

## **CONFIDENTIALITY OF UTILITY RECORDS**

In 1992 Texas Legislature passed H.B. 859 to allow various utilities to maintain the confidentiality of certain records at the request of the customer. Effective September 1, 1993, H.B. 859 provides that a government operated utility which provides water, sewer, garbage, gas, or electricity for compensation, may not disclose personal information in a customer's account records if the customer requests in writing that the utility keep the information confidential. The utility is required to include with a bill sent to each of its customers a notice of the customer's right to request confidentiality of personal information as well as any applicable fee or form required to comply with such requests. Personal information means an individual's address, telephone number, account records, or social security number. This bill applies to WSC's, cities, districts and all governmental bodies who are subject to the Texas Public Information Act. {For Reference also see TX Utility Code Confidential, Subchapter B. 182.051 and 182.052 (a)}

Such confidentiality does not prohibit a WSC from disclosing the name and address of each member on a list to be made available to the Corporation's voting members, or their agents or attorneys, in connection with any annual or special meeting of the Corporation's members.

The attached forms are designed for your use and may be copied, customized to your utility's needs, and mailed to each customer as required by law. Note the following instructions:

The attached form is for use by water supply corporations, cities or districts.

Type your address in the appropriate spaces.

Fill in the charge for the service (not to exceed \$5.00)

This is a one-time requirement for each customer. All existing customers should be notified by use of these or similar forms and all new applicants should be given notice and opportunity for confidentiality of records. The attached forms may be use in your application for new services.

**YOU CAN NOW REQUEST THAT PERSONAL INFORMATION  
CONTAINED IN OUR UTILITY RECORDS  
NOT BE RELEASED TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS**

## CONFIDENTIALITY OF UTILITY RECORDS

### YOU CAN NOW REQUEST THAT PERSONAL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN OUR UTILITY RECORDS NOT BE RELEASE TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS

The Texas Legislature has enacted a bill, which was effective September 1, 1993, allowing publicly-owned utilities to give their customers the option of making the customer's address, telephone number, account records, and social security number confidential. {TX Utility Code Confidential, Subchapter B. 182.052 (a)}

#### *IS THERE A CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE?*

Yes. There is a one-time charge of \$5.00 to cover the cost of postage and implementation which must be paid at the time of request.

#### *HOW CAN YOU REQUEST THIS?*

Simply complete the form at the bottom of this page and return it with your check or money order for \$5.00 to:

East Cedar Creek FWSD  
P.O. Box 309  
Mabank, TX 75147

Your response is not necessary if you do not want this service.

#### **WE MUST STILL PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION UNDER LAW TO CERTAIN PERSONS.**

We must still provide this information to (1) an official or employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state, or the federal government acting in an official capacity; (2) an employee of a utility acting in connection with the employee's duties; (3) a consumer reporting agency; (4) a contractor or subcontractor approved by and providing services to the utility or to the state, a political subdivision of the state, the federal government, or an agency of the state or federal government; (5) a person for whom the customer has contractually waived confidentiality for personal information; or (6) another entity that provides water, wastewater, sewer, gas, garbage, electricity, or drainage service for compensation.

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#### **Detach and Return This Section**

Yes, I want to make my personal information (address, telephone number, and social security number) confidential. I have enclosed my payment of \$5.00 for this service.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Account Holder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code/Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature