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E-NEWSLETTER

2021 **Excellence Award** Winner



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) recently received the Excellence in

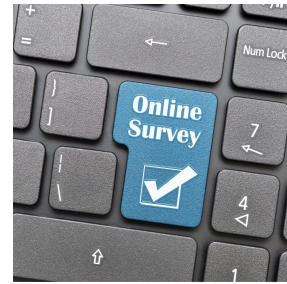
Outreach and Education Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense program for promoting water conservation efforts on social and digital media. This is the PSD's second straight year earning this national recognition.

"We believe it's important to put the power of WaterSense programs behind our outreach to our customers," said Hilton Head PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. "WaterSense provides clear and useful messages about how to efficiently use our most precious natural resource — water."

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2021 Customer Survey Available

Your feedback is very important to us. The PSD uses customer survey responses to help guide our policies and programs. We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to provide us with your valuable feedback.



Take the
Survey

Sign up for the annual Christmas Bird Count!

Join this year's Christmas bird count!

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is an early winter snapshot of bird populations. It is the largest and longest-running citizen science survey in the world, providing critical data on bird population trends.

The PSD is a proud Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary

and we love watching the birds on our island.

This year's bird count will be held on December 15.

Hilton Head Audubon welcomes birders for field teams as well as feeder watchers who count from their homes. If you participated in the count last year, your Area Captain will be contacting you in the fall. If you are new to our count and interested in being a part of this international effort, please e-mail Susan Murphy and an Area Captain will contact you!

Susan Murphy
CBC Coordinator for Hilton Head
HHICBC@gmail.com

Hey, bird lovers! 



**JOIN THIS YEAR'S
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
ON DECEMBER 15!**

Learn
More

Don't flush prescription medications

Please don't flush unused prescription medications down the toilet — or throw them in your trashcan. Improper disposal can contaminate our waterways.

Unused medications should be properly disposed of at one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes.

These drop-off boxes keep prescription drugs off the streets and out of the drains. There are three drug drop-off boxes in Beaufort County:

- The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office on Hilton Head, located at 58 Shelter Cove Lane.
- Beaufort County Government Building, 4819 Bluffton Parkway in



Don't flush unused meds.

Safely dispose of prescription drugs in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes.



Bluffton.

- The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, located at 2001 Duke Street in Beaufort.

Follow the link below to learn more.

Read
More



Water Quality Lab recognized as Laboratory of Excellence

Hilton Head Public Service District's (PSD) Water Quality Laboratory has once again been recognized as a Laboratory of Excellence as part of its annual certification by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC).

The independent agency that conducts DHEC's certification recognized the PSD lab "achieving 100% acceptable data" in a group of 345 participating labs, according to a statement from the independent agency. "This achievement is a demonstration of the superior quality of the laboratory," according to the statement. The PSD Water Quality Laboratory conducts thousands of tests annually on the quality of our tap water and treated recycled wastewater. It is led by Water Quality Supervisor Sarah Hickman and Water Quality Technician Lee Barnard.

"The team at Hilton Head PSD works 24/7/365 to provide safe, clean drinking water for our community, and to recycle the wastewater from our

homes and businesses into beneficial reuse water for the island,” said PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. “Our outstanding PSD Water Quality Laboratory helps ensure we fulfill that mission every day.”



*Deck the halls
with savings.*
Save water and money
with WaterSense.



Give the gift of water savings!

**Give the gift of water savings
this holiday!**

**WaterSense-labeled products
can help you save water,
energy and money all year
long.**

**In 2020, WaterSense helped
Americans save a cumulative
5.3 trillion gallons of water and**



Give the gift
of water savings
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WATERSENSE LABELED
PRODUCTS CAN HELP
YOU SAVE WATER —
AND MONEY.



more than \$108 billion in
water and energy bills!

WaterSense-labeled products
truly are the gift that keeps on
giving.

Click the button below to start
gifting. And happy holidays!

WaterSense
Products

Join #TeamSeas

And help clean up our oceans.

We're feeling #thankful this holiday
season for clean water and our
gorgeous local beaches.

But we know the ocean has a trash
problem. And it's up to all of us to
save it — and its abundant marine life.

Do you want to help?

Join #TeamSeas!

#TeamSeas is a global campaign
started by YouTubers Jimmy (MrBeast)
and Mark Rober and partnered with Ocean Conservancy and The Ocean
Cleanup. The campaign's goal is to remove 30 million pounds of plastic
and trash from our ocean, rivers and beaches.

Here's how you can help:

- Organize a local beach cleanup or pick up trash on your own time
- Share the message on social media
- Donate! Every dollar donated = 1 lb. of trash collected



Click the button below to learn more and donate to #TeamSeas.

Donate Here



Curious about your water use?

Check out our water usage portal to see how much water your family used during the holiday week.



Curious how much water your family used during Thanksgiving?

The PSD's water usage portal can tell you exactly how much water your family and guests used during the holiday week.

[Log in and check it out here.](#)

Don't be like Buddy the Elf.

Learn what not to flush.

Flushing the wrong thing down the toilet can lead to costly repairs. ☐

That's why we're trying to help spread the word that even things many people think are okay to flush — like those so-called flushable wipes — really need to go in the trash, not down the toilet.

We created a ton of free downloads to help teach kids what should and shouldn't go down the toilet — including fun posters you can hang in the bathroom to serve as a constant reminder.

There are even worksheets, including a word search, a crossword puzzle, a matching game and a fun science experiment that'll show kids how wipes don't dissolve in the same way toilet paper does (so you can already be prepared when they ask the inevitable "But, why?").



DON'T BE LIKE BUDDY THE ELF.

TOYS DON'T GO DOWN THE TOILET! ONLY FLUSH YOUR PEE AND POO! AND TOILET PAPER, TOO!

(REMEMBER: SANTA'S WATCHING)



Learn more at hhpsd.com.



Winter is coming.

Learn how to plan
a water-smart
landscape before
the ground freezes.



**It's almost the coldest
time of year!**

Before the weather gets too cold and
the ground freezes, check out
WaterSense's tips on how to plan a
water-smart landscape:

[Click here to learn more.](#)



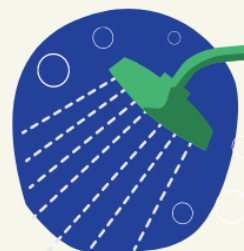
Make spirits bright
by saving water at home



Only run full loads in
the washer and the
dishwasher



Turn the tap off
while brushing
your teeth



Take shorter
showers



Check your home
for leaks



Fill up the sink while
washing dishes



A failing septic tank can risk your — and your neighbors' — health.

Don't wait 'til it breaks. Get connected now.



**Financial aid
available.**

Learn more at
hhpsd.com/connect-now/



If you're still using a septic system on Hilton Head Island, we urge you to get on the waiting list for a sewer connection today. Failing septic systems can lead to costly property damage, health code violations and liability issues.

They're also a serious risk to your — and your neighbors' — health and safety. Failing septic systems pose a threat to your health from harmful pathogens found in human waste.

Why connect now if your system is working?

Now that sewer connections are available throughout so much of Hilton Head Island, S.C. DHEC regulations prohibit repairing — or replacing — a failing septic system when the public sewer is available.

Meaning: If your system fails, you can't fix it. And since it can take weeks to schedule your conversion from septic to the public sewer system due to contractor availability, it's extra important to get on that waiting list now. So don't wait 'til it breaks!

If you do, you risk everyone's health and safety — and could potentially stink up your entire neighborhood — if your system fails.

Get
Connected

Sign up for Paperless E-mail Billing and Automatic Bill Pay

You can sign up to receive your

monthly bills via e-mail through our online website or by calling our Customer Service office during normal business hours. Here's how it works:

To sign up online, login to our secure online payment portal and visit the “How We Communicate With You” tab.

Enter your e-mail address, click that you would like to receive “As An Email” (uncheck “As A Paper Bill” if you no longer wish to receive a paper statement), and click save.

You can also use our secure online payment portal to sign up for automatic reoccurring ACH draft payments using the “Add EFT Payment Information” tab or automatic reoccurring credit card payments by clicking the box that says “Check here to have future bills automatically paid using this information” when making a credit card payment using the “Online Payment” tab.



In the community:

The Lowcountry Stormwater Partners (LSP) in partnership with the Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium (ASEC)



CLEMSON
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

i INFO

December 9, 2021
TIME:
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION:
Online (Zoom)

COST:
FREE

REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
Register at:
<https://bit.ly/309OLOQ>

Protecting Tidal Creeks with Planted Buffers

Presented by Water Resource Agents: Ellen Sturup Comeau and Kim Counts Morganello

The Lowcountry of South Carolina is defined by life along the saltmarsh. As communities continue to grow, additional threats and pressures face tidal creeks and the saltmarsh ecosystem.

Join Clemson Extension for a one hour, lunch-and-learn webinar focused on the role vegetative buffers can play to help keep our tidal creeks clean and healthy. Topics will include buffer function, design, plant selection, and maintenance.



Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.

Clemson University Cooperative Extension

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Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



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INFORMATION

