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E-NEWSLETTER

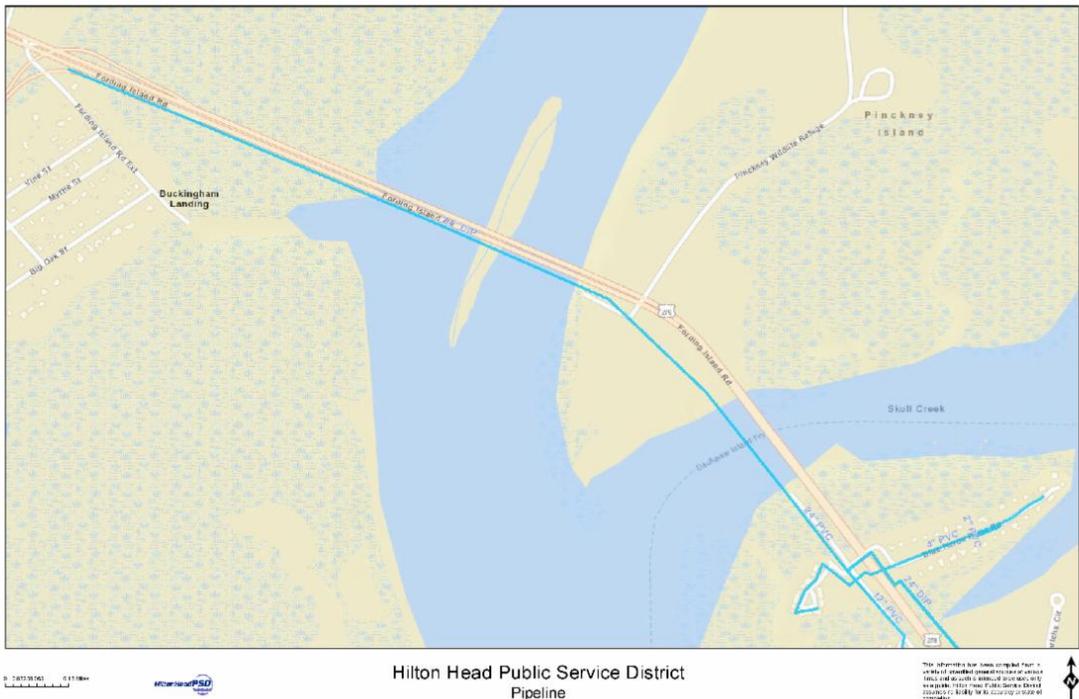


Construction of new Hilton Head drinking water well begins

Construction of a new drinking water well for Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) at the site of the Old Welcome Center on William Hilton Parkway is getting underway. Drivers are asked to use caution in the vicinity of the construction due to construction vehicles entering and exiting the site. The work is anticipated to conclude by fall 2025, weather permitting.

The well will be drilled approximately 600 feet deep into the brackish Middle Floridan Aquifer. It will allow the PSD to increase the treatment capacity in its Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility on Jenkins Island, from 4 million gallons a day (mgd) of drinking water to 6 mgd. The increased capacity will represent the average day's demand for drinking water in the PSD service area. RO treatment is a leading method for producing high-quality drinking water. The PSD's RO plant has been in service since 2009. The project is necessary to ensure the island's long-term water supply in the face of ongoing saltwater intrusion into the shallower Upper Floridan Aquifer, which had been the island's traditional source of drinking water. The PSD has lost 10 of its 14 wells into the Upper Floridan Aquifer to saltwater intrusion since 2000.

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Drinking water pipeline facing relocation due to bridge project

The drinking water transmission pipeline that provides a portion of Hilton Head Island's water is facing relocation due to the pending project to replace the bridges to the island.

Hilton Head PSD and Broad Creek PSD jointly own a drinking water transmission pipeline that conveys water on a wholesale basis from the Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority on the mainland. The S.C. Department of Transportation has informed the PSDs that the pipeline will have to be relocated ahead of the construction of a new bridge. The 24" pipeline is buried under Mackay and Skull creeks, reaching maximum depth of approximately 72 feet below the riverbed. Its current location to the immediate south of the existing bridges is slated to become the route of the new bridge. The two PSDs own the rights to more than 8 million gallons a day (mgd) capacity in the pipeline, and it can represent about 20% of drinking water supply on an annual basis. The pipeline is in excellent working condition and would not need to be relocated if not for the bridge project.

The pipeline relocation alone is preliminarily expected to cost between \$15- and \$20-million and Hilton Head PSD could also face other water and sewer relocations if additional transportation projects are performed on William Hilton Parkway between the terminus of the new bridge near Windmill Harbour and the parkway's intersection with Spanish Wells Road.

State law provides that the S.C. Department of Transportation (S.C. DOT) must commit 4.5% of the total transportation project construction bid amount toward water and sewer utility relocation. However, a current funding shortfall for the transportation project has resulted in the consideration of scaled back plans for the project, which in turn could reduce the amount raised by the 4.5% allocation. Additionally, the Beaufort County government is working on a joint resolution with the Town of Hilton Head Island that would allocate funding toward the PSDs' relocation expenses.

"We are working to help minimize or remove the potential for the transportation project to affect our customers' utility bills," said Hilton Head PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. "The protection of our precious drinking water resources and the infrastructure through which it is produced, treated, and distributed is the 24-7-365 mission of the PSD."



Curious about where your drinking water comes from?



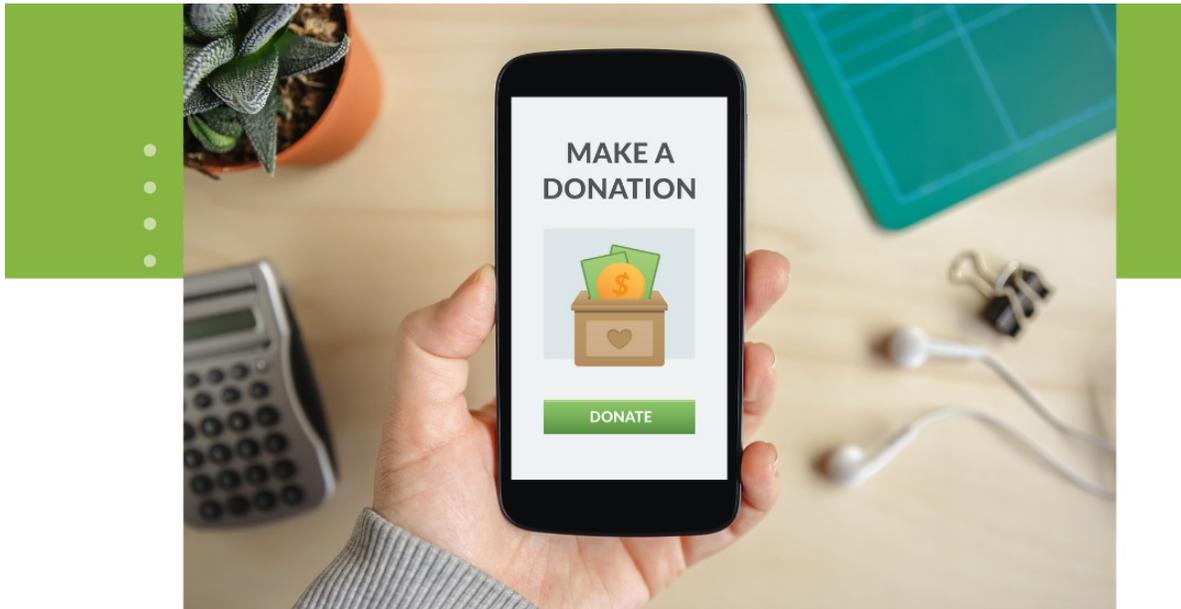
Learn more at hhpsd.com.

An extensive inventory of our water distribution system found no lead piping in the PSD water distribution system.

The inventory was conducted over the course of several years as part of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) requirement.

The PSD used extensive research and field observations to verify pipe materials. Decades-long, routine sampling of the water supplied by the PSD has found no lead in the tap water provided by the PSD. The inventory effort was led by PSD Water Quality Supervisor Sarah Hickman and PSD Project Manager Pete Schuelke, both of whom have been recognized by statewide water industry associations as outstanding water professionals.

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Project SAFE Needs Your Help!

The Community Foundation of the Lowcountry's Project SAFE (Sewer Access for Everyone) Fund continues to be a critical program helping to meet Hilton Head Island's housing needs, particularly for our workforce and for our Historic Gullah-Geechee Neighborhoods. SAFE was recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2017 as an outstanding example of public-philanthropic partnerships.

Project SAFE, launched in 1999, has been a key to connecting hundreds of income-qualified homeowners in the Historic Neighborhoods to the public sewer system, ending their reliance on failing septic systems.

The need for Project SAFE will continue for years to come, particularly as it serves a vital role in the island's overall workforce housing effort.

We hope you will support Project SAFE, and our islander families, with a donation to the fund. Donations to Project SAFE are tax deductible.

Make checks out to: Project SAFE

Mailing Address: Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, P.O. Box 23019, Hilton Head Island, SC 29925

Donations also can be made to Project SAFE at www.cf-lowcountry.org.

To donate, scan this QR code:



Please don't flush unused medications.

Properly dispose of any unused medications in one of the county's drop-off boxes.



Old prescription medications, over-the-counter liquid, pills and even vitamins can unintentionally make their way to local waterways. Studies have found that medicines flushed down the drain become contaminants that can harm aquatic life and ultimately end up in our drinking water.

Help keep our local waterways clean by properly disposing of unused medications in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes.

Drop-off boxes can be found at Beaufort County Sheriff's Offices & the Bluffton Police Department. The drop-off boxes on Hilton Head and in Beaufort are open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Bluffton location is open 8 a.m. and 5

p.m. Monday through Friday. You can also call to arrange a time after hours or on weekends.

Additional drop-off boxes can be found at the following locations:

- **Chelsea Medical Center -719 Okatie Highway, Okatie, SC 29909**
- **CVS, Bluffton – 1006 Fording Island Road, Bluffton, SC 29910**
- **CVS Hilton Head Island – 10 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head Island, SC, 29928**
- **Ulmer Family Pharmacy – 68 Bluffton Rd. #6, Bluffton, SC 29910**
- **Walgreens, Okatie – 138 Okatie Center Blvd, Okatie, SC 2990**

Customers Only drop-off boxes:

- **Burke's Pharmacy – 1101 Main St., Hilton Head Island, SC 29926**
- **Bluffton Pharmacy – 167 Bluffton Rd B, Bluffton, SC 29910**

Free DisposeRx Packets:

- **Wal-Mart Pharmacies**
- **Sam's Club Pharmacies**

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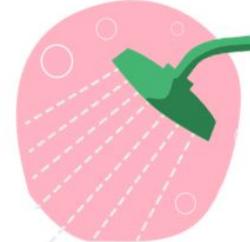
*Show the planet some love
by saving water at home!*



Only run full loads in
the washer and the
dishwasher



Make sure your
irrigation system
is efficient



Take shorter
showers



Save water used for rinsing
produce to water plants



Fill up the sink while
washing dishes





**Flush away water
waste with the
WaterSense label.**



**Visit WaterSense
Website**

Love golfing on Hilton Head?

The PSD's Recycled Water Program helps keep a dozen of the island's golf courses green!



Spring is around the corner — which means golf season is almost here!

If you're a golf lover, did you know that the PSD's Recycled Water Program provides water to keep a dozen of the island's courses green?

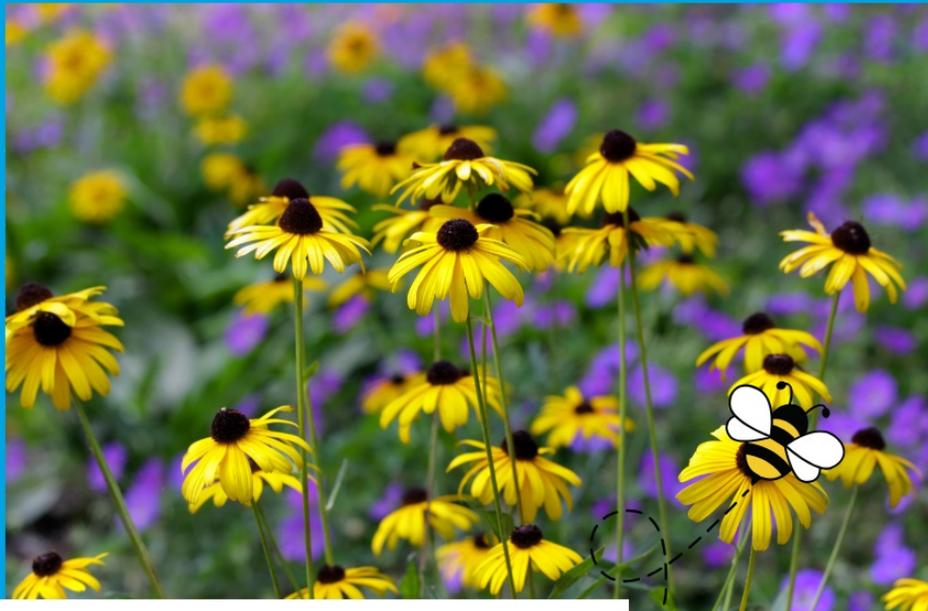
Our Recycled water plays a vital role in the Hilton Head Island's economy and ecology by providing irrigation water for 12 golf courses.

Recycled water also is used to nourish wetlands in Palmetto Hall and Hilton Head Plantation. Former wetlands biologist Todd Ballantine monitored the wetlands for the PSD and reports that these unique habitats for plants and wildlife would cease to exist without the benefit of recycled water. The recycled water process mimics, at an accelerated rate, the natural process of water purification.

It's just another way Hilton Head PSD helps support our island — and save valuable drinking water.

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Incorporate native plants into your Spring garden or landscape!



#NATIVEPLANTS



Planning your Spring garden or landscaping?

Make sure you include some native plants!

Not only do native plants benefit the environment — providing vital habitats for pollinators, birds & other animals — but they're also way easier to maintain!

Learn more — and find a list of native plants — from the South Carolina Native Plant Society below.

[Learn
More](#)



GET READY FOR SPRING WITH A SPRINKLER SPRUCE-UP!

- ✓ CHECK FOR LEAKS & INSPECT YOUR SPRINKLER SYSTEM
- ✓ MAKE SURE YOUR SPRINKLER HEADS ARE DIRECTED AT PLANTS & LAWN – NOT SIDEWALKS OR DRIVEWAYS
- ✓ FOLLOW HHI'S IRRIGATION ORDINANCE OF WATERING 2X PER WEEK + WORKING RAIN GAUGE

Eager for Spring?

As you prepare your yard for the new season, make sure your irrigation system is working properly.

Now's a good time to check for leaks & inspect the whole sprinkler system.

You should also make sure you're following Hilton Head ordinance — meaning your irrigation system must have a working rain gauge, and that you're watering your lawn no more than twice per week.

Learn how to inspect your sprinkler system & check for leaks from our WaterSense partner by clicking the link below.

[Visit WaterSense
Website](#)

Community Happenings



Discover the captivating Hilton Head Island Gullah Celebration, a vibrant showcase of the rich cultural heritage and history of the Gullah people on Hilton Head Island. Immerse yourself in a diverse lineup of events carefully curated to captivate residents, regional visitors, and travelers from around the globe. Recognized by the prestigious Southeast Tourism Society as one of the Top 20 Events in the Southeast, the Hilton Head Island Gullah Celebration promises an unforgettable and immersive experience in Gullah culture. Events continue through March 1. [Learn more here.](#)

Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.





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Hilton Head Public Service District | 21 Oak Park Drive | Hilton Head Island, SC 29926 US

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