



# LIQUID

## E-NEWSLETTER



## PSD earns 12th 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 12th 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 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, which can be found on [hhpsd.com](http://hhpsd.com).

Click the button below to read more.

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## It's National Water Quality Month!

Having access to clean water is vital to our health — and something many of us take for granted.

If you live on Hilton Head Island, chances are you can just turn on the tap and fill up your glass. You don't have to worry about whether your water is safe enough to drink, or brush your teeth, or take a shower with.

But for many, that's not the case. There are several factors that can lead to poor water quality. The four most common sources of freshwater pollution are:

- Dumping industrial effluents
- Agricultural runoffs
- Leakage of untreated waste
- Products and chemicals used at home

To help keep our water clean, pay attention to the products you use in your household and on your lawn. Don't spray pesticides before a rain shower or use fertilizer made with phosphorus. Use a broom to clean your driveway rather than a hose — and wash your car only at the car wash. Pick up after your dog outside. Check if the soaps and other products you use are safe for marine life. And never flush unused medication down the toilet!

To learn more, click the button below.

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# Please **don't flush** unused medications

(Or throw them away.)



## Flushing prescription medications can contaminate our water

Flushing unused prescription medications down the toilet — or even throwing them in the trash — can contaminate our waterways.

Proper disposal of unused medications not only helps keep prescription drugs off the streets, but helps keep our water clean. So this Water Quality Month, take a moment to check your home for unused or expired prescription medications and properly dispose of them in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes.

These drop-off boxes can be found at both Beaufort County Sheriff's Offices — at 70 Shelter Cove Lane on Hilton Head and the office in Beaufort — and at the CVS on the island. See other locations in the county [here](#).

Prescription medications aren't the only thing that shouldn't be flushed down the toilet.

Many people don't realize that other items — like those so-called "flushable wipes," — can actually damage your pipes.

Wipes, feminine hygiene products, napkins, paper towels ... none of these items should be flushed.

The only things that *should* be flushed down the toilet is toilet paper and human waste.

If you want to learn more about how to keep your pipes clear — and need help teaching your kids what not to flush — click the button below to check out our What Not To Flush webpage. On this page, you'll find a ton of helpful information, plus free printables including posters to hang in your bathroom as reminders, and educational activities for your kids.



Learn What Not to Flush



**Hilton Head's sewer connection project featured in Post & Courier**

The PSD's sewer connection project was recently featured in the Post & Courier.

Why?

The American Rescue Plan Act has broadened who's eligible to receive assistance connecting their homes to the sewer system.

While Project SAFE helped get 90% of homes on the north and south end of the island connected, this new grant *"broadens the categories of people who qualify. Renters are eligible; heirs whose names are not on the property deed are eligible; residents who make up to 100 percent of the area's median income are eligible."*

From the Post & Courier:

*When local governments received American Rescue Plan Act funds from the federal government this year, some places around South Carolina funneled it into roads, tax relief, and housing. Hilton Head bought sewer connections.*

*Specifically, the town allocated \$200,000 to help renters and landowners connect to the public sewer system. The program builds on a multi-million dollar fund to transition low-income residents off septic tanks.*

*The effort stems from public health and environmental concerns: Failing septic systems can introduce dangerous viruses and pathogens into the groundwater.*

*Getting more people hooked up to sewer could also address two of the town's top challenges: the loss of Gullah-owned property, and the need for affordable housing.*

*To understand the present-day connection between wastewater and real estate, one needs to go back in time. Way back.*

Click the button below to read the full article.

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## Reminder: Follow Hilton Head's irrigation ordinance

Rainy days may be becoming more

frequent this time of year, but it's still important to follow Hilton Head Island's town ordinance on irrigation.

**So remember: Your irrigation system must have a working rain gauge. Inspect your system at least once per month to ensure the rain gauge is functioning.**

**Also remember to set your timer to only water your lawn twice per week:**

- Detached, **single-family residential with even-numbered address**: Exterior landscape irrigation is permitted for customers having an even-numbered address on **Tuesdays and Saturdays only**.
- Detached, **single-family residential with odd-numbered address**: Exterior landscape irrigation is permitted for customers having an odd-numbered address on **Wednesdays and Sundays only**.
- **Commercial/office/institutional hotels and motels** on a separately platted lot of record: Exterior landscape irrigation is permitted for customers on **Mondays and Thursdays only**.
- **Common areas and locations having no street address**, box number or rural route number: Exterior landscape irrigation is permitted for customers on **Mondays and Thursdays only**.

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**WORLD WATER WEEK**

## **World Water Week is set for the week of August 23**

World Water Week is an annual event focused on global water issues.

This year's event will take place August 23 to September 1 both online and in person in Stockholm! This new edition will offer opportunities to connect face to face and propose online components to engage worldwide.

The theme of this year's event is "Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water."

*The world's freshwater is under unprecedented pressure from fast-rising temperatures, populations, and consumption patterns. To address this global water crisis and climate chaos, World Water Week 2022 will focus on how we value water. Revealing and understanding the value of water will trigger much-needed decisions, innovations, and investments in managing water better.*

*Join us in a global conversation about valuing water, in which we also shine a light on the world's most forgotten water: the vast majority of freshwater that is hidden in groundwater aquifers, in the soil or in the atmosphere. We will also look at virtual water – the water required to produce goods and services – and, of course, the whole water cycle linking freshwater and oceans.*

*World Water Week 2022 will communicate simply and clearly the value of water for human and societal activities. As people and nations gain a better understanding of how important water is to their lives and to everything they care about, they place a higher value on it. This creates a virtuous cycle, in which people care for water better, manage and share it more equitably, and waste or pollute it less, so that the water can generate more benefits for people and nature.*

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**August 20 is World Honeybee Day!**



We love these fuzzy little pollinators — and know how vital they are.

If you want to help #SaveTheBees — try planting a pollinator garden!

Using 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!

Learn More from our Clemson  
partner



## Celebrate National Beach Day on August 30!

We love our beaches here on Hilton Head!

Want to help keep them clean and enjoyable for all humans — and marine life?

Celebrate National Beach Day on August 30 by helping spread awareness and cleaning our beaches!

Here's how you can help:

- Spread awareness to family, friends and other beach-goers about [the various ways we can help protect our sea turtles](#): including filling in

holes and knocking down sandcastles before you leave, taking all beach gear and toys with you, cleaning up trash and lights out for turtles.

- Host a beach clean-up party! Gather friends and family for a fun-filled beach day (whether it's a BBQ, picnic or just lounge day), and bring along some trash bags and gloves so the group can do a quick walk along the beach picking up any trash you see before you leave.
- Try to reduce your household's use of single-use plastics, and use alternatives to balloons for birthdays and other celebrations (if you do use balloons, just make sure you don't release them as they can end up in our ocean!).



Have our posts on Water Quality Month made you curious about our water here on the island?

All of Hilton Head Island's water quality reports are available on our website.

These reports include everything you need to know about the quality of our island's drinking water.

[View the reports here.](#)

## Where does our water come from?

Hilton Head PSD has several ways to produce high-quality drinking water, which allows us to choose the best options for our customers.

These processes include using our Reverse Osmosis (RO) Water Treatment Facility and Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) Well.

Our Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Facility on Jenkins Island (across U.S. 278 from Windmill Harbour) provides more than 60 percent of our water supply. The plant, which opened in 2009, produces more than 4 million gallons of fresh drinking water a day. The plant is fed by three raw water wells drilled into the 600-foot-deep Middle Floridan Aquifer. The wells are pumped at a rate of approximately



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ABOUT  
YOUR  
DRINKING  
WATER**



1,500 gallons per minute and the plant operates around the clock. Research and monitoring has shown that the Middle Floridan Aquifer is a very abundant and long-term source of water for the island's future.

In the summer months when drinking water demand and the wholesale water rates increase, the ASR Well is used to withdraw and re-treat 2 million gallons of drinking water per day. The ASR process involves injecting treated water into the underground aquifer, and then withdrawing and retreating it for distribution.

The ASR process involved the PSD injecting 240 million gallons of wholesale water into the 600-foot-deep Middle Floridan Aquifer to build a bubble of fresh water in the brackish aquifer. The fresh water displaces the brackish water and a buffer zone is created at the edges of the fresh water bubble. When the ASR well is used to withdraw water, the water is drawn from the center of the fresh water bubble.

Want to learn more? Click the link below.

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## Community Events



Like to plan ahead?

This year's annual Kiwanis Chili Cookoff is scheduled for October 8, 2022!

The PSD has been a sponsor of this fundraising event for year, which raises money for local youth causes and programs.

If you or your business would like to sponsor or cook in this year's Chili Cookoff, head to [hiltonheadkiwanis.com](http://hiltonheadkiwanis.com).

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## Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



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