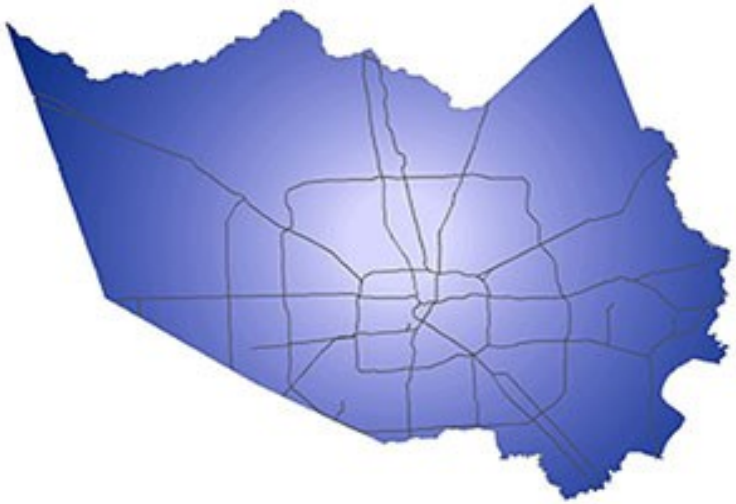
Your Guide To



Harris County Government

Spring 2014 Revision

Courtesy of
Steve Radack, Commissioner
Harris County Precinct 3

Steve Radack, Commissioner
Harris County Precinct 3

Dear Harris County Resident:

I am pleased to provide you with this informational booklet about your Harris County government.

My first priority is to insure you receive a prompt response to your request for service or information. However, citizens are often unfamiliar with county government, its functions, or with the elected or appointed officials who head-up county offices. Thus, knowing who to call with a question or a request for service is sometimes confusing or difficult to discern.

It is my hope this booklet will acquaint you with the various departments and services offered by the third largest county in the United States and by Precinct Three. Should you encounter any difficulty in locating the appropriate department or receiving a courteous response to your request for assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. My staff and I will be pleased to assist you with issues dealing with Precinct Three and Harris County.

Sincerely,

Steve Radack
County Commissioner
Precinct Three

Administration Building • 1001 Preston, Suite 924, Houston, Texas 77002 •
(713) 755-6306 • FAX (713) 755-8928
E-mail: pct3@hctx.net • Web site: www.pct3.hctx.net

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County Government

COUNTY GOVERNMENT IN TEXAS

Texas Counties were first established as local units of government by the Texas Constitution of 1876. Counties serve as administrative arms of the State, and have remained basically the same for over 100 years. Texas has 254 counties.

The basic structure of this unit of government is derived from Anglo-Saxon England, a rural society, and is the same in every Texas county. It consists of:

Commissioners Court	County Clerk
Tax Office	District Attorney
Sheriff	Justices of the Peace
District Court	

The structure, power, and scope of a county's responsibilities and authority are set-forth in the Constitution and in State Statute with all Texas counties performing the same basic functions. They are to provide for:

- The County to be divided into not less than four Commissioner Precincts and not more than eight Justice of the Peace and Constables Precincts for election
- Tax assessment and collection
- The auditing and settling of accounts against the County
- Sites and administration of elections
- Judicial Administration to include courthouses, jails, and necessary buildings
- Maintenance of public roads and bridges and public ferries
- Issuance of licenses and permits
- Maintenance of public records
- Administration of jails
- Operation of the Sheriff's Office
- Health and welfare services
- Support for and the burial of paupers
- Agricultural services
- All other duties that are now or may later be prescribed by law

Unlike municipalities, Texas counties do not have the authority to adopt ordinances or to establish laws or regulations unless specifically authorized by the Texas State Legislature.

The business of the county is conducted by the commissioners court, which consists of the four county commissioners and is presided over by the county judge. Three court members constitute a quorum, and may conduct all business except to levy tax, for which four must be present.

HARRIS COUNTY

Five years after the land was first surveyed by Stephen F. Austin in 1821, John Harris established a trading post between Buffalo and Brays Bayous, and laid out the town of Harrisburg. The boundary lines of the municipality were defined by the Texas General Council in 1835. One of the first acts of the new Congress in 1837 was to approve the County of Harrisburg, later named Harris County in 1839.

Harris County today is the third most populous county in the United States and has an estimated population of 4.1 million people with over 1.4 million people living in the unincorporated area of the County. It has 34 municipalities including the City of Houston within its boundaries.

County Operator for all Departments.....(713) 755-5000

County Website.....www.co.harris.tx.us

Members of Harris County Commissioners Court from left to right are Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack, Precinct Two Commissioner Jack Morman, County Judge Ed Emmett, Precinct Four Commissioner Jack Cagle and Precinct One Commissioner El Franco Lee.

FUNDING COUNTY GOVERNMENT

REVENUE

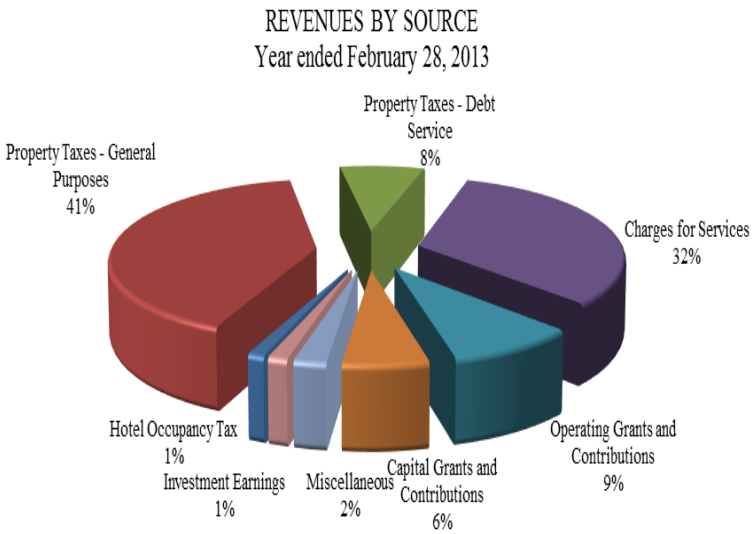
The general property tax (ad valorem tax) is the largest source of revenue for Harris County. Other sources include:

- Building permit fees
- Court fees
- Traffic and court fines
- State and federal aid, and
- Interest on investments

Bond sales also provide substantial revenue for capital improvement projects such as libraries, courthouses, parks, and flood control.

Harris County is required by the Texas Constitution to operate on a cash basis, and may incur long-term debt only through the sale of bonds. The County issues ad valorem tax bonds after the voters' approval of a referendum. State law limits the amount of bonded indebtedness a county may incur.

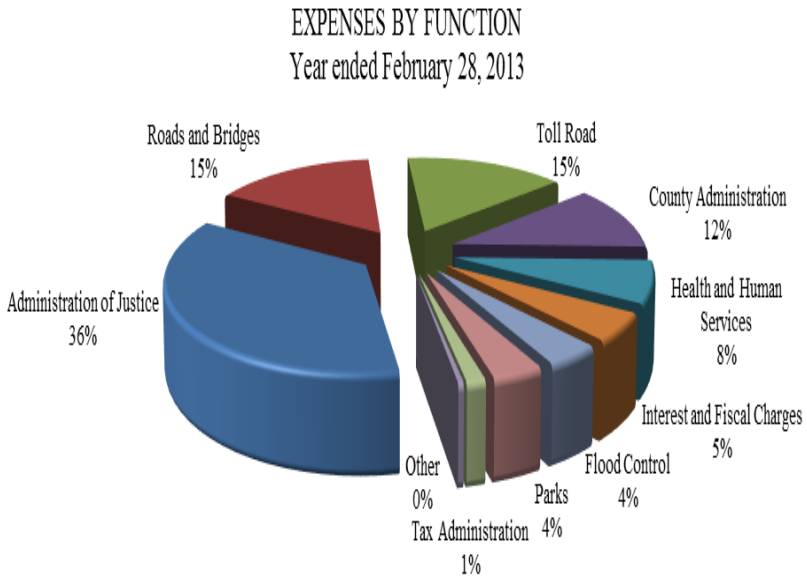
The County levies a general property tax on real property after it is assessed at cash market value by the Harris County Appraisal District. If the property is the owner's principal residence, it qualifies for a homestead exemption.



Courtesy of the Harris County Auditors Office

EXPENSE

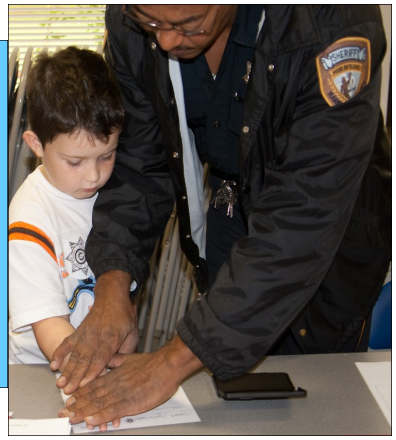
The major expenditures in Harris County are for construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, including the toll roads, law enforcement, and administration of justice, which is comprised of the Sheriff's Department, the jail system and salaries of judges, and other court operating expenses. In addition, the County must finance general administration, parks maintenance and construction, public health services, libraries and flood control.



Courtesy of the Harris County Auditors Office

Did you know……

Precinct Three hosts fingerprinting days at its Parks and Community Centers for parents and their precious children. Deputies assist in fingerprinting children so that parents may keep a record of their fingerprints in case the child is ever missing.



Harris County Elected Officials

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Elected county officials serve four year terms, with the exception of courts of appeals justices who serve six year terms.

COMMISSIONERS COURT

COUNTY JUDGE (713) 755-4000

As presiding officer of commissioners court, the county judge is often considered the spokesperson and ceremonial head of county government and is the only member on the court that is elected county-wide. The county judge, as an agent of the state, approves applications for beer licenses and waivers on mixed drink licenses. The county judge is director of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, is Chair of the Juvenile Probation Board, and a member of the City of Houston Planning Commission.

COMMISSIONERS

El Franco Lee, Commissioner Precinct One.....(713) 755-6111
Jack Morman, Commissioner Precinct Two.....(713) 755-6202
Steve Radack, Commissioner Precinct Three.....(713) 755-6306
Jack Cagle, Commissioner Precinct Four.....(713) 755-6444

There are four county commissioner precincts in Harris County. Each commissioner is elected by the residents residing in their respective precinct. Each commissioner is directly responsible for administration of parks, community centers, and road and bridge programs within their precincts.

Commissioners, along with the county judge, participate in all decisions and work of the county commissioners court. The main functions of the court are: supervision and control of the county courthouses and jails; appointment and employment of county personnel; filling of vacancies in elective and appointive positions; determination of county tax rates; adoption of a county budget; establishment of voting precinct boundaries, calling of county bond elections; letting of contracts in the name of the county; building and maintaining county roads and bridges; and establishment of libraries and parks.

The commissioners court also appoints members to numerous boards and commissions, sometimes serving as liaisons or members themselves. Some of the boards included are: Port of Houston Authority, Metropolitan Transit Authority, Children's Protective Services, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Association, Houston-Galveston Area Council, and the Hospital District.

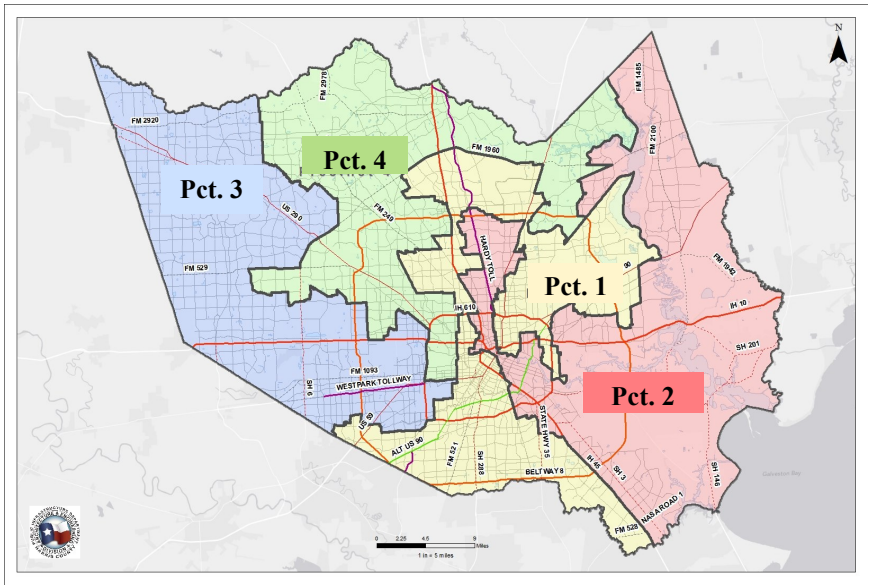
Commissioners Court:

Meetings: Open to the public and an agenda is posted

Time: 10:00 a.m. on scheduled Tuesdays

Location: Harris County Administration Building
1001 Preston, 9th Floor

Agenda/Schedule/Appearance Before Court:
County Budget Office
(713) 755-5113
www.co.harris.tx.us/agenda



ASSESSOR AND COLLECTOR OF TAXES (713) 368-2000

The tax assessor-collector has three main responsibilities: assessing and collecting property taxes for Harris County and numerous other jurisdictions (a total of 65 in 2007); processing motor vehicle title transfers and registrations; and registering voters for Harris County.

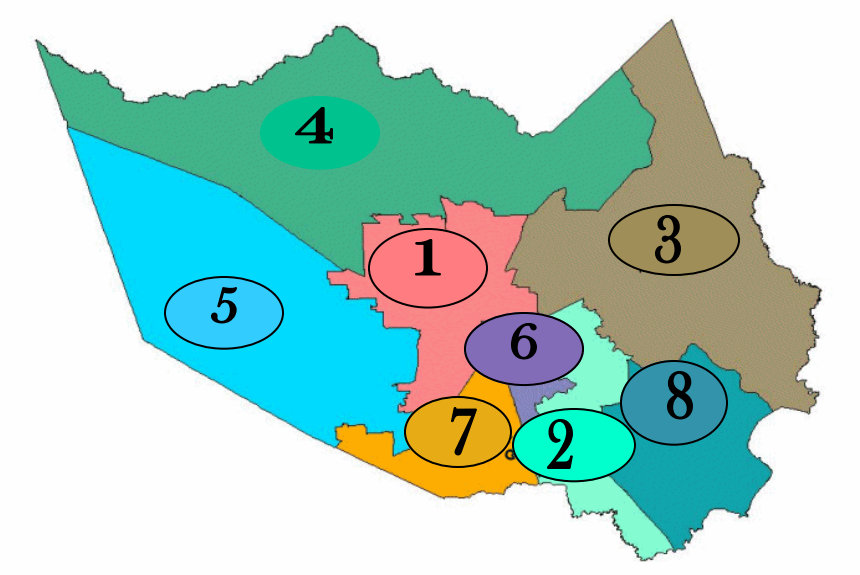
Additionally, the tax assessor collector is responsible for mapping voter precinct boundaries, and the processing and collection of beer & wine licenses, liquor permits, hotel-motel taxes, and coin-operated machine permits.

CONSTABLES

Constable Precinct One..... (713) 755-5200
Constable Precinct Two..... (713) 477-2766
Constable Precinct Three.....(281) 427-4791
Constable Precinct Four..... (281) 401-6205
Constable Precinct Five..... (281) 492-3500
Constable Precinct Six..... (713) 923-9156
Constable Precinct Seven..... (713) 643-6118
Constable Precinct Eight..... (281) 479-2525

The eight Constables serve civil process issued by courts in the county, such as suits for debts, divorce suits, eviction writs, foreclosure papers, and summons. They also serve criminal warrants issued through Justice of Peace Courts and provide bailiffs for those Courts.

The Precinct One Constable handles mental health warrants and heads a county-wide Environmental Crimes Unit which utilizes Officers from Precinct One and Precinct Five.



In addition, the constables have patrol personnel that provide street patrol and patrol in county parks. They may also provide subdivision patrol through a contract deputy program.

The constables and justices of the peace have the same precinct boundaries. A map on the previous page displays the eight constable precincts.

Did you know..... Three (3) Cricket Fields are a special amenity found at Precinct Three's Paul D. Rushing Park.

COUNTY ATTORNEY (713) 755-5101

The county attorney represents the State of Texas, Harris County, the Harris County Flood Control District, and the Harris County Hospital District, and their respective officers and employees in all civil matters pending before the courts. This includes representation of the Texas Department of Public Safety in cases involving the revocation of drivers' licenses, representation of the State in involuntary mental health commitment proceedings, the representation of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in cases involving child abuse or neglect, and the representation of Harris County and Harris County Flood Control District in condemnation proceedings.

In addition, the county attorney provides legal advice and renders opinions to elected and appointed officers regarding their official duties, has an active Environmental and Community Protection Program that enforces laws designed to protect consumers, public health, and the environment, and provides more than thirty types of revenue enforcement services for the county.

COUNTY CLERK (713) 755-6411

The clerk's duties include keeping public records of all legal instruments in the county affecting real property titles such as deeds, mortgages, and tax liens; maintaining birth and death certificates, marriage licenses and assumed name records and filing of military discharges. The county clerk records all official actions of commissioners court, county civil courts at law and probate courts, and keeps records of deceased residents and guardianships of incapacitated persons.

The county clerk serves as chief election official for Harris County and, as such, conducts county, state, and federal elections, including all phases of the election from preparing the official ballot to tabulating the votes. The clerk also handles early voting for the Primary Elections of each political party and rents voting equipment to other governmental jurisdictions and various organizations.

COUNTY TREASURER (713) 755-5120

As the chief custodian of county funds, the treasurer receives county monies and disburses county funds, with the approval and direction of commissioners court. Together with the auditor, the treasurer monitors local bank depositories for compliance with county directives. In addition, the treasurer signs all county bonds and maintains the security of deposits of bail bondsmen and attorneys. The treasurer also serves the Harris County Flood Control District and the Port of Houston.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY (713) 755-5800

The voters of Harris County elect a district attorney whose duties are prescribed by the Texas Constitution and by statute. The district attorney shall attend each term and session of the district courts of Harris County and shall represent the State of Texas in criminal cases pending in those courts, and all inferior courts of the county. The office has the responsibility to screen all cases and advise police and citizens on criminal matters.

The district attorney may not engage in the private practice of law, and has but one client – the State of Texas.

DISTRICT CLERK (713) 755-5734

The District Clerk's Office is probably best known by the general public for its role in summoning prospective jurors for civil, criminal, and probate courts. The jury wheel, from which prospective jurors' names are drawn, consists of names of registered voters and/or holders of a Texas driver's license or identification card.

The district clerk is responsible for the custodial care and safekeeping of all court records for the 59 district courts and 15 county criminal courts located in Harris County. The district clerk accounts for all monies paid as deposits on civil cases awaiting disposition and all monies awarded to minors in court actions that are paid into the registry of the court.

The district clerk provides customer service regarding child support issues to parents in Harris County cases involving child support.

SHERIFF (713) 755-6044

The sheriff is the principal law enforcement officer with jurisdiction throughout the county to serve as conservator of the peace and to maintain custody of persons committed to jail by various courts in the county.

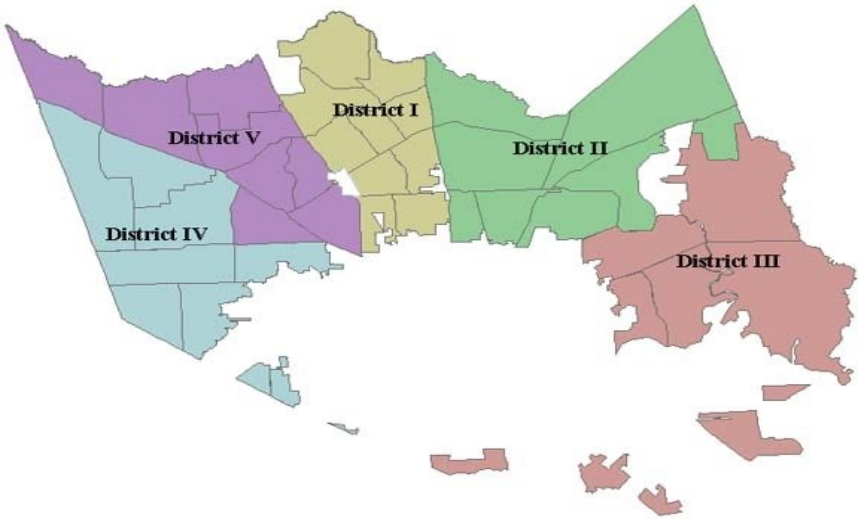
Responsibilities of this office include:

- Furnishing bailiffs in all state courts and warrant officers for criminal courts;
- Patrol officers in unincorporated areas;
- Detective and investigation services;
- Return of prisoners from other jurisdictions; and
- Collection of bond forfeitures.

Additionally, the sheriff supervises the Harris County Jail System that includes facilities in outlying areas used for temporary holding of prisoners.

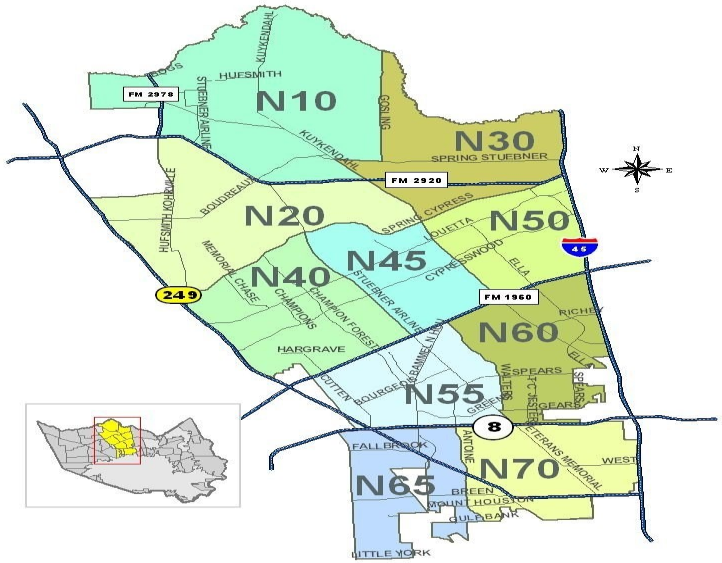
The sheriff's office administers a peace officer training academy, and utilizes reserve deputy volunteers to increase law enforcement services. The office also provides an enhanced subdivision patrol through a contract deputy program. And, the office provides an on-site liaison at the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

In order to better protect and serve the residents of Harris County, the sheriff's office has divided the unincorporated area of the county into five patrol districts.



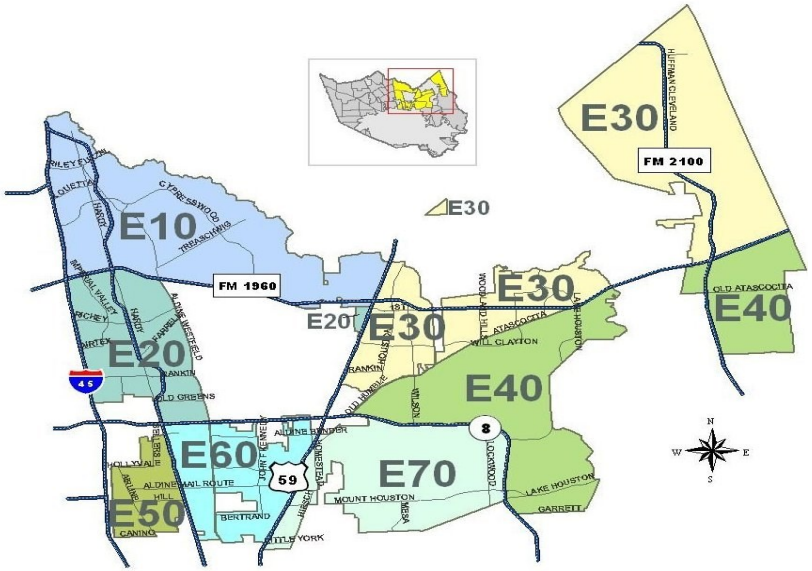
District I—Cypresswood

6815 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, 77379
(281) 376-2997



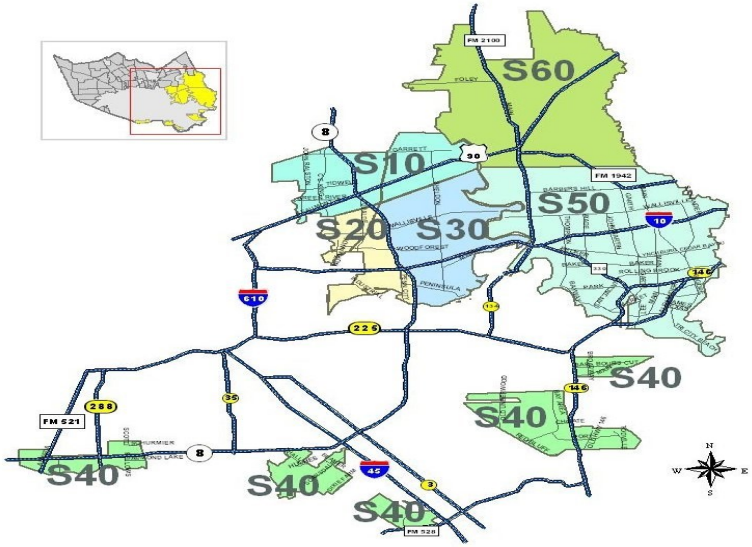
District II—Humble

121 West Main, Humble, 77338
(281) 446-9155



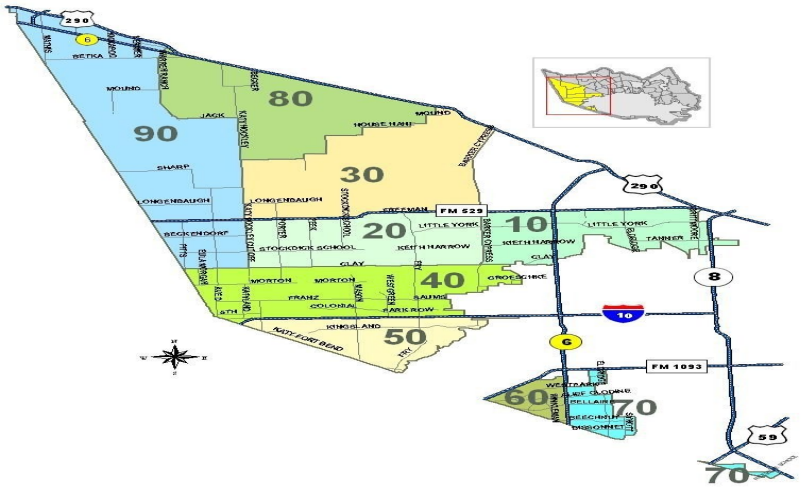
District III-Wallisville

14350 Wallisville Road, Houston, 77049
(713) 455-8050



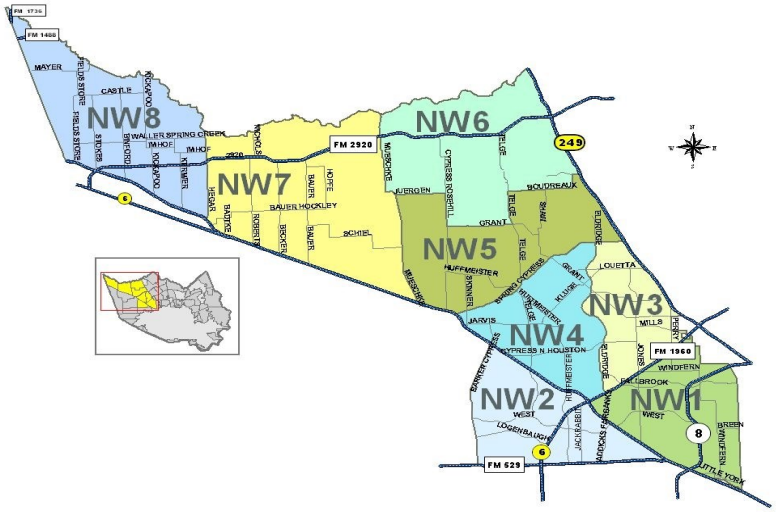
District IV—Clay Road

16715 Clay Road, Houston, 77084
(281) 463-2648



District V-Northwest Command

23828 Tomball Parkway, Tomball, 77375
(281) 290-2100



THE COURTS

The Harris County Criminal Justice Center (left), the 1910 Civil Courthouse, and the Harris County Civil Courthouse (right) house the Courts of Appeal, District, County, and Probate Courts in Harris County.

COURTS OF APPEAL

1st Court of Appeal.....(713) 655-2700
14th Court of Appeal.....(713) 655-2800

The 1st and 14th Courts of Appeals are in Houston. Their districts include Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Waller and Washington Counties. Each appellate court is composed of a chief justice and eight associate justices. These courts have intermediate appellate jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases from trial courts in the district.

DISTRICT COURTS

Administrative Office.....(713) 755-6575

There are 59 district courts in Harris County. The 22 courts in the criminal division have jurisdiction over felonies punishable by imprisonment in state jail, death or misdemeanors involving official conduct. The 25 courts in the civil division hear such cases as workmen's compensation, breach of contract, name changes and injunctions. The nine courts in the family division hear cases involving annulments, divorce and adoptions and the three courts in the juvenile division involve cases of neglected or abused children and cases involving juvenile delinquent conduct.

The Veterans Court is a special court administered through the 228th District Court to serve veterans and persons on active duty or reservists who suffer from brain injury and mental illness or disorder, including post-traumatic stress disorder.

COUNTY CIVIL COURTS AT LAW

County Civil Court At Law #1.....(713) 368-6610
County Civil Court At Law #2.....(713) 368-6641
County Civil Court At Law #3.....(713) 368-6660
County Civil Court At Law #4.....(713) 368-6680

There are four county civil courts at law that hear cases asking damages, most under $100,000. The courts generally hear personal injury suits or property damage suits.

COUNTY CRIMINAL COURTS AT LAW

Court Manager .....(713) 755-5394

There are fifteen county criminal courts at law that hear misdemeanor cases punishable by fines greater than $500, incarceration or both.

PROBATE COURTS

Probate Court One..... (713) 368-6700
Probate Court Two..... (713) 368-6710
Probate Court Three..... (713) 368-6730
Probate Court Four.....(713) 368-6767

The four probate courts have jurisdiction over probating of wills, appointment of guardians, and settlement, partition and distribution of estates. Probate Courts Three and Four handle the mental illness cases.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS

Precinct 1, Place 1..... (713) 697-1224
Precinct 1, Place 2..... (713) 755-5125
Precinct 2, Place 1..... (281) 481-9630
Precinct 2, Place 2..... (713) 920-1828
Precinct 3, Place 1..... (713) 450-2409
Precinct 3, Place 2..... (281) 427-7449
Precinct 4, Place 1..... (281) 376-5512
Precinct 4, Place 2..... (281) 446-7191
Precinct 5, Place 1..... (713) 661-2276
Precinct 5, Place 2..... (281) 463-2341
Precinct 6, Place 1..... (713) 921-1576
Precinct 6, Place 2..... (713) 921-6141
Precinct 7, Place 1..... (713) 747-3553
Precinct 7, Place 2..... (713) 643-1512
Precinct 8, Place 1..... (281) 479-6900
Precinct 8, Place 2..... (281) 488-8780

Harris County has sixteen justice of the peace courts, two in each of the eight justice of the peace precincts. *(Please see the map under the constables' section on page 15 for justice of the peace precinct boundaries. They are the same as the constables.)*

Justice courts have criminal jurisdiction of offenses punishable by a fine only. Justices of the Peace have original jurisdiction in criminal cases punishable by fine only, or punishable by a fine and a sanction not consisting of confinement or imprisonment. In most cases, fines may be imposed up to $500.

Typical criminal cases prosecuted in the justice courts include traffic, assaults, disorderly conduct, theft, criminal mischief, and public intoxication. Justice courts also prosecute the offenses of failure to attend school and parent contributing to nonattendance.

Justice courts have jurisdiction of civil matters in which the amount in controversy is not more than $10,000, exclusive of interest. They also have jurisdiction of eviction suits, and suits relating to enforcement of a deed restriction or a residential subdivision that does not concern a structural change to a dwelling. Each justice of the peace also sits as the judge of small claims court. The small claims court has concurrent jurisdiction with the justice court in actions for the recovery of money in which the amount involved, exclusive of costs, does not exceed $10,000.

Justices of the peace perform marriage ceremonies. They also act as magistrates and may hold hearings relative to driver's license suspensions, relative to handgun license denials, to determine the rights of owners and operators in towed vehicles, to determine ownership of seized property, and to determine whether a dog is vicious or dangerous, or if an animal is being cruelly treated.

GRAND JURY AND PETIT JURY

The grand juries are composed of twelve members selected by a criminal district judge from a list submitted by the Grand Jury Commission. The jury investigates alleged activities that may be subject to indictment or prosecution in the county, and determines if there is sufficient evidence to bring a case to trial. Harris County Grand Jurors serve for three months and there are usually two grand juries serving simultaneously.

A petit jury, also known as a trial jury, consist of twelve members in district courts; six members in county and justice of the peace courts. Jury panels are drawn from lists of registered voters and/or holders of a Texas driver's license or identification card. A petit jury tries the charges in a criminal case, or determines the facts in a civil case, and sets the amount of damages to be awarded. In a criminal case, the jury must determine a defendant's guilt or innocence by unanimous decision of the verdict. The jury may also be asked to fix the sentence.

County Departments

DEPARTMENTS

AUDITOR'S OFFICE (713) 755-6505

The county auditor is the chief financial officer of the county, the Toll Road Authority, and the Flood Control District. Appointed by the district judges for a two year term, the auditor's powers related to county finances are set forth in state law. Duties include prescribing the system of accounting for the county, determining a system for receiving and depositing money, examination of all reports of collection, and disbursements of money. Further, the auditor is responsible for examination and approval of all claims, bills, and accounts against the county, oversight of the books and records, examination of all financial records, annual financial statements and strict enforcement of the law pertaining to county finances.

The county auditor also maintains records and prepares reports for the Harris County Juvenile Probation Board and acts as the fiscal officer for the Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department. The auditor also serves as the internal auditor for the Harris County Hospital District and the Port of Houston Authority and the Community Supervision and Corrections Department and performs financial audits of county departments.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT (713) 755-5113

Prepares the annual county and flood control budgets, special studies, and the regular agenda for commissioners court. This department also monitors the budget and provides analyses and reports regarding county operations and management information.

A division of Budget Management, Financial Services and Planning, deals with three main areas:

- Cash Management — responsible for bank relations regarding contracts and assuring that all funds are collateralized.
- Debt Management — responsible for coordinating and monitoring bond issues, debt and arbitrage.
- Investment Management — responsible for investment of funds for investment earnings.

Human Resources and Risk Management is a division of this department. This division provides employment and training services and handles claims, loss control, insurance, benefits administration, and compensation analyses.

CHILDREN'S ASSESSMENT CENTER (713) 986-3300

Children's Assessment Center (CAC) represents a unique public-private partnership between Harris County and the CAC Foundation Board of Directors to provide enhanced services to child sexual abuse victims and their families. The mission of the center is to protect children by providing on-site agency coordination and collaboration, and use of the multi-disciplinary team approach in prevention, assessment, investigation, referral for prosecution and treatment of child sexual abuse.

Direct services include a videotaped interview of a child's statement to eliminate the need for multiple interviews, sexual assault examination, therapeutic services, expert testimony in civil and criminal court cases, and advocacy for children. The center houses professionals from thirty-five partner agencies that include law enforcement, medical schools, and governmental investigative entities. The director is appointed by commissioners court.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT (713) 578-2000

The primary objective of the Community Services Department is to develop viable urban communities by providing housing, a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, promotion of business and industrial growth, improvement of community facilities and services, neighborhood planning services, and the formation of collaborations to stimulate and enhance neighborhood development. The department's director is appointed by commissioners court.

The department has five main divisions:

- Housing & Community Development
- Economic Development
- Social Services
- Transit Services, and
- Veterans Services

Through these divisions, this department strives to meet the human service needs of disadvantaged citizens of Harris County by providing emergency financial assistance, services to the elderly and disabled, non-emergency medical transportation, and assistance with claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other social services that improve their quality of life.

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT (713) 755-2700

The Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department serves 22 district criminal courts and 15 county criminal courts at law with supervision and services for approximately 38,000 felony and misdemeanor offenders. The department provides pre-sentence investigations and assessment services for the courts. Services are also provided to crime victims.

There are six regional office sites, five neighborhood reporting locations, five residential treatment programs and additional offices in the criminal courthouse. Currently, the department has approximately 850 employees under the oversight of the director who is appointed by the thirty-seven judges trying criminal cases in Harris County.

COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION (713) 755-4000

The commission is dedicated to the preservation, conservation, and promotion of Harris County's long, dynamic history. The commission works in conjunction with local preservation organizations, the Texas Historical Commission, and the National Park Service. A large volume of its work is in securing designations of historical sites and in the placement of Texas historical markers.

The Historical Marker of the Ed & Minnie Kleb Farmhouse was dedicated on September 20, 2007. Located in Precinct Three's Kleb Woods Nature Preserve, visitors can enjoy the old house & barn site, or stroll down trails of bark mulch and crushed granite, picnic, or just sit and relax with nature.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER (713) 755-8274

Established in 1980, the Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) is a non-profit corporation sponsored by the Houston Bar Association and funded through Harris County. The DRC provides free alternative dispute resolution services to the residents of Harris County. The center's primary focus is mediation. The DRC mediates disputes that include: family, neighbors, auto repair, landlord and tenant, consumer and merchant, homeowner associations, and employment.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS OFFICE (713) 755-6757

The Domestic Relations Office provides legal, conciliatory, investigative, and probation services in the Harris County family district courts that focus on the best interest of children. Its' services impact the families of Harris County by focusing on the needs of children involved in family litigation. Commissioners court appoints the director of the department.

The office is a partner agency of the Harris County Youth & Family Services Division and is comprised of four divisions.

The Legal Enforcement Division

Provides legal representation, at a reasonable fee, for parents seeking to enforce or establish paternity, child support, and or visitation. The division also runs two early intervention programs called FOCAS and Friend of the Court in the Family District Courts.

The Family Court Services Division

Conducts social study investigations for adoptions, contested custody and access cases, provides parenting coordination in high conflict cases, facilitates substance abuse testing, and conducts parent conferences for families experiencing problems with visitation/access of children.

The Family Dispute Resolution

Provides family mediation services for where a Harris County Family District Court has jurisdiction.

The Community Supervision Unit

Provides probation services for parents who have been found in contempt in the Family District and IV-D Courts for nonpayment of court-ordered child support or for denial of court-ordered possession and or access.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (713) 755-5091

The Facilities & Property Management Department is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and repairs to 112 county owned and eighty-nice leased facilities. The total combined square footage of occupied space exceeds nine and one half million. In addition, FPM performs construction and remodeling to upgrade and customize facilities.

Did you know.....

Volunteers help to keep our roadways, parks, and areas along waterways clean and clear of trash and debris through Precinct Three's Adopt-A-County Road and Adopt-A-County Waterway Programs.

For more information on how you can be a part of the action in Precinct Three contact:
pct3@hctx.net or (713) 755-6306.

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE (281) 436-8000

The Harris County Fire Marshal's duties in the unincorporated areas of Harris County include:

- Fire investigation
- Coordination of fire prevention and control
- Fire and life safety inspections
- Maintaining fire reports
- Hazardous materials response
- Providing training classes

Fire Marshals certified by the State of Texas are fire inspectors, fire/arson investigators, firefighters, and peace officers. If arson or related crime has occurred, the Fire Marshal will pursue the criminal investigation. The Fire Marshal is appointed by Commissioners Court.

HOSPITAL DISTRICT (713) 566-6400

The Harris County Hospital District (HCHD) is the integrated public health care system for the nation's third most populous county. It is comprised of Ben Taub General and Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospitals, Quentin Mease Community Hospital, twelve community health centers, eight school-based clinics, thirteen homeless shelter clinics, four mobile health units, and a free-standing dental center. The hospital district operates 975 licensed hospital beds, and provides more than one million primary and specialty care visits each year. The District is responsible for medical and hospital care for the county's indigent, and is administered by a nine member Board of Managers appointed by Harris County Commissioners Court to two year terms.

Ben Taub General Hospital.....(713) 873-2200
Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital.....(713) 566-5000
Quentin Mease Community Hospital.....(713) 873-3700

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTER (713) 755-6621

The Information Technology Center (ITC) is responsible for overall data processing operations and networking for Harris County's 1,744 square-mile area, all voice communications to the 250 locations throughout the County and all county-wide 800 megahertz radio communications and video systems. The purpose of ITC is to provide information technology and communication services necessary for the operation and growth of Harris County departments.

The ITC functions as a complete information utility, providing evaluation and implementation of advanced data, applications, teleprocessing, records management, and radio systems. The Director of ITC is appointed by Commissioners Court.

Did you know……

A running track for the visually impaired is located at Precinct Three's Bayland Park.

INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NEEDS COUNCIL OF HARRIS COUNTY (713) 796-9292

The IDDNC works to ensure a society in which all persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities have access to services and supports to enable their fullest participation in community life. The IDDNC will work to ensure that Harris County will have a health and human services delivery system which is a partnership of consumers, family members, service providers, educators, advocates, and policy makers. This partnership will work to create service options for all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, which are flexible, dependable, accessible, cost effective, and promote individual choice. The IDDNC is a partnership between advocates of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and providers of intellectual and developmental disabilities services. The IDDNC is charged with identifying issues affecting persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and making recommendations to address those issues.

JOINT CITY/COUNTY COMMISSION ON CHILDREN (713) 437-6322

The mission of the Joint City/County Commission on Children is to generate an action plan advocating for individuals below the age of 18 and their interests; assess the general welfare of our youth; offer ways in which the key needs of those individuals can be met; and promote the healthy development of children which will ultimately benefit our entire community.

To this end the Commission:

- Monitors and makes recommendations with state and federal efforts, including legislation and to the Texas Commission on Children and Youth.
- Promotes children and their needs by advocating, educating, and informing policy makers, program designers/administrators, business leaders and the public regarding children's issues.
- Fosters coordination, collaboration, and resource sharing between governments and private entities.
- Develops and promotes a set of guidelines to integrate government and private programs which will primarily focus on prevention and early intervention for children and their families.
- Develops recommendations for Houston's and Harris County's children relating to such areas as health, education, security, safety, and employment that outlines the responsibilities for the city/county governments.

- Performs other duties as may be assigned by the Mayor and City Council of Houston or the County Judge and Commissioners of Harris County.

JUVENILE PROBATION (713) 222-4100

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD) provides a variety of services to youth who are ten to seventeen years of age and are referred for Class B Misdemeanors or above.

The Harris County Juvenile Board is the governing body of HCJPD and consists of six district court judges, a justice of the peace, and the county judge. The Board monitors all of the department's programs, institutional services, residential placement facilities, and sets administrative policies and procedures. This governing body also appoints the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Juvenile Probation Department.

HCJPD is committed to protecting the public and provides appropriate supervision to delinquent youth in furtherance of this commitment. In addition, HCJPD provides these youth with comprehensive rehabilitative programs designed to encourage law abiding behaviors. These programs include detention, institutional, and community-based programs that include an innovative mix of educational, mental health, vocational, and substance and alcohol intervention/prevention services.

Under the Juvenile Probation Department is:

Community & Juvenile Justice Education Department (713) 755-4766

The Community and Juvenile Justice Education Department (CJJED) was established in 1995 in response to a new state law which required urban counties to provide educational programs for students expelled from public school. The objective of the CJJED is to put at- risk students back on track so they can return to regular school and succeed. Through a contracted service provider, the CJJED provides each student with an individual academic and behavioral plan. Student progress is measured to ensure that each student is progressing toward grade-level performance. The CJJED is funded by state appropriations and fees paid by local school districts. The Juvenile Board is the governing body; the director is appointed by the Board.

LAW LIBRARY (713) 755-5183

The primary purpose of the Law Library is to provide legal reference materials to local judges, litigants, lawyers and visiting judges and attorneys. It is directed by a Law Librarian appointed by Commissioners Court upon recommendation of a Houston Bar Association Committee. The Law Librarian appoints the Law Library staff. The Library is located in the downtown courthouse complex.

LIBRARY— HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC (713) 749-9000

Harris County Public Library is a network of 26 community libraries designed to meet the informational, educational and recreational reading needs of Harris County residents.

Harris County Public Library Branches

Note: Branches in blue are located in Precinct Three.

Aldine	11331 Airline Dr.	(281) 445-5560
Atascocita	19520 Pinehurst Tr.	(281) 812-2162
Baldwin Boettcher	222248 Aldine Westfield	(281) 821-1320
Bush-Cypress Creek	6817 Cypresswood	(281) 376-4610
Crosby	135 Hare Rd.	(281) 328-3535
Cy-Fair College	9191 Barker Cypress Rd.	(281) 290-3210
Evelyn Meador	2400 N. Meyer Rd.	(281) 474-9142
Fairbanks	7122 N. Gessner	(713) 466-4438
Freeman Memorial	16616 Diana Ln.	(281)488-1906
Galena Park	1500 Keene St.	(713) 450-0982
High Meadows	4500 Aldine Mail Rt.	(281) 590-1456
Jacinto City	921 Akron	(713) 673-3237
Katherine Tyra @ Bear Creek	16719 Clay Rd.	(281) 550-0885
Katy	5414 Franz Rd.	(281) 391-3509
LaPorte	526 San Jacinto	(281) 471-4022
Maud Smith Marks	1815 Westgreen Blvd.	(281) 492-8592
North Channel	15741 Wallisville	(281) 457-1631
Northwest	11355 Regency Green Dr.	(281) 890-2665
Octavia Fields @ Humble	1503 South Houston	(281) 446-3377
Parker Williams	10851 Scarsdale Blvd.	(281) 484-2036
South Houston	607 Ave. A, South	(713) 941-2385
Spring Branch	930 Corbindale	(713) 464-1633
Stratford	509 Stratford	(281) 426-3521
Tomball College & Community	30555 Tomball Pkwy.	(832) 559-4200
West University	6108 Auden	(713) 668-8273

A variety of materials in all formats are provided to accomplish the Library's mission, all easily reached through the Library's eBranch at www.hcpl.net. The eBranch provides access to the catalog of materials owned by the Library System, including a variety of research databases, downloadable audio and e-books and suggestions for reading, as well as offering information assistance 24 hours a day. Customers can also register online for a library card, renew materials and pay fines by credit card. Other services include weekly story times, entertaining and educational programs for adults and children, and community meeting rooms in most branch libraries. Commissioners Court appoints the County Librarian.

MEDICAL EXAMIMER (INSTITURE OF FORENSIC SCIENCES) (713) 796-9292

The Institute has a unique and highly specialized mission in which it provides forensic investigation and analysis to the citizens of Harris County through two fully accredited services.

- **Forensic Pathology Service** encompasses investigations, pathology, anthropology, morgue, forensic imaging, postmortem toxicology, histology, and finance and administration.
- **Crime Laboratory Service** includes the four distinct forensic disciplines of controlled substances, clinical toxicology, trace evidence and biology (serology/DNA) as well as laboratory administrative services. Each service has its own objectives that respond to the current issues and needs of Harris County which go beyond the determination of the cause of death.

The Medical Examiner is appointed by Commissioners Court, and the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences' Office has been a member institution of the Texas Medical Center since 1983.

The Institute of Forensic Sciences investigates sudden death in order to determine cause and manner of death, preserves evidence, contributes to public health/safety surveillance, analyzes physical evidence, and provides expert testimony in courts of law.

MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION AUTHORITY (713) 970-7190

MHMRA of Harris County is one of the largest mental health centers in the United States, serving more than 30,000 persons in the Houston metropolitan area who suffer from mental illness and mental retardation. It serves the "priority population" - adults who are diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness, children with serious emotional disturbances, and people diagnosed with moderate to severe mental retardation.

The major divisions of the agency are:

- Adult Mental Health,
- Mental Retardation,
- Child & Adolescent Services, and
- Crisis Services (the NeuroPsychiatric Center).

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (713) 881-3100

This office is charged with coordinating county departments and assets in the mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery from the effects of disasters, be they natural disasters such as hurricanes or floods, to other hazards such as a refinery fire or terrorist activity.

The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is located at Houston TranStar. This state-of-the-art facility opened in April of 1996. Houston TranStar is a partnership between four government agencies that are responsible for coordinating the planning, design, and operation of transportation, and emergency management functions in the greater Houston Region. Harris County, the City of Houston, the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) comprise the partnership.

By statute, the county judge is charged with the responsibility for emergency management planning and operations for Harris County. However, most major county departments within Harris County perform emergency functions in addition to their normal duties. They play key roles in the county's emergency operations preparation and response to incidents.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS (713) 755-1438

The Harris County Office of Legislative Relations oversees the county's efforts in matters at the Texas Legislature and the various state agencies, and in Congress. The office's responsibilities include working with members of commissioners court and county departments to identify and advance the county's legislative priorities. Because one of the primary objectives of the county is taxpayer protection, the office closely monitors and participates in the legislative and appropriations process to reduce or eliminate unfunded mandates. The director of Legislative Relations is appointed by commissioners court.

POLLUTION CONTROL SERVICES (713) 920-2831

The activities of the Pollution Control Services Department are directed toward ensuring clean air and water for the citizens of Harris County consistent with the protection of public health, enjoyment of property and the protection of plant, animal, and marine life. Activities include:

- Enforcing the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Air, Water, Solid Waste and Harris County Storm Water Rules and Regulations.
- Responding to citizen complaints regarding air, water or solid waste problems.
- Monitoring, inspecting and investigating activities and facilities associated with air, water, storm water and solid and hazardous waste pollution.
- Laboratory analysis of water, soil and solid waste samples to identify and quantify compounds that may be hazardous, a public nuisance or detrimental to the environment.
- Reviewing and commenting on TCEQ proposed permit renewals and amendments.
- Assessing and compiling reports and evidence relating to violations of environmental laws for civil or criminal litigation.
- Coordination and administration of Supplemental Environmental Project funds.

PRETRIAL SERVICES

Director	(713) 755-5440
General Info—Pretrial Screening	(713) 755-5175
General Info—Defendant Monitoring	(713) 755-5175

Under the direction of the Management Services Department, Pretrial Services provides assistance to the criminal courts in pretrial matters. The primary functions of the office are to compile and investigate defendants' criminal and social history; prepare reports that assist the judiciary with release and detention decisions, especially those related to eligibility for release on personal bond, and disseminate information relevant to assessing a defendant's risk. Further, this office identifies alternative release conditions to maximize the pretrial population release while minimizing failure rates and insuring community safety; establishes and enforces conditions of release imposed by the court; and provides supervisory and support services that reduce instances where a defendant may fail to appear in court or is re-arrested for a new offense.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS (713) 394-4000

In a unique governmental collaboration, Protective Services for Children and Adults in Harris County (HCPS), a county department advocating for Harris County children and adults, provides direct services to children not served by the State Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) through the Youth Services Center, Community Youth Services, and the TRIAD Prevention Program. HCPS also provides support services designed to enhance the efficiency of the DFPS Program through BEAR…BE A Resource for CPS Kids, the Children's Crisis Care Center, the Medical and Dental Clinic Training Institute.

HCPS began administering the Guardianship Program for the County on March 8, 2003.

PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE (713) 368-0016

The Harris County Pubic Defender is a department created by commissioners court for the purpose of representing indigent persons charged in the misdemeanor, felony, and juvenile courts. The office receives is cases by appointments from judges and is not allowed to choose its clients. Persons represented by this office can expect zealous representation from the combined experience of lawyers, investigators, social workers, and other administrative staff.

Judges also may assign private attorneys to represent indigent defendants and juveniles. Those lawyers are not associated with this office, but must meet minimum qualifications in order to receive appointments

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (713) 439-6000

Harris County Public Health Services (**HCPHS**) provides services to promote health, prevent illness and injury, and protect Harris County citizens from a variety of public health threats. The department has certain responsibilities for enforcing state laws and local health ordinances, as well as to coordinate and facilitate federal and state public health programs in the county. Commissioners court appoints the director.

HCPHES is comprised of nine divisions:

Administrative Services Division (713) 439-6000
Ensures technical and professional support for all HCPHES activities and sites through financial, operational, and logistical assistance.

Disease Control and Clinical Prevention Division (713) 439-6100
Provides a variety of population-based and clinical preventive health services. The Division operates thirteen Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) sites located throughout the County, and six preventive health clinics, offering Harris County residents quality, cost-effective preventive clinical services.

Environmental Public Health Division (713) 740-6270
Works to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the food supply, clean drinking water, neighborhood cleanliness, and hazard-free workplaces.

Health Education and Promotion Division (713) 439-6290
Integrates evidence-based health education and promotion interventions targeting groups and communities that address HCPHES priority public health issues.

Mosquito Control Division (713) 440-4800
Conducts surveillance, education, and targeted pesticide application to prevent and control mosquito-borne diseases, including St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) and West Nile virus (WNV).

Office of Policy and Planning (713) 439-6254
Responsible for coordinating comprehensive planning, assessment, evaluation, and policy development activities across HCPHES.

Office of Public Health Preparedness (713) 439-6246
Responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive, department-wide, "all-hazards" approach to public health preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

Office of Public Information (713) 439-6246
Protects the health of County residents by developing and implementing initiatives in the areas of media relations, communication, public information, public awareness campaigns, marketing strategies, and risk communication

Veterinary Public Health Division (281) 999-3191
Works in partnership with the community to create a safe and healthy environment for animals and people, including the prevention of disease transmission from animals to humans. The goal is accomplished through education, field and shelter services, and animal adoption activities.

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

The Public Infrastructure Department (PID) is the "public works" arm of county government, providing planning, design, and construction administration for capital improvements and maintenance of facilities for the 1670 square miles of Harris County.

PID has five Divisions:

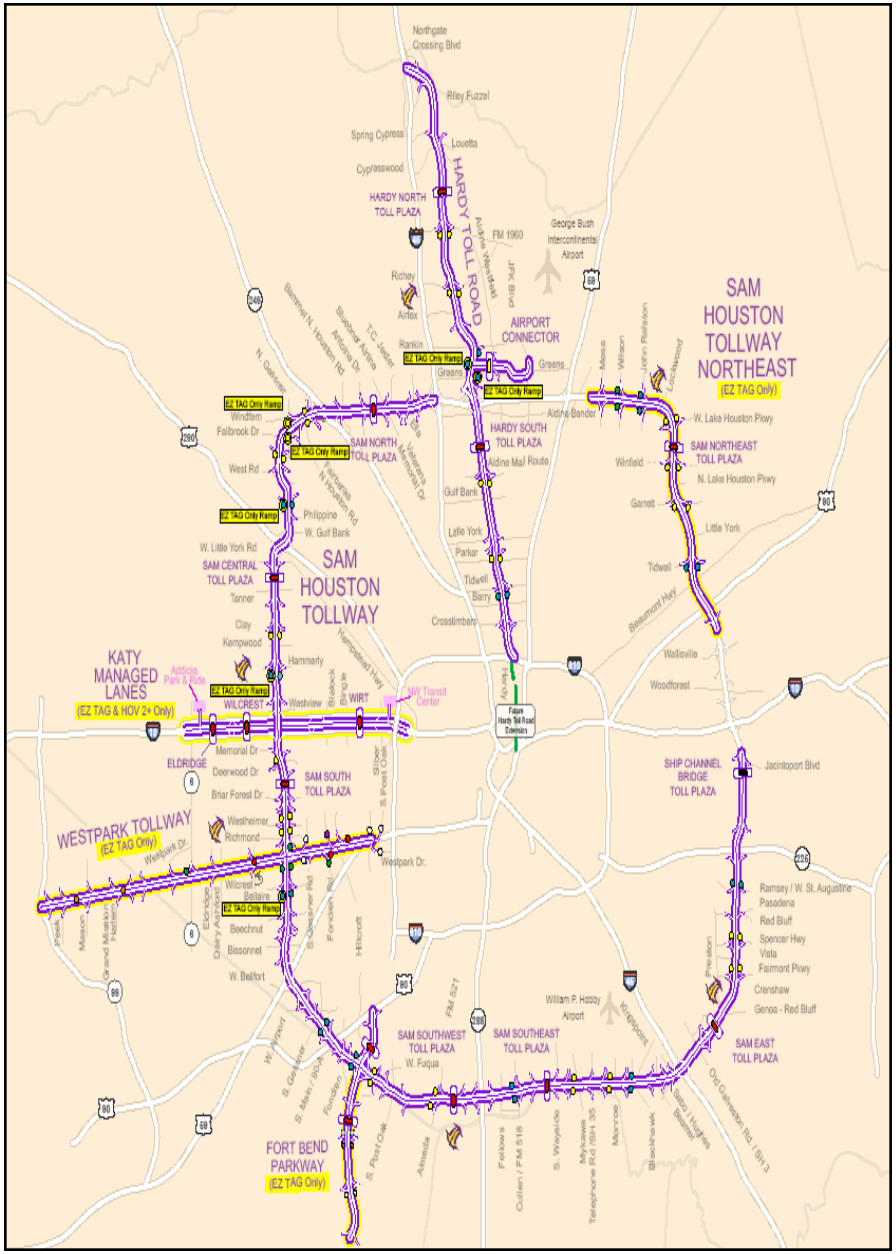
Architecture and Engineering Division (713) 755-5370
The mission of the Architecture and Engineering Division is to execute the planning, study, design, and construction of buildings, roads, bridges, traffic signals, drainage improvements, parks, and other capital and maintenance projects in accordance with county standards and contract documents.

Included in this division is the permit office. This Office administers *nine* sets of rules and regulations, including flood plain management, for Harris County.

The planning and operations section provides the necessary service and support to county officials and staff, as well as other PID divisions, governmental agencies, and the development community at large by evaluating and reviewing current policies, programs, and design standards and coordinating innovative solutions and implementation of alternative procedures and requirements. Areas of concern include emergency response, infrastructure evaluation, water and wastewater programs, and condemnation coordination among county departments. The division provides support to any division with special needs such as general planning, mapping, programming, or engineering skills.

Flood Control District (713) 684-4000
The district was established in 1937 by the state legislature to control flooding through storing and distributing storm and floodwaters. The district is responsible for maintenance of approximately 2,500 miles of streams, bayous, creeks, and channels, along with a number of stormwater detention basins. It designs and constructs flood control improvements, sponsors major new facilities in partnership with the Corps of Engineers, and reviews proposed new developments in the private sector. The Flood Control District has provided for shared use of its rights-of-ways through contracts with governmental and private agencies for recreation, hike-and-bike trails, and natural areas. Planning and projects are coordinated with county engineering and the Toll Road Authority as a reporting division of PID.

Harris County Toll Road System



Toll Road Authority

Administration:	**(832) 601-7800**
Customer Service:	**(281) 875-3279**
Web:	**www.hctra.org**

The Harris County Toll Road Authority (HCTRA) improves mobility in the greater Houston area through excellence in the operation of urban toll highway systems, while upholding a commitment to leadership, public service, and quality of life.

HCTRA came into existence when, in September, 1983, Harris County voters approved a referendum by a seven to three margin to release up to $900 million in bonds to create two toll roads - the Hardy Toll Road and the Sam Houston Tollway, to improve regional mobility and reduce traffic congestion in the greater Houston area, an area known for rapid population growth. After passage of the referendum, Harris County Commissioners Court created the Harris County Toll Road Authority which is now a division of the County's Public Infrastructure Department.

The authority operates under multiple divisions which oversee all aspects of the agency's operations, including toll operations, communications, engineering, information technology, human resources, finance, customer service, and incident management.

The Harris County Toll Road Authority System consists of approximately 107 miles of roadway in the Houston/Harris County area and twelve miles in Fort Bend County, for a total of 119 miles. There are a total of nine mainline plazas, seven of which are along the Sam Houston Tollway and two on the Hardy Toll Road.

Construction Programming Division (832) 601-7808

The Division provides construction management services for Harris County Public Infrastructure Department construction projects. The division consists of three major sections. The road and bridge section manages construction of all Harris County roads and bridges on behalf of the four Harris County precincts. The downtown construction complex section manages construction of all major buildings in the Harris County downtown complex and elsewhere within the county. The toll road construction section manages the construction of all Harris County Toll Road Authority projects on behalf of the Authority.

Right-of-Way Division (713) 355-7750

Right-of Way (ROW) is responsible for managing the purchases, sales, abandonments, and exchanges of all real estate transactions for the other PID divisions, the precincts, the Harris County Hospital District, and other county departments as well as any joint projects undertaken with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and TxDOT. ROW secures authority from commissioners court for the action, orders appraisals from independent appraisers, handles the negotiations, and refers the transaction to the county attorney for condemnation when necessary.

PURCHASING AGENT (713) 755-5036

The purchasing agent is responsible for all purchases not on a competitive bid, and is responsible for supervision of the competitive bidding process for all county departments including the Harris County Hospital District.

In addition to the procurement functions, the purchasing agent is responsible for inventory and the sale of surplus and confiscated items. A board consisting of three district judges and two members of commissioners court appoints the purchasing agent for a term of two years.

Fleet Services which maintains the county's fleet of vehicles is a part of the purchasing department.

SHERIFF'S CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (713) 755-7539

The Civil Service Commission promotes professionalism within the Sheriff's Department. It assures fair and impartial treatment of employees in accordance with appeal rights and promotional procedures formulated, adopted and administered by the commission.

TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE (281) 855-5600

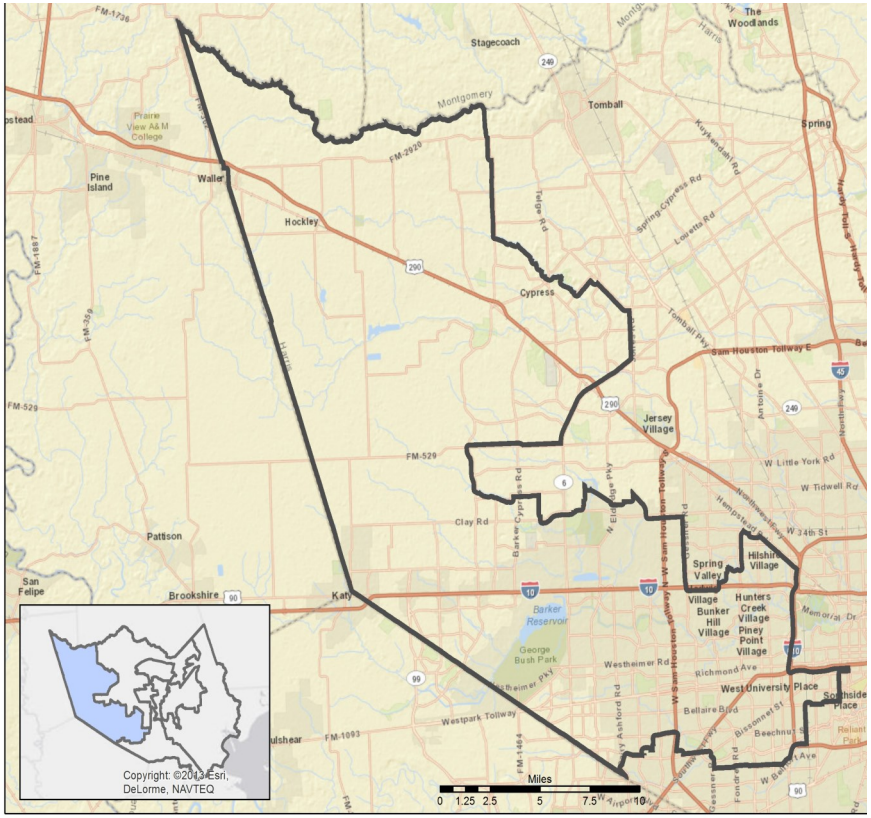
(County Agricultural Extension Agent)

The primary function of the extension service is to provide information and leadership in areas relating to agriculture, community development, 4-H youth programs and family and consumer sciences. The County Extension Director appointed by commissioners court, upon recommendation of the District Extension Director, serves as administrator and department head with a staff of extension agents. An organized group of local citizens works with the director to develop and execute educational programs for Harris County residents. Planning and programs are coordinated with Youth and Family Services.

Precinct Three's Bear Creek Pioneers Park is home to the Harris County War Memorial. The Harris County War Memorial opened in 1985 during the administration of former Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Bob Eckels. It lists the name of Harris County residents who have died in uniform in service to our country during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, The Vietnam War, the first Persian Gulf War and the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Most recently, under the direction of current Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack, new sections were added to honor those who served in the U.S. Merchant Marines and died during World War II and those who lost their lives serving in the U.S. Coast Guard during various conflicts.

Precinct THREE

HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT THREE



Precinct Three is the western most precinct in Harris County and is home to over one million residents. The precinct is over 451 square miles in size with 308 square miles in the unincorporated areas of Harris County and 143 square miles in the incorporated areas. It includes some of the most rural agricultural parts of the county and some of the most densely urban parts.

The commissioner and his staff maintain:

- 1,854 miles of roads and 24,211 feet of bridges.
- 62 parks covering 14,782 acres that include 71 miles of hike and bike trails and five dog parks.
- Six community centers have over 500,000 visitors annually.
- Vehicles and power equipment within the Precinct's Fleet Services Division valued at over $25 million.

PRECINCT THREE CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: www.pct3.hctx.net

Email: pct3@hctx.net

Service Requests and Road Maintenance:
Pct3ServiceDept@hctx.net (281) 463-8703

Downtown Office:
County Administration Building (713) 755-6306
1001 Preston, Suite 924 (713) 755-8928 (Fax)
Preston, Texas 77002

Precinct's Road and Bridge Department:
Westside Service Center (281) 463-6300
16635 Clay Road (281) 463-8502 (Fax)
Houston, Texas 77084

Hockley Service Center (936) 931-3618
28515 Old Washington Road
Hockley, Texas

Environmental Crimes Unit: (281) 463-4619
To report illegal waste dumping and environmental crimes.

Law Enforcement:
Sheriff—Patrol District IV (281) 463-2648
Constable Precinct 4 (281) 376-3472
Constable Precinct 5 (281) 463-6666
Houston Police Department (713) 884-3131
(within the City Limits of Houston)

PRECINCT THREE COMMUNITY CENTERS

Welcome. Come join us!

We have something for everyone.

Precinct Three has six community centers providing many programs and activities for seniors and residents of all ages.

Especially important for seniors are the variety of services and programs designed to promote health and fitness through regular exercise classes, blood pressure screening, and by providing speakers on nutrition and other health-related topics.

Our community centers are conveniently located throughout the precinct. Each community center has rooms that may be reserved for meetings for groups such as AARP, civic groups, square dancing, or bridge playing.

They are an ideal place to meet with friends, make new acquaintances, participate in a support group or take a trip on a Precinct Three bus organized especially for senior citizens.

A variety of fun and educational classes are offered in language, first aid, dance, crafts, computers, and many more. Visit a community center in your neighborhood and you will find it to be friendly and secure.

For specifics on each center visit:
www.pct3.hctx.net

Bayland
6400 Bissonnet Street
(713) 541-9951
Email: bayland_cc@hctx.net

Bear Creek
3055 Bear Creek Drive
(281) 859-1566
Email: bear_creek_cc@hctx.net

Hockley
28515 Old Washington Road
(936) 931-5029
Email: hockley_cc@hctx.net

Mary Jo Peckham Park
5597 Gardenia Lane
(281) 391-4482
Email: peckham_park@hctx.net

Tracy Gee
3599 Westcenter Drive
(713) 266-8193
Email: tracy_gee_cc@hctx.net

Trini Mendenhall
1414 Wirt Road
(713) 956-0881
Email: sosacc@hctx.net

PRECINCT THREE SENIOR EDUCATION

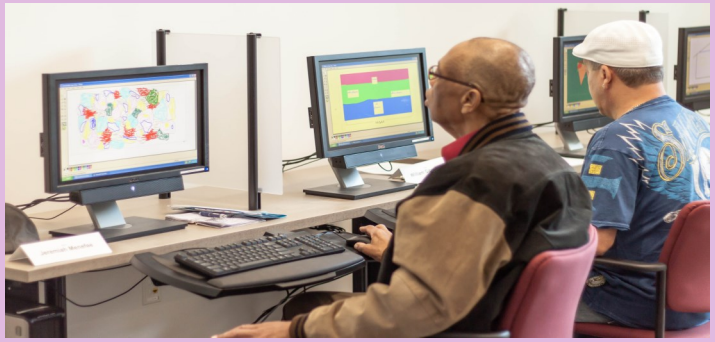
The immensely popular and nationally-recognized Harris County Precinct Three Senior Education Program was started after Commissioner Steve Radack recognized the need for computer and non-computer educational classes for seniors in the county. Armed with a growing body of medical research that links active minds with healthy bodies and suggests formal, structured, educational activities postpone mental and physical deterioration for seniors, Commissioner Radack developed Harris County's first senior education program.

The first senior learning center (SEC) was a 1,400 square foot facility with two classrooms built at Bayland Park in 1999. It opened in January 2000. Precinct Three received a $153,000 grant from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department to build the training facility, and Commissioner Radack provided land, construction personnel and support services.

Because of the overwhelming success of the program, Commissioner Radack constructed a 10,000 square foot facility with eight classrooms. The Jim & JoAnn Fonteno SEC on Bissonnet opened in 2004. The facility was so successful plans were drawn up for another large senior education center in west Harris County.

The Thomas A. Glazier SEC on Pine Forest Lane was built with a combination of local and federal dollars; it opened in early 2011. The new 14,000 square foot center is a "green" energy efficient building with multiple classrooms, an auditorium and an astronomy and science room. Like the Fonteno SEC, it is equipped with "senior friendly" furniture, fixtures and high-tech computers and audio-visual gear.

Seniors can take classes ranging from basic computer literacy to advanced computer skills to financial literacy and safety. Senior citizens can volunteer for a special training program that allows them to teach other seniors. The classes are free of charge.



For information on programs offered visit our website at: www.pct3@hctx.net and click on the “Seniors” button.

Fonteno Center	Glazier Center
6600 Bissonnet Street Houston, Texas 77074	16600 Pine Forest Lane Houston, Texas 77084
(713) 981-4703	(713) 274-3250
Seniorlearning@hctx.net	glaziersec@hctx.net

PRECINCT THREE SENIOR TRANSPORTATION

In 1991, Harris County sought and was given the authority by the state to put in place a program to provide transportation for seniors. House Bill 1931 amended the Local Government Code so that *“The commissioners court of a county with a population of 2.4 million or more may pay out of the county general funds costs and expenses for the transportation of senior citizens for civic, community, educational, and recreational activities within and outside the county.”*

To schedule a trip or for more information on Precinct Three’s Senior Transportation Program, please call: (281) 492-3680.

PRECINCT THREE PARKS

Precinct Three has many fine parks and several have unusual features. Bear Creek Pioneers Park has a wildlife refuge and a large golf complex. The Houston Area Live Steamers is located in Zube Park and George Bush Park has a world-class shooting center, and is home to the Millie Bush Dog Park, Precinct Three’s first Dog Park. Mary Jo Peckham Park For All Children has miniature golf, a large swimming pool, and a family fishing lake. There are walking or hiking trails in numerous parks including Bear Creek, Mary Jo Peckham, Terry Hershey, Ray Miller, Arthur Storey, and Kleb Woods. Many Precinct Three Parks have playground equipment and picnic pavilions with several of them large enough for parties and family reunions. You can learn more about Precinct Three Parks at our website: www.pct3.hctx.net

Parks Office	(281) 531-1592
Parks Reservations Office	(281) 496-2177
Parks Patrol—Constable Precinct Five	(281) 463-6666

Precinct Three Park Rules

Vehicles are restricted to designated roads and parking areas. Trucks are not allowed except for light trucks making deliveries. No vehicle to be operated at speeds in excess of posted limits.

Visitors must not harm or interfere with the wildlife. Willful destruction or removal of trees, including dead trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, grass, ferns, moss, leaves, or cones is prohibited.

Fires must be confined to campstoves or barbecue pits.

Only peace officers are permitted to possess weapons within a park. However, other than at a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event or interscholastic event in the park, a person licensed to carry a concealed handgun under the authority of subchapter H, chapter 411, of the Texas Government Code may carry a concealed handgun.

Glass beverage containers are prohibited. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed only under special conditions. Details may be obtained from the park office, (281) 496-2177.

Dogs and domestic cats are permitted in parks except for those where signs prohibiting them are posted. Dogs and cats must be confined to vehicles or kept on leashes not more than 6 feet in length. No other animals are allowed in the parks, except that horses are allowed in parks where there are designated equestrian areas.

No loudspeakers, public address system or amplifier is to be operated in any park without prior written permission from the park superintendent.

No special events may be held in a park without prior written permission from the Park Superintendent and liability insurance.

No sales and/or solicitations of donations or contributions is permitted in the parks without prior written permission from the Park Superintendent or pursuant to a written contract authorized by the Harris County Commissioners Court.

No golfing in unauthorized areas.

Model rockets and model aircraft in designated areas only.

Precinct Three Park Locations

Alief-Amity Park.....12509 Alief-Clodine Road

Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Park .....4025 Eldridge Parkway

Arthur Storey Park.....7400 West Sam Houston Parkway South

Baker Road Pocket Park.....368 Baker Road

Bayland Park .....6400 Bissonnet

Bear Creek Pioneers Park.....3535 War Memorial Drive

Beeler Memorial Pocket Park.....1150 Enclave Parkway

Bonham Family Nature Park.....7505 Wanda Lane

Brays Bayou Hike and Bike Trail.....9601 Brae Bayou Drive

Bud Hadfield Park .....12405 Telge Road

Carol Tree Pocket Park.....11600 Memorial Drive

Congressman Bill Archer Park..... 3201 State Highway 6 North

Cypress Park.....12925 North Eldridge Parkway

Cypress Top Historic Park.....26026 Hempstead Road

Danny Jackson Family Park.....4828 ½ Loop Central Drive

Eagle Ranch West Pocket Park.....5754 ½ Eagle Sky Boulevard

East Shadowlake Pocket Park.....12826 East Shadowlake Drive

Flag Tree Pocket Park.....8450 San Felipe @ Memorial Drive

Four Seasons Park.....4702 Katy Hockley Cut Off Road

Fry Road Park.....19818 Franz Road

Gary & Bonnie Trietsch Park.....1600 Block of Baker Road

George Bush Park.....16756 Westheimer Parkway

Glenmore Forest Park.....8000 Wingo

Harris County Pocket Park.....906 ½ Sam Houston BeltWay @ I-10

Hickory Shadows Pocket Park.....1003 Wirt Road

Hockley Recreational Complex.....28515 Old Washington Road

Horsepen Creek Park.....9118 Wheatcross

Housman Pocket Park.....6705 Housman

John Paul's Landing.....9000 Katy-Hockley (In development)

Katy Park.....24927 Morton Road

Kleb Woods Nature Preserve and Park.....20605 F.M. 2920

Langham Creek Park.....8440 Greenhouse

Malcolm Beckendorff Family Park.....1815 Katyland Drive

Marrs–Satsuma Pocket Park.....11305 Marrs Drive

Mary Jo Peckham Park For All Children.....5597 Gardenia Lane

Mason Creek Park.....2500 Porter Road

Mason Creek Hike and Bike Trail.....Kingsland at West Green Boulevard

Mason Road Park.....3400 Mason Road

Maxwell Park.....12622 Maxwell Road

McClendon Park.....3770 Summit Valley Drive

Memorial Bend Pocket Park .....255 Isolde

Mike Driscoll Park.....13534 West Houston Center

Molly Pryor Orchard.....15200 Memorial Drive

Monsignor Bill Pickard Park .....8201 Roos Road

Moritz Pech Family Park.....1493 1/2 Moritz Drive

New Kentucky Park.....21710 F.M. 2920

Nob Hill Park.....10300 Timber Oak Drive

North Mayde Creek Hike & Bike Trail.....18907 Morton Road

Nottingham Park .....14205 Kimberley Lane

Paul D. Rushing Park.....9114 Katy Hockley Road

Ray Miller Park .....1800 Eldridge Parkway

Regency Green Pocket Park.....11355 Regency Green Drive

Saums Pocket Park.....20002 Beechview Lane

Sgt. J.R. Hatch Park.....17525 Katy Freeway

South Mayde Creek Pocket Park.....2650 ½ Greenhouse

Stablewoods Pocket Park.....Louetta / Little Cypress Creek

Stein Family Park.....9601 Braes Bayou Drive

Susan C. Kellner Pocket Park.....12005 Kimberley Lane

Telge Park.....12400 Pleasant Grove Road

Terry Hershey Park.....15200 Memorial Drive @ Memorial Mews

Thomas A. Glazier Pocket Park.....16600 Pine Forest Lane

Zube Park.....17560 Roberts Road

Following are special amenities located in Precinct Three Parks. For more information on our numerous parks and to find other amenities not listed, please visit our Parks Page on our website.

Precinct Three Disc Golf Park Locations

Bud Hadfield Park -- Disc Golf Park.....12405 Telge Road

Nottingham Park -- Disc Golf Park.....14205 Kimberley Lane

Mary Jo Peckham Park -- Disc Golf Park.....5597 Gardenia Lane

Precinct Three Dog Park Locations

Beverly Kaufman Dog Park.....9114 Katy Hockley Road

Congressman Bill Archer Dog Park.....3201 State Highway 6 North

Danny Jackson Family Dog Park.....4828 1/2 Loop Central Drive

Horsepen Creek Dog Park.....9402 Barker Cypress

Millie Bush Dog Park.....16101 Westheimer Parkway

Some of the most popular parks in Precinct Three have "gone to the dogs!"

Precinct Three Fishing Locations

Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Park.....4025 Eldridge Parkway

Arthur Story Park.....7400 West Sam Houston Parkway South

Cypress Park.....12925 North Eldridge Parkway

George Bush Park.....16756 Westheimer Parkway

Hockley Recreational Complex Park.....28515 Old Washington Road

Horsepen Creek Park.....9118 Wheatcross

Mary Jo Peckham Park.....5597 Gardenia Lane

Paul D. Rushing Park.....9114 Katy Hockley Road

Precinct Three Hike & Bike Trail Locations

Brays Bayou Hike & Bike Trail.....9601 Brae Bayou Drive

Gary & Bonnie Trietsch Hike & Bike Trail.....1600 Block of Baker Road

George Bush Park Hike & Bike Trail.....16756 Westheimer Parkway

Mason Creek North Hike & Bike Trail.....2500 Porter Road

Mason Creek South Hike & Bike Trail.....Kingsland / Westgreen Boulevard

North Mayde Creek Hike & Bike Trail .....18907 Morton Road

South Mayde Creek Hike & Bike Trail.....2650 1/2 Greenhouse

Terry Hershey Park Hike & Bike Trail...15200 Memorial Dr./Memorial Mews

Precinct Three Kid Fit Park Locations

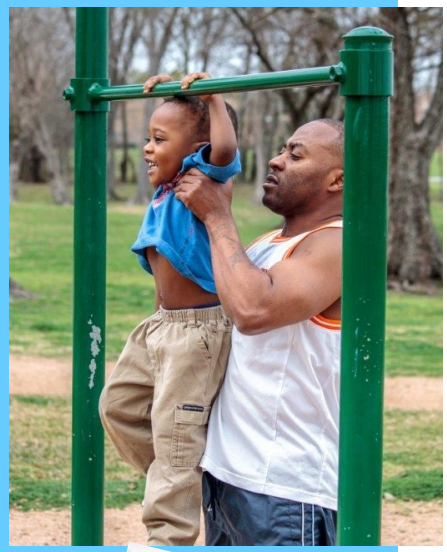
Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack operates four Kid Fit Parks — specially-equipped facilities in existing parks funded through unique private-public partnerships. These parks are aimed at giving families a place to stay fit together. Each Kid Fit Park is equipped with exercise equipment sized for both adults and children. Precinct Three provided the land and designed the facilities. Private companies paid for the equipment.

BP America, Inc. Kid Fit Park
Terry Hershey Park
15200 Memorial Drive @ Memorial Mews

HEB Tournament of Champions Kid Fit Park
Nottingham Park
14205 Kimberley Lane

KBR Kellogg Brown & Root Kid Fit Park
Gary and Bonnie Trietsch Park
1600 Block of Baker Road

PBS&J Kid Fit Park
Arthur Storey Park
7400 West Sam Houston Parkway South



Precinct Three Nature Center and Zoo Locations

Bear Creek Pioneers Park Zoo.....3535 War Memorial Drive

Kleb Woods Nature Center.....20303 Draper Road

Precinct Three Pocket Park Locations

Baker Road Pocket Park .....368 Baker Road

Beeler Memorial Pocket Park.....1150 Enclave Parkway

Carol Tree Pocket Park.....11600 Memorial Drive

Eagle Ranch West Pocket Park.....5754 1/2 Eagle Sky Boulevard

East Shadowlake Pocket Park.....12826 East Shadowlake Drive

Flag Tree Pocket Park.....8450 San Felipe @ Memorial Drive

Harris County Pocket Park.....906 1/2 Sam Houston BeltWay @1-10

Housman Pocket Park.....6705 Housman

Marrs-Satsuma Pocket Park.....11305 Marrs Drive

Memorial Bend Pocket Park.....255 Isolde

Regency Green Pocket Park.....11355 Regency Green Drive

Saums Pocket Park.....20002 Beechview Lane

South Mayde Creek Pocket Park.....Greenhouse @ Spanish Needle

Susan G. Kellner Pocket Park.....12005 Kimberley Lane

Thomas A. Glazier Pocket Park.....16600 Pine Forest Lane

Precinct Three Skate Park Locations

Congressman Bill Archer Skate Park.....3201 State Highway 6 North

Sergeant J.R. Hatch Skate Park.....17525 Katy Freeway

Precinct Three Soap Box Derby Track Locations

Hockley Recreational Complex.....28515 Old Washington Road

Precinct Three Splash Park Locations

McClendon Splash Park.....3770 Summit Valley Drive

Nottingham Splash Park .....14205 Kimberley Lane

STEVE RADACK, COMMISSIONER
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