



# LIQUID

## E-NEWSLETTER



**Hilton Head PSD's Hickman earns  
World Water Skills honors for U.S.  
team**



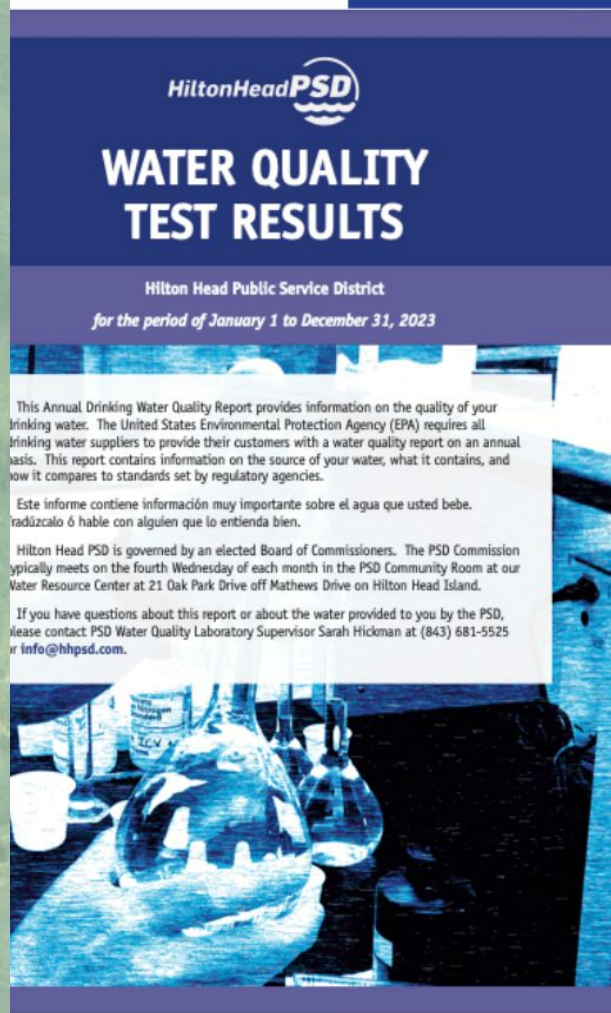
Hilton Head PSD Water Quality Supervisor Sarah Hickman recently represented the United States and earned top event and medalist honors in the World Water Skills Competition at IFAT Munich (GER), the world's leading trade fair for environmental technologies.

Hickman and teammate Lindie Aragon, of Westminster, CO, represented the United States on behalf of the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and were sponsored by Empowering Pumps & Equipment. In the competition, 27 teams showcased their professional skills in six different categories, including Wastewater Process Control, Laboratory Analysis, Pump Maintenance and Work Safety/Confined Space Entry. Hickman and Aragon finished 1st in the Process Control event and received the silver medal for overall performance in the Wastewater Professionals category.

"It was an amazing experience to compete against, interact with, and learn from so many excellent environmental professionals from around the world," said Hickman. "I'm glad I could represent the U.S.A. and Hilton Head PSD while I was there! We thank WEF, our sponsor, and our colleagues for supporting our team."

Hickman earlier this spring earned the Water Environment Association of South Carolina's Crystal Crucible Award, which recognizes significant contributions 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.





2023

# Water Quality Report

NOW AVAILABLE

[VIEW HERE](#)



## Hilton Head PSD Commission candidate filing notice

The Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) Commission will have four seats up for election during the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. One seat each in PSD Voting Districts 2, 3, 4, and 6, will be up for election. Commissioners are elected to four-year terms.

The filing period begins July 15 and ends at noon on August 15. All candidates must reside in and be currently registered to vote in the PSD Voting District for which they



are seeking office. Candidates' voter registration must match their current residence at the time of the election.

Citizens who are interested in filing for candidacy must do so in person at the PSD Customer Service Center at 21 Oak Park Drive off Mathews Drive, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, by arranging to sign the Statement of Intention of Candidacy – Nonpartisan form in the presence of the PSD's General Manager or authorized representative. The filing form is available at the PSD or may be downloaded from the [S.C. Election Commission website here](#).

Each candidate must file an S.C. Ethics Commission Statement of Economic Interest and Campaign Disclosure forms by using the [electronic filing system here](#). These forms do not need to be done prior to or at filing but must be completed in a timely fashion based on the State's requirements.

Filing questions can be directed to the PSD General Manager at (843) 681-5525 or [info@hhpsd.com](mailto:info@hhpsd.com). [More information about the Commission is available here](#).

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Hilton Head PSD's Tim Ryan, right, and Jim Hewitt discuss the PSD's Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) operations with members of the Lower Savannah-Salkehatchie River Basin Council in May. The council members toured the PSD's groundwater



treatment and storage and its recycled water wetlands as part of a field trip. The ASR well annually stores and distributes approximately 260 million gallons of water to help the PSD meet peak-season water demands. The River Basin Council, which includes PSD General Manager Pete Nardi, is part of the South Carolina State Water Plan initiative to determine water capacity needs throughout the state.

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**Hilton Head PSD in May hosted a free Carolina Yards workshop led by Ellen Sturup Comeau, Clemson Cooperative Extension Water Resources Agent.**

Carolina Yards is a program that teaches a set of sustainable principle to help you create a stress-free landscape that uses less water, reduces stormwater runoff, and encourages pollinators, along with many other positive benefits. [Learn more here](#) and be on the lookout for more Clemson Extension programs to come at the PSD's 21 Oak Park Drive location!

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# 5 Questions With Pete Nardi, Hilton Head Island PSD

[Listen Now >](#)



HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





# Hurricane Season Has Begun

Make sure your emergency kit is stocked & you have a hurricane plan in place!



## The Atlantic Hurricane Season Runs June 1 through November 30

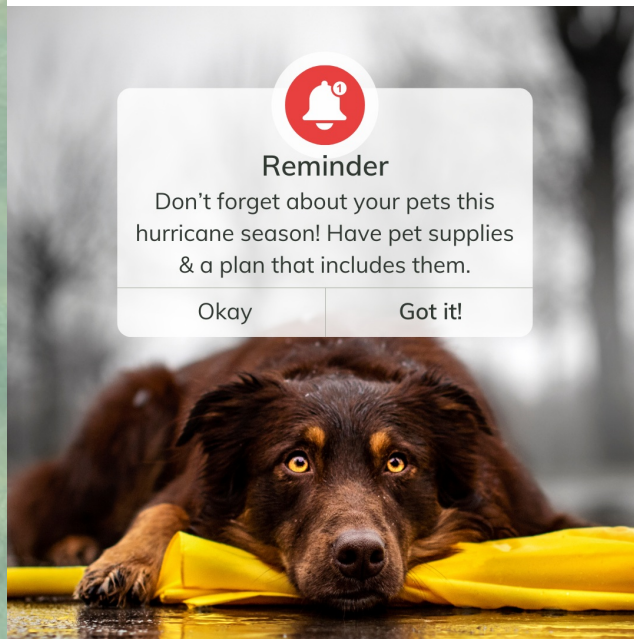
Now that hurricane season has officially begun, it's extra important to stay prepared.

There are many different ways you can prepare now in case a storm does head our way this season:

- Keep a stocked hurricane kit that includes food & water to last at least 3 days, a first aid kit, personal hygiene items, flash lights and other emergency items. You can find a comprehensive list [here](#).
- Make sure you're properly storing drinking water in clean, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers and keep those containers in a cool, dark location.
- Know how to prepare your home. This should include knowing where your water shut-off valve is located, how to protect your water heater, and having supplies like sandbags, plywood or storm shutters ready to go.
- Make a plan! If a hurricane does head for our area, you'll need to know your [zone](#) and [evacuation routes](#) in case a mandatory evacuation is ordered.
- Prepare a "go bag" to grab in case of an evacuation. This should include any

important documents (birth certificates, etc.), prescription medications, glasses or contacts, toiletries, a change of clothes or two, and any comfort items you'd like to have with you (or have for a child or family member).

Make sure to follow local officials in the event a storm does head our way. To keep up with hurricane forecasts, follow the National Hurricane Center on social media and see daily updated forecasts on their website, [nhc.noaa.gov](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov).



### **Don't forget about your pets when making your hurricane plan!**

Your emergency kit should include your pets' needs as well — food, water, any medications and maybe a few comfort items like a blanket or toy.

Your “go-bag” should include your pets' paperwork (especially vaccination records) with your important paperwork!

You should also make sure you have an evacuation plan in place that includes your pets, as most storm shelters that open in our area do not allow pets.

Research pet-friendly hotels ahead of time or plan to stay with a friend or family member. Hotels are not required to allow pets during an evacuation, though many pet-friendly hotels will waive their pet fees.

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division has a guide for making an emergency plan that involves your pets [here](#).

You can find more information on Beaufort County storm shelters [here](#).





# Water Tip:



Know the location of your water meter and keep it clean and clear for regular readings, maintenance and emergencies.

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## Summer's almost here!

Before you dive in,  
make sure your pool  
is operating  
efficiently with this  
free guide from our  
WaterSense Partner!



Summer is right around the corner!

Before you dive in this summer, make sure your pool is operating efficiently and avoid sending water and money down the drain.

Check out our WaterSense Partner's pool water efficiency guide to learn more.

[Visit the WaterSense website](#)

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## Make sure to follow Hilton Head's irrigation ordinance this summer

Did you know that annually 40-



60% of the island's precious treated drinking water is used for residential landscape irrigation?

With summer right around the corner, it's even more important to make sure you're following Hilton Head's irrigation ordinance. This means your irrigation system must have a working rain gauge, and that you're watering your lawn no more than twice per week.

You should also make sure you're avoiding the heat of the day — mid-afternoon — and only running your sprinkler system during the early morning or evening hours.

More details on Hilton Head Island's local irrigation ordinance can be found below:

## DON'T WASTE WATER THIS SUMMER.

Make sure your irrigation system is working efficiently before the summer heat arrives.

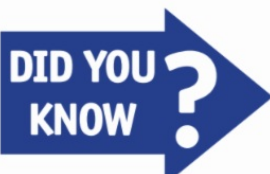


## Hilton Head PSD needs you to help save water!

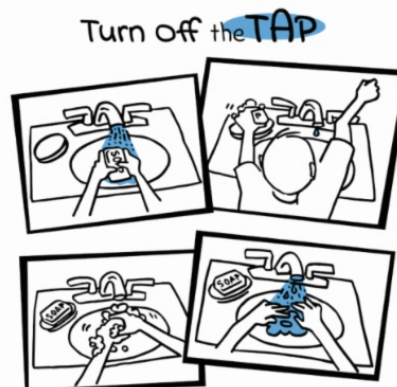
Check out these helpful water-saving pointers



### Follow the Island's irrigation laws



40 to 60% of the demand for treated drinking water on Hilton Head is due to residential landscape irrigation.  
*Please water wisely.*



More Water Efficiency  
Tips

# WORLD Environment Day

JUNE 5, 2024



SAVE WATER, SAVE THE PLANET.

June 5 is #WorldEnvironmentDay — celebrate by saving water!

A bathroom makeover with a WaterSense labeled toilet, faucet, and showerhead could save nearly 10,000 gallons annually!

Look for WaterSense rebates in your area to start saving now by clicking the button below.

Look for  
Rebates

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## Don't Forget About Dad!

Father's day is June 16!





**Need a Father's Day  
gift idea?**

**Give Dad the gift of  
water (and money)  
savings with the  
WaterSense label!**



**Need a last-minute gift idea?**

**Help Dad save water — and  
some green ☐ — with our  
WaterSense partner!**

**Browse WaterSense-labeled  
products to improve water  
efficiency in the home, from  
showerheads to irrigation  
controllers.**

**Click the button below to start  
searching:**

[Browse WaterSense  
Products](#)

## **Celebrate World Oceans Day on June 8**

**World Ocean Day is June 8!**

**Celebrate by helping protect our  
Ocean — and the wildlife that thrive  
within it, including the nesting sea  
turtles!**

**There are a ton of ways you can  
help protect our Ocean:**

- ☐ **Don't litter and pick up any trash  
you see on the beach when you can  
safely do so**
- ☐ **Organize or take part in a beach  
or river clean up event**
- ☐ **Properly dispose of unused  
prescription medications in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes to keep  
our waterways clean**
- ☐ **Spread the word + encourage world leaders to clean up our Ocean**
- ☐ **On HHI, protect nesting sea turtles and other sea creatures by cleaning  
up the beach before you leave! This means taking all beach toys, chairs,  
umbrellas, etc., with you & not leaving them overnight, knocking down  
sandcastles and filling in holes.**



### WHY CAN'T I FLUSH WIPES?

A SCIENCE EXPERIMENT TO TEST IF "FLUSHABLE" WIPES REALLY DISSOLVE



**MATERIALS:**

- 2 CLEAR BOWLS OR CUPS OF WATER
- A SPOON
- A STOPWATCH OR TIMER
- TOILET PAPER
- "FLUSHABLE" WIPES

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. FILL 2 CLEAR BOWLS OR CUPS WITH WATER
2. ADD 2 SQUARES OF TOILET PAPER TO ONE CUP OR BOWL
3. ADD 1 "FLUSHABLE" WIPE TO THE OTHER CUP OR BOWL
4. STIR BOTH GENTLY WITH A SPOON
5. SET A TIMER FOR 10 MINUTES
6. OBSERVE IF EITHER THE TOILET PAPER OR THE WIPE DISSOLVED MORE. WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU STIR THEM AGAIN? WHAT IF YOU TOUCH THEM WITH YOUR FINGERS? DO THEY FALL APART?

Visit [hhpsd.com](http://hhpsd.com) to learn more about what not to flush.

Did you know that even those so-called "flushable" wipes can clog your pipes?

We know that curious little ones will want to know "why" when you tell them those wipes can't go down the toilet. So we created this fun little experiment that will show them how wipes don't dissolve in water the same way that toilet paper does!

Find it & other free printables on our What Not To Flush webpage — including cute reminder posters to hang in the bathroom.

What Not To  
Flush

## June is National Rivers Month

June is National Rivers Month.

So before the month ends, we wanted to make sure to note the importance of our local rivers!

In Beaufort County, many of our waterways are unique — because the rivers flow into the ocean, they contain brackish water, a mix of fresh and salt water.

Which means you can find unique wildlife in our rivers — from alligators to dolphins.

To protect this wildlife, we all need to work together to help keep these waterways clean.

Here's how you can help:

1. Protect water quality where you live. Simple actions at home—picking up





after your pet, installing a rain barrel, and using fertilizers sparingly—can reduce water pollution in local rivers and streams.

2. Save water at home! Water efficiency at home helps maintain the flow in local rivers and streams.

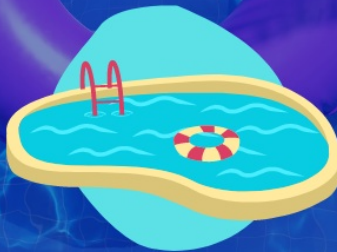
3. Lend a hand! Participate in a local river cleanup or volunteer to help monitor water quality.

Learn  
More

## Don't waste water this summer!



Only run full loads  
in the dishwasher &  
washer



Use a pool cover  
to reduce  
evaporation



Aim for 5-minute  
showers



Check your  
home and  
irrigation system  
for leaks



Don't use your  
sprinkler during  
the heat of the  
day



## Save water & help the pollinators with native plants!

Summer starts on June 21.

Planning on adding new plants to your landscape this summer?

Bask in water savings by selecting varieties that are native to your area to reduce irrigation needs even with the summer heat.

Planting wildflowers that are native to our region will also help the bees and other pollinators!



Pollinator Gardening Info

## **JUNETEENTH**

### **FREEDOM DAY**

**MITCHELVILLE**



**WHERE  
FREEDOM  
BEGAN**

### **Did you know?**

Juneteenth is a holiday commemorating the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States. Hilton Head Island is home of the first self-governed town for the formerly enslaved, Mitchelville.

On June 19, we celebrate Juneteenth — also known as “Freedom Day.”



It's an important day commemorating the end of slavery in the U.S.

The day is particularly relevant here on Hilton Head Island, home of the first self-governed town for the formerly enslaved, Mitchelville.

We highly recommend visiting Mitchelville Freedom Park to learn more. They're having a Freedom Day celebration all week long. Click the button below to learn more!

[ExploreMitchelville.org](http://ExploreMitchelville.org)

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## Office will be closed for Juneteenth

Our office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth.

For assistance with water and wastewater service problems, please call our Customer Service Center at 681-5525.

On-call personnel will be available to assist you 24 hours a day.

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**THERE'S STRENGTH IN OUR NUMBERS.**

## Lowcountry Community Indicators

The Lowcountry region—Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper Counties—experienced unprecedented growth, development, and change between 1990 and 2005. Between 2007 and 2010, a nationwide economic downturn negatively affected the region. Since 2011, the regional economy has shown signs of continuously rebounding. There is a great deal of quantitative information and data available that both confirms and explains what has taken place.

To continue monitoring and evaluating the state of the Lowcountry region,

the Lowcountry Community Indicators (LCI) Project was initiated. The LCI consolidates the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry's Community Indicators Report and the Lowcountry Council of Governments' the People and the Economy Report. These two reports are complementary, providing common criteria and metrics related to the Lowcountry region.

The main objective of the LCI is to provide a centralized community resource offering relevant indicators that help support informed decision-making. The LCI will assist citizen leaders, public officials and policy makers, nonprofit organizations, businesses, researchers, and the media in making decisions to positively affect the community's well-being.

The LCI offers key indicators for the region that are understandable, meaningful, and accessible through its website [www.lowcountrycommunityindicators.org](http://www.lowcountrycommunityindicators.org). The website allows users to view, navigate to, and download specific, relevant indicators of each topic mentioned above. In addition, the user will have the ability to locate all the data for one specific county or compare the data for all four counties.

If you have any questions about the project, or would like to provide feedback, please contact [info@lowcountrycommunityindicators.org](mailto:info@lowcountrycommunityindicators.org).

To learn more about the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, visit [www.cf-lowcountry.org](http://www.cf-lowcountry.org); and to learn more about Lowcountry Council of Governments, visit [www.lowcountrycog.org](http://www.lowcountrycog.org).

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## Community Happenings





### **Juneteenth Celebration at Mitchelville Freedom Park**

Get ready for the annual Juneteenth Celebration at Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park. This year marks their 10 year anniversary of hosting Juneteenth at the park and there is an entire week full of events planned! Learn more [here](#).



### **Harbourfest at Shelter Cove Harbour & Marina**

HarbourFest is an all summer long celebration that takes over Shelter Cove Harbour



& Marina with fireworks, spinning hats, carnival games, face painting, music and more with the very popular entertainment of Shannon Tanner and Cappy the Clown. The festival events begin annually on Memorial Day Weekend and spans the whole summer through Labor Day Weekend.

Tuesday and Thursday nights hold all the flair with fireworks on Tuesdays and Shannon Tanner's Oyster Reefers band on Thursdays. Learn more [here](#).

## Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



MORE  
INFORMATION

