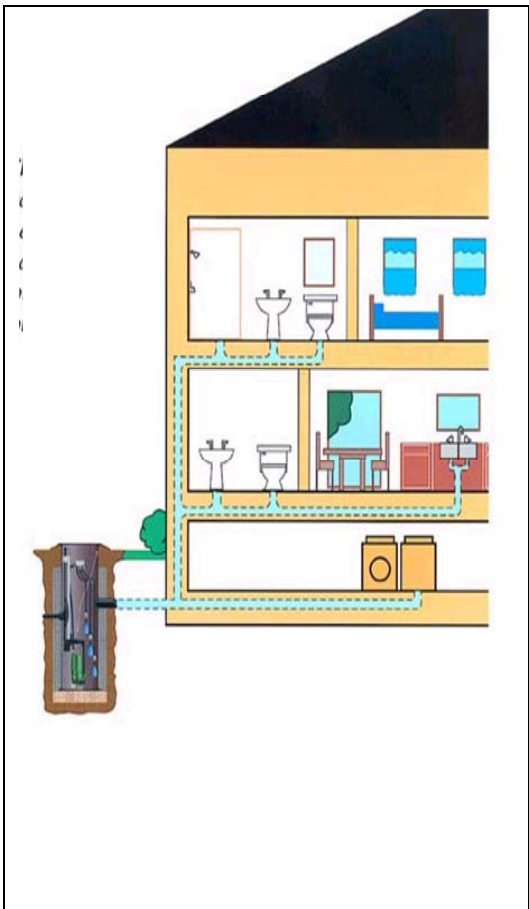
5) Be alert to any unusual noises or red light coming from the grinder system and report them to the District as soon as possible, even after hours (388-4559).

6) If you are going to leave your residence for more than one month run fresh water through your plumbing for approximately 5 minutes.

#### 7) Please make sure everyone who utilizes your home is aware of these facts.

If you have a question please contact the District Office at 388-4559.

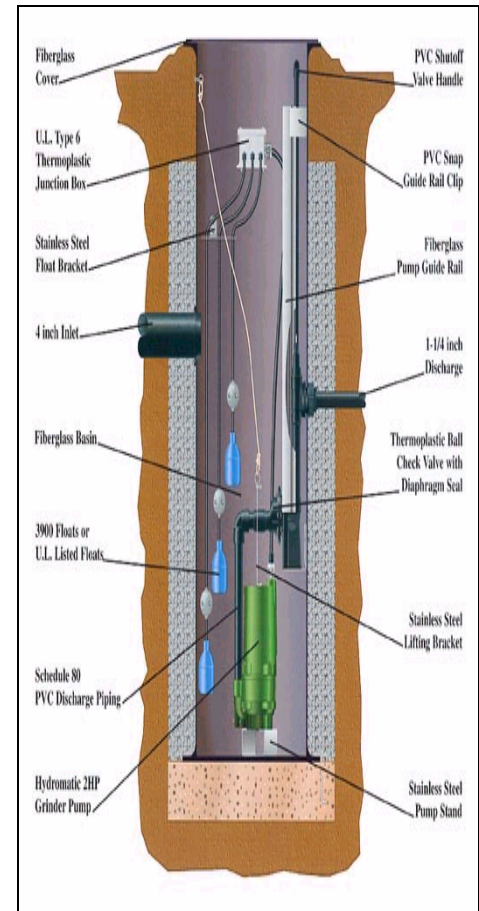
### Typical Grinder Sewer System Set Up



### How a Sewer Grinder Pump System Works.

Wastewater flows from your sinks, showers, and commodes into sewer drain pipes under the floors in your home until it collectively drains into your grinder pump tank. The tank is located outside of your home and can be identified by a round reinforced fiberglass cover. As the wastewater fills the tank, the middle floats begin to rise until it become horizontal and activates the grinder pump. The pump then grinds up solids waste, not plastics or trash, and then pumps the wastewater out of the tank and through the service yard line. As the level is pumped down, the bottom float will turn the pump off. The wastewater to flows into the sewer mainlines and is collect in a lift station where it is pumped at a higher pressure to the wastewater treatment plant for treatment and disposal. If the water level in the tank ever reaches the highest float a red light will turn on indicating there is a problem and service is needed. **Call 388-4559 if you see the red light on.**

### A Cut-away View of Your Grinder Pump System.



# Kingsland Municipal Utility District

**Kingsland MUD**  
*Billing Address*  
P. O. Box 748  
Kingsland, TX 78639

*Office Location*  
100 Ingram Street  
Kingsland, TX 78639

**Phone**  
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**E-mail**  
kmud@tstar.net

**Office Hours:**  
7:30AM to 5:00PM  
Monday – Friday

*Protecting  
Kingsland's Public  
Health since 1972.*

## Board of Directors:

President	Mary Ann Hefner	Place 1
Vice President	Frank Willingham	Place 2
Secretary-Treasurer	Joyce Ailshie	Place 3
Director	Larry Denney	Place 4
Director	Weldon Brice	Place 5

## Administration Staff:

General Manager	Jeffrey A. Koska	<b>Operators:</b>
Operation & Maintenance Supervisor	Dave O'Brian	Mike Pope    Chris Galvan
Business/Office Manager	Dianne Wolfington	Mark Wood    David Ashley
Senior Accounting Clerk	Karen Wilson	Mike Aponte
Senior Billing Clerk	Kim Delz	Juan Carrasco
		Kevin Frutiger

## What is KMUD and What can it provide?

KMUD is a Municipal Utility District (MUD) form of government that was created on March 2, 1972, under the authority, conditions, and restrictions of Article XVI, Section 59, of the Texas Constitution. Kingsland MUD was created to provide sewer services for communities within District's boundaries. Five Board members are elected to provide oversight of a District's business. KMUD currently provides: sewer collection and treatment, septic system materials treatment, brush grinding and recycling services. A MUD has the authority to levy rates and taxes to construct, purchase and operate facilities for the District's legally defined services. Other functions a MUD's can provide including: water, wastewater, storm-water control, garbage collection, road maintenance, parks, fire protection and police services if authorized by the District's voters.

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