



City of Hunters Creek Village Phone: 713-465-2150 www.cityofhunterscreek.com

Hello Sportsfans,

Bad News.....School starts in a few days, Summer's over (still hotter than Hades)

Good News....Football season starts (along with Aggie march to National Championship), Olympics finally over and Christmas in 135 days!

Gotta clear up a Major item that is being mis-reported around the community and social media by some uninformed pot-stirrers....

-Hurricane Beryl was a month ago.

-We (the Villages) operate under an Interlocal Aid Agreement with Harris County Pct 3 for storm debris pickup. We do this so the County can pick up much more efficiently than we could, much cheaper and get reimbursement from FEMA for such, thus costing us next to nothing (other than the confiscatory federal taxes we pay).

-It takes 1 week to 2 weeks to give time for our residents to get their storm debris cut up and brought out to the street. And they will only pick up ONCE for free.

-FEMA will only pay for the debris to be picked up and dumped one time. If you see the trucks working, you will see someone in a car behind them, or at our dump site, keeping tabs that loads are full, and counting loads to insure accurate reimbursement from FEMA.

-Pct 3 has picked up 500,000 Cubic yards of debris so far in the entire pct. 35K in Hunters Creek alone! Look at the map of Pct 3 and see how huge it is and how relatively speaking, we had a lot of debris picked up for our small percentage of total precinct.

-Your Mayor, Council and Staff created the dump site at Las Alamedas, for NO cost to our residents to dump their debris. If you were not willing to wait for the County to pick up, you could have hauled the debris and dumped it at our site, at NO cost, thus saving about 50% of the total cost of cleanup, as there is no dumping charge or mileage associated thereto. Then the County could pick up and dispose of it with FEMA Reimbursement, much more efficiently, and overall, faster for the community. Again, if you were not willing to wait, you could have handled yourself, but it would have cost more.... unless you were on vacation and would rather post on social media something you know nothing about....

-The streets where the huge County trucks cannot navigate were the last to be picked up, as the County was logically focused on the larger piles with the bigger trucks. I personally got the hauler to get smaller trucks down the smaller streets (Bridgewood) and they are picking up as we speak. Again, their focus was on the bigger hauls with the bigger trucks to move as much as possible as fast as possible. I'm sorry the bridge prevented the huge trucks from getting there faster, but it would have collapsed with the huge weight of the loaded trailers, thus the smaller trucks.

-Our Village is one of the FIRST areas to be completed in all of the precinct with the final push for smaller streets this week. There has been debris pickup every day in the Villages, and there are many other areas in the Pct that still remain to be completed.

-Please remember, we did this 2 months ago after the Derecho, and this was significantly worse. And a month later, it's all gone. No where else in the entire Region has this been done so fast. I'm sorry if you have a dead patch in your grass as I do, and you had to look at a brush pile for a few weeks, as I did, but it's done and hasn't cost us hardly anything...unless you were out of town....

-Two other Villages hired independent contractors to pick up their debris as they were not willing to wait for the County, at a cost of several HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS....they have debt. We don't. I'd rather wait on the County clean up for a few weeks, rather than incur debt and save our money for our many road/drainage/beautification projects.... It's called "prudent respect of the Public's money and the Trust we're sworn to protect" something this Mayor and Council lives by. This is why Hunters Creek taxes are one of the lowest in the ENTIRE REGION.

Thanks, and KUDO'S to our AWESOME County Commissioner Tom Ramsey and his staff for pulling off this monumental task so quickly, cheaply and efficiently.

OK, that's it, thanks for listening and sorry, but I get very upset when those who have NEVER been to a council meeting, who have NO idea of how things work around here and are Monday morning quarterbacking this situation.... all from vacationing out of town....

Jim Pappas

Mayor