

# THE UTILITY CONNECTION

News and information for Prosper's Utility Customers

For more information call Utility Billing at 972-569-1180

June-July-Aug. 2021

## Blow grass clippings back onto your lawn

*Please help keep waterways clean*

Throughout our neighborhoods, the buzzing of edgers and trimmers is often followed by the deep rumble of lawn mowers. That often leads to the high-pitched droning of air blowers. That's where we'd like to offer some advice and ask for some cooperation.

Once the grass on our lawns is mowed and clippings are scattered throughout our driveways, sidewalks, and street aprons, we tend to use our blowers to scatter the grass and dead leaves down the street somewhere. Once these clippings are out of our sight, we feel like we've done a good job.

Unfortunately, that's a problem. Scattered grass clippings and the fertilizers, pet waste, and other chemicals that the clippings carry will make their way to street gutters and eventually storm drains. The next time it rains, or a neighbor uses a sprinkler system, the water that runs into the storm drain pushes the clippings and the other debris into our creeks and lakes.

Once there, two things happen, neither good. First, the fertilizers, pet waste, and other chemicals rob the water of oxygen, harming fish, turtles, frogs, and other amphibious wildlife.

And, second, these toxins can make their way to our drinking water, causing our water supplier to use stronger chemicals to purify the water we use.

The better alternative is to turn that blower back onto the lawn, reintroducing the clippings back on the lawn, offering both natural and man made fertilizing.

## Access water data and information online

*Sign up for new portal*

The new ACE® consumer engagement portal is a free, secure way to monitor your water use, and the accompanying costs, all online, and it is now available.

The portal can provide real-time information to residential customers that can reveal water use habits that may have an impact on the size of the water bill.

Among the individual home metrics that are within the portal's capabilities are: tracking water use by the hour; measuring overnight sprinkler amounts; comparing water use on a daily/monthly basis; monitoring historical use; and setting water use threshold alerts.

Customized alert settings can include continuous 24-hour consumption, water consumption at or above a customer-defined limit, and consumption during a specific time frame such as holiday, vacation, or any daily use.

To sign up for the portal, log on to <https://acewebsite.aclarax.com/TownOfProsper> and select "Sign up now." Your email address and cell phone number must be up to date with the records on file with Utility Billing.

Account setup instructions can be found at <https://www.prospertx.gov/government/departments/utility-billing/ace-portal-2/>

Call 972-569-1180 if you have any questions or need to update your information.

**Town Hall will be closed on July 5. Trash and recycling will not be affected.**

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## Water Quality Report

The 2020 Annual Water Quality Report is now available! You can view the report at [www.prospertx.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020WQ\\_Report.pdf](http://www.prospertx.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020WQ_Report.pdf). A paper copy may be requested by contacting Tristan Cisco at [tcisco@prospertx.gov](mailto:tcisco@prospertx.gov).

## Summer Youth Camps

Register the kids for camps that range from sports to STEM! Visit [www.ProsperParksandRec.org](http://www.ProsperParksandRec.org) for details. Scholarships are available. If you have questions, please contact Jonathan at [jweeks@prospertx.gov](mailto:jweeks@prospertx.gov) or call 972-569-1057.

## Summer Reading

The library's summer program, "Destination: 7 Continents" covers the world. Learn about a continent each week. A calendar of events may be picked up at the library or here: <https://www.prospertx.gov/residents/library/>.

## Deadline for landscapes extended to Nov. 1

Homes and businesses still dealing with the effects of the cold temperatures this past winter have until Nov. 1 to comply with Town requirements for landscaping. Homeowner should check with their HOAs on specific deadlines for landscape remediation. Visit <https://www.prospertx.gov/landscaping-in-prosper/> for more information.

## Sign up for Water My Yard recommendations

We encourage residents to turn off the automatic setting on their irrigation system controllers and operate the system manually.

Sign up for the free Water My Yard web site by visiting [www.watermyyard.org](http://www.watermyyard.org) and choose e-mail or text updates on watering suggestions.

## Watering map and schedule

Between now and next Halloween, watering with automatic sprinkler systems may occur twice a week according to the following schedule.



**Zone 1: Mondays and Thursdays** between First Street/Fishtrap Road and US 380

**Zone 2: Tuesdays and Fridays** between Prosper Trail and First Street/Fishtrap Road

**Zone 3: Wednesdays and Saturdays** between Frontier Parkway and Prosper Trail