



LIQUID E-NEWSLETTER

Hilton Head PSD is now a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary"



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Cooperative Sanctuary.

The Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP), an Audubon International program.

The final step for certification requires a visit by a local community representative. Jill Kombrink, the Naturalist at Oldfield Community Association, was given a tour of the property and sent her observations to Audubon International.

"It's impressive to see a public service department going above and beyond," reported Kombrink. "What a great example!"

"Hilton Head Public Service District has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on their property," said Christine Kane, CEO at Audubon International. "By taking action to implement indoor and outdoor conservation projects, the management and staff at the Hilton Head Public Service District have

demonstrated their commitment to the sustainable management of their natural resources.”

Read More

Don't waste water this summer!

Remember to minimize use of water for irrigation purposes as the summer heats up.



Please be mindful of your water usage throughout the summer by following the Town's ordinances on lawn irrigation and not overusing water efficiency inside your home.

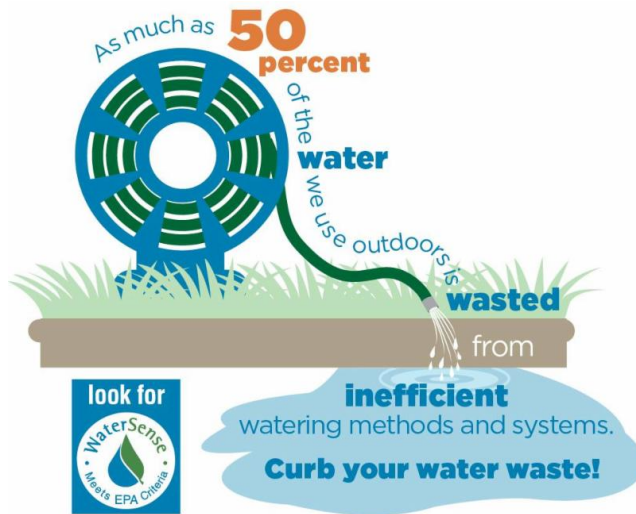
Here are some tips on how to limit your water usage from [Clemson University Extension Service](#):

- Most established trees and shrubs need watering only during times of drought.
- Calibrate your sprinklers to apply 1/2 to 3/4 inch of water per application.
- Put a rain gauge in your yard to track rainfall to avoid unnecessary watering.

FURTHER READING

United Nations report on biodiversity loss says individuals have the power to create

meaningful change.



From the Washington Post

For many Americans, the first step to helping to save a million plant and animal species from being wiped out starts at the front porch.

Lush green lawns are a tradition that dates back to the arrival of European colonists. But they are also an environmental nightmare that strips away shrubs, flowers and weeds, which thousands of animals need for habitat and food.

Grass yards are the nation's largest irrigated crop, covering "more than three times the number of acres that irrigated corn covers," according to NASA. They suck up 9 billion gallons of water per day, the Environmental Protection Agency says, enough in a year to fill the Chesapeake Bay, one of the largest estuaries in the world.

[Read More](#)

Hurricane Season 101

*It's officially hurricane season in the Lowcountry.
Here's how to make sure you're prepared.*



If you're new to Hilton Head, you might not be familiar with hurricane season. It

officially begins June 1 every year and runs through the end of November. While the Lowcountry has had a few scares the past two years, the last hurricane to truly impact Hilton Head Island was Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Matthew hit the Lowcountry as a Category 2 storm, causing widespread damage across the island. Hilton Head PSD had a tremendous response to the storm:

- No tap water quality problems incurred from the storm.
- All tap water production facilities were fully operational within 24 hours after the storm, and normal tap water distribution system pressure was restored within 48 hours after the storm.
- The PSD repaired 20 broken water mains, scores of broken private water service lines and saw no broken sewer mains or private sewer lines.
- Wastewater treatment plant was fully functional within hours after the storm.
- PSD's automated meter reading infrastructure continued to function normally.
- And there was only a small number of isolated sewer manhole overflows due to use of the sewer system prior to power restoration.

Keep in touch this hurricane season

While Hilton Head PSD did not see any lasting effects from Hurricane Matthew, it's still important to remember that the public water and sewer system could be seriously impacted by a hurricane. Remember to follow all public advisories related to utility service availability in the aftermath of a hurricane — and do not expect to have utility services immediately available.

To receive updates from the PSD in the event of a hurricane:

- Follow official advisories from the Town of Hilton Head Island Emergency Management, which will contain updates about utility services.
- Follow local news media.
- Visit our Hilton Head PSD Facebook page.
- Visit www.hhpsd.com
- Call our automated info line at (843) 681-0555

Early preparation will make hurricane season easier

It's important to prepare now for a hurricane. Make a plan now for yourself, your home and any family members or pets. Know your zone and evacuation routes — and build an emergency kit that includes:

- A crank or battery-powered weather radio
- Mobile device chargers
- A flashlight and extra batteries
- Non-perishable food for at least 3 days
- Plastic dishes, eating utensils
- Any prescription medications and a first aid kit
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and bug spray
- Personal hygiene items
- Blankets, towels and clothing
- All of your important documents
- Enough cash to fill your vehicle with gas
- Pet supplies

- At least 2 gallons of water per person per day (plus water for any pets)

Remember to store drinking water in clean, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers and keep those containers in a cool, dark location.

Don't drink the bathtub water

If a hurricane does head this way, fill up your bathtub with water. But do not drink this water! Instead, use the water you collect in the tub for sanitary or other non-drinking purposes.

You also should shut off your home's water before a hurricane hits. Your water can be shut off at the main valve. It's important that everyone in your home knows where this valve is located and how to turn it off. Typically, this valve will be located on the customer side of the meter box or just outside the point where the service line penetrates the foundation of the house. PSD technicians will not be available to turn off your shut off valve in the event of a hurricane — so locate this valve now as part of your emergency planning.

Turn off all electrical appliances in your home that use water prior to a hurricane's arrival, such as your water heater. This ensures that they will not create a safety hazard if they lose water. You should also locate the valves on all of your appliances — including your washing machine and toilet — in case you ever need to turn them off.

For more information on hurricanes and how to prepare, check out these sites:

- [Hurricane Guide](#)
- [Know Your Zone](#)
- [Citizen Guide To Emergency Prep](#)
- [Hurricane and Public Safety](#)

Don't listen to the hype!
Don't flush wipes!



The only place to dispose of these products is the trashcan.

The widespread use of "flushable wipes" and similar products is clogging sewer lift stations and laterals — resulting in costly repairs and unnecessary maintenance expenses that are borne by all customers.

According to a recent Forbes article, a study tested 101 single-use wipes and not one of them passed a flushability test. Instead, the wipes failed to fall apart or disperse safely in tests.

[Read the entire article](#)

Do you know a Water Champion?

The Hilton Head PSD Water Champion Award is presented to individuals, businesses, or organizations that have made a positive impact on the water environment in the Hilton Head PSD service area. Human health and environmental protection related to water resources, water efficiency, watershed protection, and water-related education and outreach are all examples of the topic areas that Water Champions may have an impact upon.

Why nominate a Water Champion?

The PSD Water Champion Award is a great way to recognize contributions that affect our most precious natural resource – water. Learning about a recipient's efforts will help



inspire others to think about what they can do to enhance, preserve and protect the water environment. In this regard, the Water Champion Award is a knowledge-sharing effort that can benefit our entire community.

[How to nominate](#)

Online Billing

- Pay your bill or check your account online! Here's how it works:
- To login and view your account or to pay your bill, you will need to use your PayID or account number and address number. Your PayID and account number can be found on your water bill.
- Your default password is the first word or number in your mailing address number, which you can change once you register.
- If you want, set up recurring bill pay so you never miss a payment!

[Read More](#)

Sign Up for the Water Usage Portal

Hilton Head PSD's Water Usage Portal can tell you exactly how many gallons of water flow through your pipes every day. This is an optional service, and you do not need to sign up for the Water Usage Portal to pay your bill.

- The Water Usage Portal is especially useful for landlords or second home owners, allowing you to keep an eye on

your property here in Hilton Head while you are away. Set up text or phone alerts to signal you if your water usage exceeds a level you determine.



Water Usage Portal

Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



MORE INFORMATION

