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E-NEWSLETTER

PSD earns 10th 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. This is the PSD's 10th 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 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which can be found on hhpsd.com.

The PSD’s CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its “financial story” and encourage readership of the CAFR, according to the association. PSD Finance Manager Amy Graybill and Senior Accountant Brian Cronin are the primary authors of the CAFR.

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Stay Vigilant, Be Prepared for Hurricane Season



Only Mother Nature shuts off the PSD. Our water and sewer systems can be impacted by hurricanes and other natural disasters. Remember to follow all public advisories related to utility service and hurricanes — and do not expect to have utility services available during and after a storm.

If a mandatory evacuation of Hilton Head Island is ordered due to an approaching storm, please go. Evacuating when ordered protects your life and prevents undue risk and burden to first-responders. You might hear someone say, “It’s only a Category 1 hurricane.” Did you know that since 2010 Category 1 hurricanes have caused 175 deaths and \$103 billion in damage in the U.S. alone?

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 [hhpsd.com](#)
- Call our automated info line at (843) 681-0555

To ensure your household has a safe and adequate water supply after natural disasters take these precautions:

- Store enough drinking water for each family member and pet. ☐
- Store in clean, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers.
- ☐ Store containers in a cool, dark location.
- Collect water in bathtubs for non-drinking uses.

Turn off your water meter during an evacuation

Your water can be shut off at the main valve. Everyone in your home should know where this is located. The main valve (usually with a wheel-type handle) is normally located either on the customer side of the meter box or just outside the point where the service line penetrates the foundation of the house.

It will be in line with your water meter, which is usually located near the edge of your property line near the street. The valve can be operated to provide water, if available, for sanitary services only.

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WATER QUALITY MONTH RESOURCES

It's Water Quality Month!

Help us celebrate by joining the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation

☐ The Town of Hilton Head, Hilton Head PSD, South Island PSD and Broad Creek PSD are working together to encourage residents to take the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water pledge this summer.

☐ Not only will you help show the nation

that Hilton Head Island is committed to saving water, but you'll be entered to win a ton of great prizes such as:

- ☐ A new home irrigation system
- ☐ Eco-friendly shower heads
- ☐ Utilities paid for one year

☐ Additionally, residents can nominate a deserving charity in their city to receive a 2020 new-generation Toyota Highlander Hybrid XLE. Cities with the most residents that make pledges qualify for over \$50,000 in prize drawings. ☐



Not quite sure what it means to #takethepledge?

The water pledge promotes following simple steps to save water and help the environment, such as:

- ☐ Repairing leaks in your home
- ☐ Taking shorter showers
- ☐ Using energy efficient appliances
- ☐ Wasting less food and water
- ☐ Installing a smart irrigation system

Click "learn more" below for more information — and to register today.

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JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

RESPONSIBLE LANDSCAPING & GARDENING



Join PSD's Facebook Group!

Let's keep the conversation about water conservation going! The purpose of the Facebook Group is to encourage responsible irrigation, landscaping and gardening. ☐ ☐ Take us on a virtual tour of your gardens, yards, landscaping by posting photos. Share tips and resources.

[JOIN HERE](#)

#QuickTip: Prevent stormwater runoff to protect property and water quality



If not properly managed, stormwater runoff can have detrimental and costly impacts to personal property. Particularly during severe weather, high-intensity or long-duration rainfall can lead to erosion and flooding in communities. Residents can plan for water management with site level assessment and applying best management practices in the home landscape.

From a water quality perspective, water that flows across the landscape into the street, storm drain, or ditch is being discharged into a nearby water body. The pollutants that are picked up along the way, such as sediment, excess fertilizers, pet waste, gasoline, and litter, can wreak havoc on downstream water quality.

By managing stormwater on-site, we reduce the amount of water leaving our property and the associated pollutants. For additional information about stormwater runoff and pollution prevention actions, visit Clemson Extension's Carolina Clear program at clemson.edu/carolinaclear.

How to prevent stormwater runoff:

- ☐ Track the rain with a rain gauge
- ☐ Treat your yard like a small watershed: Pinpoint the sources of runoff, the path it takes and where the water ends up
- ☐ Keep gutters, ditches and storm drains clear of debris and vegetation
- ☐ Do extra checks of gutters, ditches and drains prior to severe weather, such as a hurricane
- ☐ Identify signs of erosion — and use some form of mulch to help stabilize
- ☐ Plant trees in your yard
- ☐ Incorporate landscape beds into lawns
- ☐ Use pervious materials when building sidewalks or paths
- ☐ Consider installing a rain garden or a rainwater harvesting system

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Don't waste water this summer!

We still have over a month until the official end of summer — and we know the heat likes to linger here in the Lowcountry.

So continue to put in a little extra effort to save water as the summer heat continues:

- ☐ Don't use your sprinkler system during the heat of the day — use it early in the morning or in the evening.
- ☐ Follow local ordinance and limit your water use for irrigation to twice per week — and make sure your sprinkler system has a working rain gauge.
- ☐ Turn off the taps while doing things like brushing your teeth and washing dishes.
- ☐ Take shorter showers.
- ☐ Only run the dishwasher or washing machine when you have a full load.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Beaufort County 4-H2O@Home



Want to add water conservation lessons to your kids' education? Register for Beaufort County's 4-H2O@Home! Registration is free, and must be completed by 1 p.m. on Sept. 1.

About 4-H2O@Home

Who: The activity guide is suggested for youth ages 9-13. Parental guidance & supervision is encouraged.

What: 4-H2O@Home is a hands-on science inquiry program focused on developing knowledge about local water resources. The guide provides six lessons and activities on water quality, how much water is in the world, the water cycle, watersheds, stormwater, and saltmarsh animals. Build a "creature", create a terrarium, make a watershed, do some mapping, and more all in this fun, hands-on program !

Where: Youth will be able to complete activities in their homes and their backyards. Parents will receive an email with an activity guide for download. Camp materials not included, but there are mostly household materials used.

[Register Here](#)

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!

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Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

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