



DISTRICT REMINDS RESIDENTS OF NO FISHING, NO LITTERING, NO VEHICLES POLICIES

Summer Outdoor Activities Bring Opportunity for Community Involvement, Awareness

IRVING, Texas (June 11, 2012) – In the summer months ahead, Valley Ranch residents will find increased opportunities for engaging in outdoor recreation. With more outdoor activity comes greater use of pathways near Irving Flood Control District Section III's ([IFCD 3](#)) canals, sumps and other flood control facilities. To protect and preserve these IFCD 3 assets for the benefit of residents, it is important for residents and visitors to know the rules and simple precautions of the District.

Fishing in any IFCD 3 waterway, including canals, streams, ponds and the pump station sump, is prohibited. Shorelines along these improvements are not designed for heavy foot traffic, which would contribute to erosion and potentially costly repair.

Keeping debris – whether paper products, cups, cans, tree limbs, leaves or yard waste – out of lakes, creek, canals, sumps and levees operated by IFCD 3 is essential for continued proper operation of the facilities. If allowed to enter the flood control system, such foreign objects can impede water flow and even damage pumps, sluice gates and other flood control devices. Every year, a significant portion of the District's funds is spent on clearing debris from the system. These are your tax dollars and by picking up any litter or debris observed, costs of clean-up, maintenance and repair can be reduced.

Additionally, wheeled vehicles, such as cars, trucks, motorcycles and bicycles can undermine levee and canal and sump surfaces and shorelines and are not permitted on such surfaces, except by the district or authorized maintenance personnel.

The levee and interconnected canals serve as an integral, engineered feature of the [IFCD 3 storm water runoff system](#) in the Valley Ranch community. Refraining from fishing in the waterways helps the shoreline maintain its intended structure and function, keeping the flood drainage system in proper order.

To recap:



Fishing exposes the shorelines of the IFCD 3 sumps and canals to excessive wear that can lead to erosion requiring expensive remediation. Elsewhere in the system, such as at the newly dedicated Campion Trail bridge north of Sam Houston Park, fishing activities can interfere with walkers, runners, bikers and others using the trails, potentially creating safety concerns.



A significant portion of maintenance expense for IFCD 3 – derived from Valley Ranch residents’ tax dollars – is spent removing debris from in and around IFCD 3. Litter reduces the efficiency of the facilities and can create equipment maintenance issues.



Like fishing, damage to the levee or other shoreline areas by bicycles, motorcycles, cars or trucks can cause rapid erosion or breakdown of the levee slope and surfaces. Repairs can be expensive and, more importantly, could render the facilities ineffective for controlling flood water runoff during a major rain.

“While the IFCD 3 team is vigilant in providing efficient and effective storm water management and serving as a good steward of resources, we need to join together with business and individual residents who understand the importance of maintaining attractive and functional resources in our community,” said IFCD 3 board President Kim Andres. “Through the combined efforts of IFCD 3, the Valley Ranch Association and area residents, we can keep the community as a great and beautiful place to live.”

About Irving Flood Control District Section III

Irving Flood Control District Section III (IFCD 3) is responsible for providing flood control facilities and operations and preserving the high quality of life provided in Valley Ranch. The District safeguards people and enhances the economic value of property by constructing and maintaining canals, ponds and other natural water management facilities throughout the community. A publicly funded organization, IFCD 3 is led by a five-member board appointed by the Irving City Council. District board members are committed to serving their fellow residents of Valley Ranch in an efficient, effective and transparent manner.

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