

DENTON COUNTY RECLAMATION & ROAD DISTRICT

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TO RESIDENTS LIVING CLOSEBY THE DISTRICT'S MAIN SUMP LAKE

Starting last Fall we have been holding additional water in the Main Sump Lake to improve the appearance of the Sump and other environmental factors. However due to an electrical malfunction on the Sluice Gates (they act to keep water in the Sump), the Gates kept opening and closing periodically which caused the water to flow out of the Sump. The problem was temporarily fixed (last Friday) and will be fully repaired as soon as parts arrive.

Please be advised, however, that FEMA Regulations require that the Sluice Gates be inspected and tested annually. This normally requires letting all but one (1) foot of water out of the Sump so that the Inspector can walk down into both of the Channels to make sure that the Gates are closing properly. (sometimes they need to be adjusted to completely close)

In this instance, the Inspector advises that he thinks he can perform the Annual Inspection without lowering the water in the Sump. If so, the appearance won't change, but it also won't improve until it rains again, hopefully soon.

Please also be aware that the Sump was NOT designed as an amenity that you may have assumed. The Sump was not excavated to hold water because over half of the Sump area is Federally protected "Wet Lands". We are very aware that the Sump does not have an attractive appearance when there is little water in it. In an effort to minimize that problem, we have been keeping extra water in the Sump for quite a while. However, when there is a substantial chance of a thunder storm, we must release water sufficient to take this into consideration. This happened last when Hurricane Ike threatened the Indian Creek Area, but we were conservative in keeping the water level as high as circumstances permitted. We cannot keep too much water in the Sump and risk violating our obligation to keep all facilities ready for storms at all times.

Yes, it is unfortunate that the Engineering design did not take this into consideration, but it is too late now. We are doing what we can do to minimize the problem. Please feel to call 214-522-5096 if you need more information.

Board of Directors