

# Monthly Newsletter

August 2021



## "POC Water"

P.O. Box 375/ 39 Denman Dr  
Port O' Connor, Texas 77982  
Phone: (361) 983-2652

### Board of Directors Addresses Interruptions in Wastewater Service

#### Important Dates:

**POC Water Board Meetings**  
are held on the second  
Thursday of each month @  
1pm

*August 12<sup>th</sup> \* September 9<sup>th</sup>*

**Roll off Trash Bin**  
First Saturday of each  
month behind the POCID  
Office from 8am -2pm or  
**UNTIL FULL**

*August 7<sup>th</sup> \* September 4<sup>th</sup>*

#### Billing

*Bills are mailed by the 1<sup>st</sup>  
of each month and are due  
on 20<sup>th</sup> of every month  
and a late fee will be assessed  
on the 21<sup>st</sup> unless that falls  
on a weekend and then it  
will be due the following  
Monday.*

#### Payment Methods:

*Credit Card\*Mail\*Automatic  
Bank Draft\*Automatic Credit Card  
Draft\*In Person\*Payment Drop  
Box\* Bill Pay through your  
Financial Institute*

The Board of Directors of Port O'Connor Improvement District is urging residents to do their part in keeping the sewer system operating in optimal condition by following some simple guidelines. Due to the heavy rains in recent months and inappropriate disposal of water by individuals, the system continues to go into high-level lockout due to the infiltration of water into the lines, resulting in the need to issue alerts to reduce flushing of toilets. Currently, the actions of individuals or businesses are contributing greatly to the issues with the sewer system.

To accommodate the population growth and improve sewer facilities, the District completed two projects to enhance the sewer system through the construction of the Vacuum Station No. 2 Force Main and the upgrade of the Vacuum Sewage Collection System. These improvements allow the system to handle the domestic sewage generated by the residents of Port O'Connor; however, the system is not designed to drain peoples' yards, RV Parks, patio drains, outdoor fish cleaning tables, outdoor showers, and other areas.

When unintended water enters the sewer lines, the system fills to capacity quickly, prohibiting the system from taking on additional sewage and causing overflows which could lead to pump failures within the collection system or the sewer. Keeping storm water and surface wastewater out of the sewer lines will enable the vacuum sewer system to operate as designed without the need for reduced usage in homes and businesses.

Residents, business owners, and guests of the District are requested to follow these rules to assist in the proper functioning of the community's sewer facilities:

1. Do not drain or pump water from ditches into the sewer system.
2. Do not remove candy canes to drain your yard.
3. Outdoor fishing tables should not be connected to the District's wastewater collection system.
4. Outdoor shower facilities are not permitted to be connected to the District's wastewater collection system.
5. Patio drains/French drains should not be connected to the District's wastewater system.
6. RV Parks should not use the District's wastewater collection system for drainage.

The Board of Directors is pursuing several courses of action to address unapproved infiltration into the wastewater collection system. Due to the seriousness of this issue, the District has chosen to address non-compliance with these rules decisively by authorizing smoke testing, eliminating candy canes and installing monuments on pits to make it more difficult for users to override the system, enforcing current rules and regulations by inspecting existing showers to ensure compliance, and creating a new rule to address fishing tables and patio/yard/French drains. Once a violation is identified, the District will inform the customer or landowner of the issue, require action to remedy, and if necessary, take action to end the problem, including disconnecting the offender from the system if corrective action is not completed.

As the Board of Directors strives to continue providing excellent water and wastewater service, resident cooperation is appreciated. If you observe anyone improperly utilizing the District's wastewater system or have any questions, please use the 'Contact Us' feature on the website or call (361) 983-2652.



## Contact Us

POC Water

39 Denman DR

PO Box 375

Port O'Connor, Texas 77982

361-983-2652

[pocid@pocid.org](mailto:pocid@pocid.org)

<https://www.pocid.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/POCIDofficial/>

## Vision Statement

*POCID is a proactive organization making a positive impact on the community while implementing best management practices to promote sustainable success.*

## Mission Statement

*To proactively and efficiently manage the affairs of the District for the benefit of its customers, protect the health of the community, produce safe drinking water in adequate quantities, offer competitive rates, assure financial stability, and practice excellence in customer service.*

## Board considers move to more water independence, invites POC residents to an Open House

As water rates continue to rise across the state of Texas, the Board of Directors of Port O'Connor Improvement District (POCID) is taking steps and considering additional measures to secure adequate water sources for the future, reduce the cost of water, and become more water independent. Currently, the District purchases the majority of its water supply from the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) water plant in Port Lavaca. Built in 1970, this plant is the oldest in GBRA's collection, and its engineers have reported the need to repair or rebuild the facility, with costly estimates which will be passed on to water users. Complicating this issue further, the plant is currently being considered for purchase by an independent third party.

In light of this information, the Board of Directors began investigating alternatives to water supply for POCID residents in 2019. The options being considered are as follows:

1. Continue receiving a portion of the District's water supply from the GBRA plant.
2. Reduce the water supply from the GBRA plant and develop a more independent water supply.
3. Completely cut off water supply from the GBRA plant and develop an independent water supply.

Since each of these options come with financial implications and long-term water supply repercussions for the District and residents, the Board of Directors is inviting the community to learn more details and provide feedback through an open house to be held Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at Port O'Connor Elementary School 508 Monroe St, Port O'Connor, TX 77982. If you have any questions about this event, please use the "Contact Us" feature on the District website at <https://www.pocid.org/contact-us>





## Outdoor Showers

*All **outdoor showers** need a permit & an inspection per District Policy. If you have one please call the office.*



We have customers who are in need of **Backflow Inspections** for RV Parks, irrigation systems, etc that are past due. Periodically we hire consultants to do these inspections to meet TCEQ Compliance. We have a consultant working with the District to get this taken care of and you may see them on POC properties. They will be provided POCID signs to identify their vehicles. For any question call the POCID Office @ 361-983-2652.



## Friendly Reminders

Check out our Website @

[www.pocid.org](http://www.pocid.org)

- \* Sign up for Alerts
- \* Pay your bill
- \* Applications/Forms
- \* Sign up for Auto Draft
- \* Current Projects
- \* Agendas/Minutes
- \* Updates
- \* Sign up for paperless billing

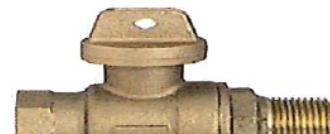
### Irrigation Permits

All sprinkler systems require a permit completed and turned in to POCID Office **before** installation. After installation a backflow inspection is required.



Vanguard began installing AMI meters on July 12<sup>th</sup>. They have already installed over 1000 new meters. For the POC residents that chose to have us install a new customer service valve, they will be installing those at the same time. District rules require a customer service valve within 3 feet of the meter.

The District is very excited to bring this to POC. The endpoint for the meter signal is mounted on the lid and connected to the meter with a small cable. Please refrain from going into the meter box to prevent any possible damage.





# Get the DROP



POCID  
PO Box 375/39 Denman Dr  
Port O'Connor, TX 77982  
361-983-2652

*POCID Town Hall Meeting  
August 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm – POC Elementary School*

