

HILTON HEAD LIQUID E-NEWSLETTER



PSD Earns 14th Straight Financial Reporting Award

Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This is the PSD's 14th consecutive year receiving the award. It is "the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management," according to the association. The award is for the PSD's 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which can be found here. PSD Finance Manager Amy Graybill is the primary author of the report.

"We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting," Michele Mark Levine, GFOA Director of Technical Services wrote PSD General Manager Pete Nardi in announcing the award.



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WHOOPING CRANE POND CONSERVANCY

HHPSD Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive helps nourish wetlands on our island



View Photos by Jack Alderman



It's National Drinking Water Week!

This week, we celebrate the value of clean, safe water, the importance of water infrastructure, and the critical role of water professionals.

Thank a water professional today!

This week is a great time to honor all water professionals dedicated to our water's safety. Their expertise and innovation ensure every drop we consume is clean and safe. Let's celebrate their commitment to our health and well-being.

Here at the PSD, we want to give a shout out to ALL of our team members! Every single one of you helps the people of Hilton Head have access to safe, clean water every day. You are SO appreciated!

We also want to use this opportunity to help inform our customers about everything drinking water-related, including: where our water comes from, how we ensure its quality, and how to protect it!

Where our water comes from

Curious about how we get our tap water?

We have several ways to produce high-quality drinking water, which allows us to choose the best options for our customers.

Sources include our Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Facility on Jenkins Island, which pulls water from the Middle Floridan Aquifer. The PSD also treats water that comes from the Upper Floridian Aquifer, though unfortunately this water has continued to be impacted by saltwater intrusion.

An additional source of drinking water is our Aquifer Storage & Recovery Well inside Hilton Head Plantation. The well both stores and withdraws drinking water. The PSD takes advantage when BJWSA has reduced wholesale water rates, storing treated Savannah River surface water in the Middle Floridan Aquifer using the ASR Well.

You can read more about where our water comes from here.

HHI Water Quality

So how does the PSD ensure our drinking water quality?

There are several ways the PSD treats our drinking water, which can be found on the webpage linked in the above section. But the PSD also completes regular water quality reports, which can be found <u>here</u>.

Additionally, the PSD's drinking water is free from lead & PFAS. You can learn more about lead in drinking water <u>here</u>, and check out our PFAS Fact Sheet <u>here</u>.

How to Protect our Drinking Water

There are several ways you can help protect our drinking water — and our waterways

in general.

Picking up any trash you see, making sure to properly dispose of medications, and not dumping car oil or other chemicals down storm drains can protect our waterways.

The best way to help protect our drinking water is to practice water efficiency! Following our water-saving tips & local irrigation ordinance can help ensure we don't see a shortage in our drinking water supply. Learn more about water conservation <u>here</u>.



Please help us honor & remember former PSD Commissioner, Henry Driessen Jr.



The PSD would like to take a moment to honor the legacy of Former PSD Commissioner Henry "HC" Driessen Jr., who passed away last month.

Mr. Driessen served on the PSD Board of Commissioners from 1994 to 2003. He was Chair of the Commissioner from 1998 to 2002, and Vice Chair from 2002 through 2003.

We are grateful for all of Mr. Driessen's contributions to the PSD, and to the whole of Hilton Head Island.

He will be missed.





IT'S NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK!

Now's the time to get your hurricane plan in place, before the season officially starts on June 1.

Make sure you know where your water shut-off valve is located, have a stocked emergency kit, know your zone & evacuation route, and walk through your plan with your household!

We have information on all of this & other helpful tips on our website available here.

If you have pets, make sure you account for them 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.

And when you're preparing your "go-bag" in case of an evacuation, your pets' paperwork (especially vaccination records) should go in with your important paperwork!

You should also make sure you have an evacuation plan in place that includes your pets. Most shelters do not allow pets, so you'll need to find a pet-friendly hotel 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.

If you're new to the Lowcountry or just want more information to help you prepare before this year's hurricane season, click the button below to check out a TON of free resources from NOAA!

NOAA Hurricane Prep

Don't forget Mother's Day is May 12!

Need a gift for moms of small children or fur babies?

Consider a pool cover that will not only help reduce water waste, but also keep your loved ones safe!

A pool cover will also help reduce water evaporation during the summer heat — saving water and money.



Now's a great time to learn more about pool efficiency from our WaterSense partner by clicking the link below.

Visit the WaterSense website

HAPPY Mothers DAY

We hope all the Moms have a fantastic Mother's Day this year!

United for Infrastructure Week starts May 13

United for Infrastructure Week 2024 runs May 13-17!

This week shines a light on the infrastructure we too often take for granted, but every community needs to thrive.

Accelerator for America Action is now in charge of this nationwide event focused on raising

awareness about the importance of infrastructure and advocating for improvements that address some of our nation's toughest challenges in transit and transportation, water systems, energy and more.

Join the conversation at #InfrastructureWorks and look for in-person and virtual events at the link below!

Infrastructure Week Events

Get your irrigation system in check before summer begins!

Summer is right around the corner!

Make sure you don't waste water this summer from an inefficient irrigation system.

You should follow these steps from our WaterSense Partner to complete a Sprinkler Spruce Up:

- 1. Inspect: Check your sprinkler system for leaks & breaks
- 2. Connect: Make sure all sprinklers, pipes and valves are properly connected



- 3. Direct: Your sprinkler system should be watering your lawn and any plants you have in your landscaping — not the driveway, sidewalk, or road.
- 4. 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!

*Please remember to also follow local town ordinance, which requires all irrigation systems to have a working rain gauge, and limits water use for *irrigation to no more than twice per week. And once the weather really heats up, avoid watering during the heat of the day! Stick to early morning or evening for irrigation.*

Visit the WaterSense website



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

You shouldn't flush anything except toilet paper and human waste.

Wipes, paper towels and other products don't dissolve the way toilet paper does. Flushing these products can lead to costly repairs.

Learn more about what not to flush on our website (Just lick the button below!)





Hilton Head PSD's Pete Nardi was recently on Hilton Head's Talk of the Town to discuss recent grant projects, plus how to save water (and money) on irrigation as the weather warms up. Watch the video above to learn mroe!

National Public Works Week is May 19-25



It's almost time for National Public Works Week!

This is the time to give a big THANK YOU to all of our PSD employees and every other public works employee in the area!

From water treatment to electric, emergency management and parks & rec, all public works employees help advance the quality of life for all!

Learn more from the American Public Works Administration:





Save water this Spring by following these quick tips:







Make sure your irrigation system is efficient

Save water used for rinsing produce to water plants

Only run full loads in the washer and the dishwasher

Take shorter showers



Save water this Spring by following these quick water-saving tips:

Make sure your irrigation system is working efficiently (meaning it has no leaks, is directed only on plants and not sidewalks or driveways, has a working rain gauge, and you're only using it up to twice per week).
Save water used for rinsing produce to water any indoor plants
Only run full loads in the washing machine & dishwasher

- □ Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- Take shorter showers (aim for 5 minutes!)

Turn the tap off while

brushing your teeth

Celebrate World Bee Day on May 20!

MORE INFORMATION This World Bee Day, take the time to learn about the benefit of incorporating native plants into your garden and landscape including how you can create your own pollinator garden.

Planting wildflowers that are native to our region will not only help the bees and other pollinators, but native plants will help reduce the amount of water (and time) you use to keep them alive!



Pollinator Gardening Info



Please properly dispose of unused prescription medications in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes!



Learn more at hhpsd.com.

Reminder: Please don't flush (or throw away) prescription medications!

Instead, properly dispose of unused medications in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes.

Improper disposal can pollute our local waterways.

Learn more & see drop-off box locations at the link below:

Read More

Office will be closed for Memorial Day

Our office will be closed on Monday, May 27, closed in observance of Memorial Day.

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.

Community Happenings



Shelter Cove Music & Taste on the Harbour

This pet-friendly outdoor concert series features a variety of bands on select Thursday nights from 6 - 9 p.m. Learn more <u>here</u>.



Hilton Head Island Art Festival

Don't miss the Hilton Head Island Art Festival at Shelter Cove Harbour & Marina on Friday, May 24 from 10am-6pm, Saturday, May 25 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. & Sunday, May 26 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. hosted by Nash Gallery. Rain or shine event - admission is free. Learn more <u>here</u>.

Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

