

## Important District Contact Information

### Garbage & Recycling

Best Trash North  
(P) 346/248-5222 (E) [info@rrrtx.net](mailto:info@rrrtx.net)

### Garbage Committee

Crystal Kirby: [ckirby@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:ckirby@trailofthelakesmud.com)  
Virginia Elkins: [velkins@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:velkins@trailofthelakesmud.com)

### District Security

Harris County Constable Precinct No. 4  
**Emergency: 911**  
Non-Emergency/24 Hour Dispatch:  
**281/376-3472**

### District Security Committee

Kim Pendleton:  
[kpendleton@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:kpendleton@trailofthelakesmud.com)  
Troy King: [tking@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:tking@trailofthelakesmud.com)

### Water & Sewer/Paying Your Water Bill

Si Environmental LLC  
(P) 832/490-1500 (W) [sienviro.com](http://sienviro.com)

### Tax Bill Questions

Bob Leared Interests, Inc. - 713/932-9011

### District Emergency Notification System

Text the word **TOTL** to **474747** to register  
To unsubscribe text **STOP TOTL** to **474747**

## Board of Directors

*Crystal Kirby, President*

*Kim Pendleton, Vice President*

*Jo Smith, Secretary/Tax Compliance Officer*

*Virginia Elkins, Treasurer*

*Troy King, Asst. Secretary/ Asst. Treasurer*

## Trail of the Lakes Municipal Utility District

c/o Radcliffe Adams Barner PLLC  
America Tower  
2929 Allen Parkway, Suite 3450  
Houston, Texas 77019-7120

WINTER 2023/2024

PUBLISHED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF TRAIL OF THE LAKES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT.  
THE ARTICLES IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE INTENDED AS GENERAL INFORMATION TO THE  
RESIDENTS OF TRAIL OF THE LAKES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT. REGULAR MEETINGS ARE  
HELD ON THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 12:00 P.M. AT THE OFFICE OF RADCLIFFE  
ADAMS BARNER PLLC LOCATED AT AMERICA TOWER, 2929 ALLEN PARKWAY, SUITE 3450,  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019 AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE. VISIT  
[TRAILOFTHELAKESMUD.COM/MEETINGS](http://TRAILOFTHELAKESMUD.COM/MEETINGS) FOR VIDEO/TELEPHONE CONFERENCE INFORMATION.



## TOTL NEWS

Winter 2023/2024

### General District Information

Trail of the Lakes Municipal Utility District (the "District") is a Texas local governmental entity that provides water and sanitary sewer service to Atascocita Forest, The Forest, The Park at Atascocita Forest, Clayton's Park and Clayton's Park East subdivisions. The District was created on April 26, 1974, by the Texas Water Rights Commission. The District is located 17 miles northeast of downtown Houston and 3.5 miles southeast of Humble, Texas. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors who regularly meet the last Monday of each month at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of Radcliffe Adams Barner PLLC, 2929 Allen Parkway, Suite 3450, Houston, Texas 77019. Visit the District's website at [trailofthelakesmud.com](http://trailofthelakesmud.com) for additional meeting information.

### IN THIS ISSUE

The Board of Directors would like to update you on current District news and information:

- Winterize Your Home
- Beware of ATM Skimmers
- Keep Storm Drains Clean
- Holiday Greetings from the Board of Directors
- Humble ISD Holiday Break
- Holiday Safety Tips
- EyeOnWater App
- Trash Talk: Christmas Tree Disposal

[trailofthelakesmud.com](http://trailofthelakesmud.com)

## WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Winter is a few weeks away and temperatures can drop drastically, requiring you to protect your home from damage. Below are a few tips to winterize your home.

- Insulate and cover outdoor pipes and faucets with inexpensive insulation sleeves from your local hardware store, by wrapping or using slip-on foam pipe insulation.
- Make sure your heating system is functioning properly.
- Service your chimney.
- Make sure doors and windows are properly sealed, holes are covered, and cracks and gaps are caulked.
- Irrigation system: Cut water supply to irrigation systems and drain the water. Turn off sprinkler timers.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heated air to circulate and provide warmth to pipes.



In the event of dramatically low temperatures, winterization will require draining all the water from your plumbing system. Know where your water main shut off valve is located. Contact your plumbing professional for assistance with proper pipe winterization.

## BEWARE OF ATM SKIMMERS

ATM skimming is a form of financial fraud scammers use to steal credit/debit card information. Skimming devices are used at ATMs and gas station pumps to obtain your financial information. Below are a few tips to help you avoid becoming a victim.

1. If you have a card with "tapping" ability, pay using this option instead of inserting your card as the form of payment instead of "debit to avoid using your PIN."
2. When purchasing fuel, pay inside instead of at the pump.
3. **Look for anything unusual** - Check for anything that looks out of place or unusual. If something about the card reader looks different than other machines you have used, it could be a sign that it has been tampered with. Something common to look out for on card skimmers is a small, hidden camera. The thief may place the camera near the keypad to capture your PIN number as you enter it.
4. **Inspect closely** - Inspect the ATM or credit card terminal for any loose, crooked, or damaged pieces. If you see anything suspicious, do not use the machine because it could have a skimmer attached. If you suspect that your card has been skimmed, report it to your bank or credit card issuer immediately.
5. **Check the keypad** - See if the keypad feels spongy or loose when you press the buttons. This is a sign that the machine may have been tampered with. When the keypad feels different, it could mean that there is a skimming device attached to it.
6. **Gas pump security tape or sticker** - When you are at the gas pump, check for a security tape or sticker over the card reader. This is usually a sign that the pump has been inspected and approved by the gas station. If the security seal is broken or missing, do not use that pump because it means a thief may have tampered with it.
7. **Feel around the reader** - Sometimes a skimmer will be attached to the card reader with double-sided tape. If you feel around the reader, you may be able to detect a raised or uneven surface. This is another sign that the machine may have been tampered with.

## KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAN

The District has been experiencing a high volume of grass clippings and garbage in the stormwater quality features in the past few months. The District **strongly** asks its residents to be diligent in limiting the amount of garbage and grass clippings being dumped or blown into the curb inlets and storm drains. Such debris clogs the stormwater quality features, causing rainwater to back up into the streets, increases the chances of flooding and increase the cost to taxpayers and customers. As we enter into the rainy season, please do your part to assist with mitigating flood risks. For more information on stormwater runoff, please visit the District's website at [trailofthelakesmud.com](http://trailofthelakesmud.com) or the Stormwater Joint Management Task force at [cleanwaterways.org](http://cleanwaterways.org).



## HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Crystal, Kim, Virginia, Jo, and Troy would like to wish you and your family Happy Holidays!

## HUMBLE ISD WINTER BREAK

Humble Independent School District's Winter Break will be December 18, 2023 through January 2, 2024. Please be aware of children playing outside throughout the District during this time.

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Here are some safety tips to diminish your chances of becoming a target for criminals this holiday season:

### Parking lot safety

- Lock your doors when getting in or out of your car.
- Inspect in and alongside your car before you get in.
- Park in a well-lit parking lot or under a street light.
- Ask for an escort if you feel uncomfortable walking to your car.
- Place your packages in the trunk of your car; keep them out of sight.

### Self-protection tips

- Do not walk along parking lots or streets without looking around for potential danger.
- Stop frequently and observe your surroundings.
- Carry a sound making device and small flashlight.
- Give the appearance that you are alert. Keep your head up and look around. Attackers target those people they think are weak and unsuspecting.

### Home and car protection

- Keep your home and car locked at all times.
- Never leave your keys in the ignition.
- Be sure to activate car and home alarms.
- Use a timer for lights.
- Stop mail and newspaper delivery when going out of town.
- Sign up for Vacation Watch with Harris County Constable, Precinct No. 4 (the "Constable") on its website at [constablepct4.com](http://constablepct4.com).
- Do not post your out-of-town holiday plans on social networking sites.

For more information regarding the Constable, you may also visit its website at [constablepct4.com](http://constablepct4.com) or call 281-376-3472.

If you should have any other questions or concerns regarding District security matters, please contact **Director Pendleton** at [kpendleton@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:kpendleton@trailofthelakesmud.com) or **Director King** at [tking@trailofthelakesmud.com](mailto:tking@trailofthelakesmud.com).

## EYEONWATER APP

You may have noted that the District has installed electronic smart water meters throughout your neighborhood. Electronic smart water meters aid residents in detecting leaks or high usage in real time, and also provide a more accurate accounting of water usage for the District than regular water meters. For information regarding how to download the EyeOnWater app to monitor your water account, please go to the District's website at <https://www.trailofthelakesmud.com/latest-news/eyeonwater/>.

## TRASH TALK

### Christmas Tree Disposal

Christmas trees may be disposed by placing them curbside with heavy garbage. Please visit the District's website at [trailofthelakesmud.com/garbage](http://trailofthelakesmud.com/garbage) for general garbage and recycling collection information.

For more information about the District or matters covered in this newsletter, please visit the District's website at [trailofthelakesmud.com](http://trailofthelakesmud.com).

Scan the QR code for District Park Rules.

