

# Take the Pledge to save water

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.

During August, the 9th Annual Mayor's Challenge for Water asks communities throughout the United States to make small changes that better manage our water resources and improve the health of our ocean, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands.



**Challenge for Water Pledge**  
[mywaterpledge.com](http://mywaterpledge.com)

For Hilton Head Island residents, this is a good time to remember to comply with the Town of Hilton Head ordinances that limit irrigation to two days a week and to use a working rain sensor on all irrigation systems.

"We annually see 40 to 60 percent of our treated drinking water on Hilton Head Island being used for residential landscape irrigation," said Hilton Head PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. "It's a paradigm we'd like to start a conversation about shifting."

"A great way to start is to check out Clemson University Extension Service's Carolina Yards sustainable landscape management program," Nardi said. "You can learn landscape management principles that help protect our local watershed and provide you with a healthy, stress-free landscape."

"Another great resource is the South Carolina



**S.C. Native Plant Society**

[scnps.org/](http://scnps.org/)  
[scnps.org/lowcountry](http://scnps.org/lowcountry)



**Clemson Extension's Carolina Yards Program**

[www.clemson.edu/extension/carolinayards/](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/carolinayards/)

Native Plant Society," he added. "Our native plants generally require less watering and less pesticides and fungicides."

This year, the National Mayor's Challenge for Water campaign offers residents a chance to win \$3,000 toward home utility bills, home irrigation makeovers, environmentally friendly cleaning products, and hundreds of dollars more in eco-friendly prizes.

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.

Due to the coronavirus shutdown, this year's campaign offers opportunities to get involved safely from home. Teachers working remotely are also encouraged to engage their students to take part by accessing a special section of the website to make a series of water-saving commitments with their classes and win classroom supplies and gift cards for their school.



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## Join our Gardening Group!

Let's keep the conversation about water conservation going! Our "Responsible Gardening & Landscaping" Facebook Group encourages responsible irrigation, landscaping and gardening. You can take everyone on a virtual tour of your gardens, yards and landscaping by posting photos. Share tips and resources with others.

## HILTON HEAD PSD'S ONLINE HURRICANE RESOURCE CENTER

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

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

[hhpsd.com/hurricane-preparedness/](http://hhpsd.com/hurricane-preparedness/)



# Awards pour in

## Oak Park Drive facility earns recognition from DHEC



Hilton Head PSD has once again been honored with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Facility Excellence Award for the PSD's Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive. This is the PSD's fourth straight year earning the award, which recognizes the plant for environmental protection and regulatory compliance.

The PSD's Recycled Water 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 represents the front lines of public health and environmental protection on our island, removing harmful pathogens like viruses from our community's raw sewage and recycling it into beneficial reuse water," said PSD General Manager Pete Nardi.

## PSD's Financial Report cited for excellence again

The PSD has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the 10th consecutive year. 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](http://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.

# PSD, Xylem help Deep Well's COVID-19 response



The PSD recently helped The Deep Well Project receive a grant of more than \$17,000 from Xylem Watermark, the corporate social responsibility program of Xylem, a Fortune 1000 global water technology provider. The grant is helping Deep Well's response to COVID-19 by providing funds for groceries, rent and mortgages.

"It's been wonderful to see how people have stepped up to help," Deep Well Director Sandy Gillis said of the grant. "With your kind gift, you are keeping us up and running — together we are doing so much good!"

Xylem Watermark works with nonprofit partners on sustainable development projects that provide education and protect safe water resources for communities around the world.

## 'Bucks for a Better Island' helps neighbors in need

*Bucks for a Better Island* is the PSD's utility bill round-up program. Customers contribute more than \$50,000 annually to *Bucks for a Better Island* by rounding up their monthly or quarterly utility bills to the next-highest dollar.

More than 90 percent of PSD customers participate in *Bucks for a Better Island*. Donations are directed to The Deep Well Project, which helps qualified clients in need cover their PSD bill. Donations also are directed to Project SAFE (Sewer Access for Everyone) and the Hilton Head Water Fund, charitable funds at the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, which help qualified homeowners connect to the public sewer and water systems.

If you or someone you know is having difficulty paying the PSD bill, please contact the Deep Well Project online at [www.deepwellproject.org](http://www.deepwellproject.org).

## No need to pay in person — go online!

It's easy to 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!

To get started, go to [hhpsd.com](http://hhpsd.com) and click on the button that says "Secure Payment Portal".

Secure Payment Portal

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