



# LIQUID

## E-NEWSLETTER



*Hilton Head PSD and the Town of Hilton Head Island held a groundbreaking on March 4 for the PSD's new drinking water well on the Town's Old Welcome Center site. The 600-foot-deep well will draw water from the brackish Middle Floridan Aquifer for treatment in the PSD's Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility, allowing the PSD to expand the RO Plant's capacity from 4 million gallons a day to 6 million gallons a day of treated drinking water. From left are: Hilton Head PSD Commissioner Andy Paterno, Hilton Head PSD Commissioner Michael Marks, Beaufort County Councilman Larry McElynn, PSD Commission Vice Chair Jerry Cutrer, PSD General Manager Pete Nardi, Hilton Head Town Council Member Melinda Tunner, Hilton Head Mayor Alan Perry, PSD Commission Chair Frank Turano, PSD*



# Please use caution at construction site of new drinking water well!

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 has begun. 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.

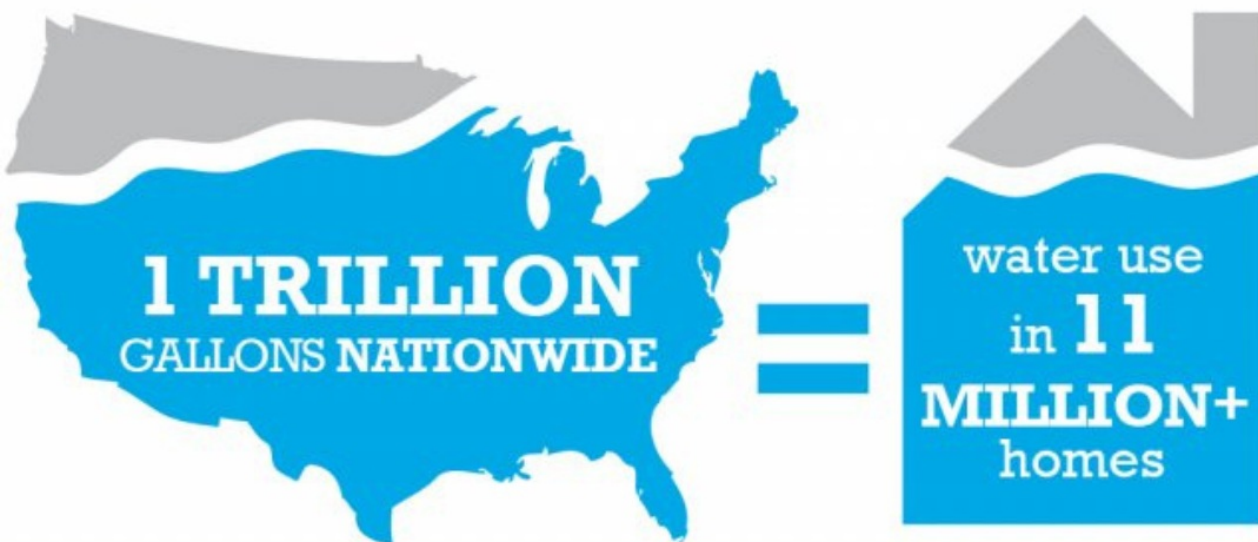
The well will allow the PSD to increase the treatment capacity in its Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility on Jenkins Island, from 4 million gallons a day (mgd) of drinking water to 6 mgd. The increased capacity will represent the average day's demand for drinking water in the PSD service 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.

[Read  
More](#)

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## ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD LEAKS WASTE



**Check your home for leaks.  
Save Water. Save Money.**



As Spring arrives, you might be doing a little "Spring cleaning" around your home & preparing your yard or garden. It's also a great time to check your home for leaks!

Taking time to hunt down and fix leaks around your home can help you save money AND help save the planet by protecting our most precious resource — water.

The average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year — and 10% of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day!

### **Find leaks in your home**

To check for leaks in your home, you first need to determine whether you're wasting water and then identify the source of the leak. Here are some tips for finding leaks:

☐ Take a look at your water usage during a colder month, such as January or February. If a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month, there are serious



leaks.

- ☐ Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.
- ☐ Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, you have a leak. (Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.)
- ☐ Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.



### Fix Leaky Faucets

Don't let faucet leaks send your money down the drain!

A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's the amount of water needed to take more than 180 showers!

Many tutorials are available online for how to fix a wide variety of faucets.

Here are a few examples:

- AWWA's [Drip Calculator](#) helps you see how drips add up to gallons wasted.
- Lowe's [How to Fix a Dripping or Leaky Double Handle Faucet](#).
- Lowe's [How to Fix a Dripping or Leaky Single Handle Faucet](#).
- The Home Depot [How to Fix a Leaky Bathtub Faucet](#).
- WaterSense [Bath Hack #2](#) shows you [How to Replace your Faucet Aerator](#).

**Tip: Don't forget to turn off the water line before you start!**

### Check your irrigation system

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

First, check for leaks & inspect the whole sprinkler system. If you have an in-ground irrigation system, check it to make sure it wasn't damaged by frost or freezing. An irrigation system that has a leak 1/32nd of an inch in diameter (about the thickness of a dime) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month!



### 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

Learn how to inspect your sprinkler system & check for leaks both inside and outside your home from our WaterSense partner at the link below.

## Make sure you're following HHI's town ordinance for irrigation!



As we head into warmer weather, it's extra important to make sure you're following Hilton Head's town ordinance for irrigation!

The ordinance requires that water use for irrigation is limited to no more than twice per week:

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

Irrigation systems must also have a working rain gauge. Learn more on our website



by clicking the button below.

[Visit our Website](#)



## 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

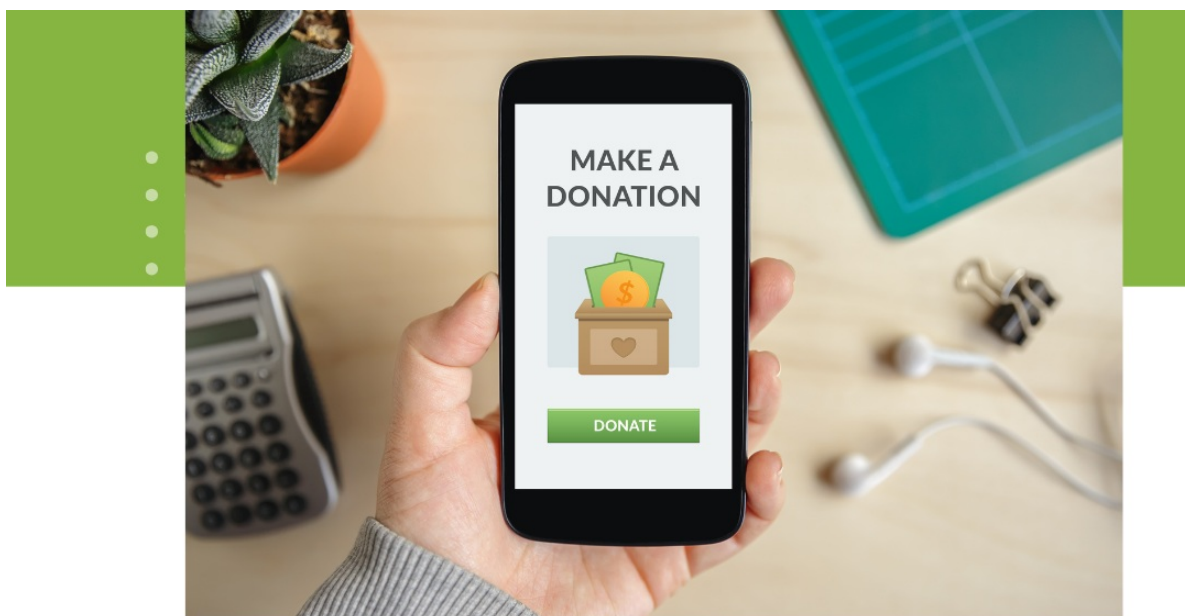
condition and would not need to be relocated if not for the bridge project.

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.”

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**project  
safe**  
SEWER ACCESS FOR EVERYONE

# 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](http://www.cf-lowcountry.org).

To donate, scan this QR code:







## *Are your little leprechauns causing mayhem?*

Flushing toys down the toilet may seem like some funny shenanigans ... but it can cause serious (*and expensive*) damage!

We can help stop the shenanigans.



Learn more at [hhpsd.com](http://hhpsd.com).

Are your little leprechauns causing mayhem in your bathroom?

While shoving toys down the toilet may seem like some funny shenanigans, it really can cause serious (and expensive!) damage to your pipes.

If you haven't been having any luck getting the little ones to understand why flushing random items isn't a game, we're here to help!

Head to our What Not To Flush webpage for free printables — including posters, worksheets and even a cool science experiment — to help end the shenanigans before St. Patrick's Day:

[What Not To Flush](#)

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**We love sharing our knowledge here at Hilton Head PSD!**

**Mykell Caballero Colindres, a senior at May River High School, recently job shadowed with our IT Department to learn more about Computer Science.**

**If you have a teen — or student — interested in learning about anything related to the PSD, please reach out at [info@hhpsd.com](mailto:info@hhpsd.com).**

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# *You don't need the luck of the Irish to save water*



Only run full loads in  
the dishwasher &  
washer



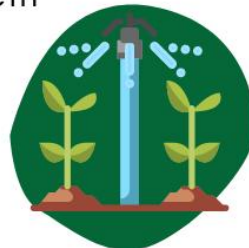
Turn the tap off  
while brushing  
your teeth



Aim for 5-minute  
showers



Check your home  
for leaks



Make sure your irrigation  
system is efficient



# WORKING ON YOUR SPRING GARDEN?

## INCORPORATE NATIVE PLANTS!



Planning your Spring garden or landscaping?

Make sure you include some native plants!

Native plants thrive on their own: They require much less watering and less maintenance in general.

Why? Because they're adapted to your local soil and climate conditions.

Native plants also help the environment by providing natural habitats in your lawn – helping birds, pollinators and other animals and insects thrive.

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

[Learn  
More](#)



# Community Happenings



The 40th Hilton Head Ireland St. Patrick's Day Parade will once again march down Hilton Head Island's Pope Avenue! Get your GREEN on and join us for the best and the oldest St. Patrick's Day Parade in all of South Carolina. It is going to be a grand celebration! [Learn more here.](#)



Join Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park for the 2025 Blue & BBQ Annual Fundraising Benefit, a unique event combining music, food, and immersive activities with a Modern Cowboy twist. This year's benefit supports Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park's 2025 fundraising efforts, including the completion of key park projects that bring the Mitchelville story to life. [Learn more & get tickets.](#)

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



[MORE INFORMATION](#)



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

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