# PSD, supervisor earn state honors

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024



HiltonHead **PSD** 

PSD Water Quality Supervisor Sarah Hickman, right, holds the Crystal Crucible Award as PSD Project Manager Pete Schuelke displays the Facility of Excellence certificates from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) earned the Facility of Excellence Award from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), its Water Quality Supervisor, Sarah Hickman, was recognized with the Crystal Crucible Award, and a statewide asset management workshop hosted by the PSD earned recognition. The awards were presented by the Water Environment Association of South Carolina (WEASC) at the South Carolina Environmental Conference this spring.

DHEC's Facility of Excellence Award recognizes environmental protection and regulatory compliance at the PSD's Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive. The plant annually recycles about 1 billion gallons of treated wastewater, producing beneficial recycled water that is then used for golf course irrigation and wetlands nourishment, with zero discharge to area waterways.

"The PSD's Recycled Water Plant plays a vital role in the sustainability of our delicate island environment," said PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. "The professionals at the PSD are ensuring that our interior wetland habitats continue to help wildlife and plant and tree species flourish, while also helping to preserve our water resources by providing our golf industry with high-quality recycled water for course irrigation."

The Crystal Crucible Award recognizes individuals for significant contributions which promotes professionalism, pride, and distinguished ideals among those working in water and wastewater analysis. Hickman supervises the PSD's Water Quality Laboratory. She has volunteered for many years to compete in, organize, and judge the WEASC's Operations Challenge competitions, where wastewater professionals compete as teams in various industry-related categories, including pipe repair, treatment process controls, confined space rescue, laboratory, and pump maintenance.

Hickman and Lindie Aragon of City of Westminster (Colo.) will form a twoperson team to compete this May in the operations challenge at IFAT Munich, the world's leading trade fair for wastewater and environmental technologies. Hickman was selected to compete by the Water Environment Federation, the leading wastewater trade association for North America.



for treated drinking water on Hilton Head Island is due to residential landscape irrigation. *Please water wisely.* 



#### COUNTY PROCLAMATION

The Beaufort County Council in April recognized PSD achievements with a proclamation presented by County Council Vice Chairman Larry McElynn (Hilton Head Island, Dist. 10). From left are: General Manager Pete Nardi, Recycled Water Supervisor Brian Fedorick, Vice Chairman McElynn, PSD Commission Vice Chair Jerry Cutrer, Commission Chair Frank Turano, Commissioner Andy Paterno, Water Quality Supervisor Sarah Hickman, and Project Manager Pete Schuelke.

## Follow the Island's irrigation laws



# **HURRICANE SEASON BEGINS JUNE 1**

#### **VISIT THE PSD'S ONLINE HURRICANE RESOURCE CENTER**

Visit Hilton Head PSD's online Hurricane Resource **Center for:** 

- How to preserve water
- How to purify stored water
- How to protect your water heater
- How to turn off your water meter
- and much more ...

hhpsd.com/hurricane-preparedness

# Get your irrigation system in check

It's a good time to make sure your irrigation system is working properly before the weather really heats up. You should follow these steps from our WaterSense Partner to complete a "Sprinkler Spruce Up:"

• **Inspect:** Check your sprinkler system for leaks or breaks



Water Sense • Connect: Make sure all

sprinklers, pipes and valves are properly connected

• Direct: Your sprinkler system should be watering your lawn and any plants you have in vour landscaping — not the driveway, sidewalk or road.

• Select: If your irrigation system is out of date or just not up to current standards, select a WaterSense-labeled irrigation controller and water smarter!

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E-NEWSLETTER

HiltonHead PSD

### The PSD Recycled Water Wetlands Photography by Jack Alderman



PSD customer Jack Alderman has captured these beautiful scenes at the Recycled Water Wetlands (Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy in Hilton Head Plantation).

To see more photos on the PSD website, scan the QR code with your smartphone.



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