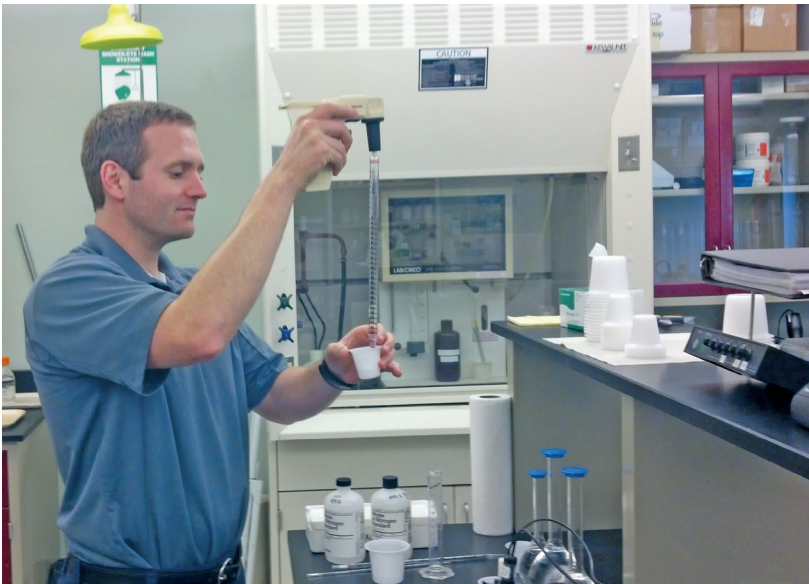


W on the Waterfront

A Publication of the Hilton Head Public Service District

Summer 2013



PSD Water Quality Technician Scott Moffatt was named the Water Environment Association of South Carolina's Sea Island District Lab Analyst of the Year. Moffatt received the award for his work in monitoring and analyzing the PSD's drinking water and recycled water.

PSD's Moffatt is lab analyst of the year

Scott Moffatt, PSD Water Quality Technician, has been named the Water Environment Association of South Carolina's Sea Island District Lab Analyst of the Year. Moffatt has been with the utility since 2011. His duties include the analysis and monitoring of the PSD's drinking water and recycled water quality. The award recognizes excellence in lab operations and scientific analysis of drinking water and recycled water.

PSD's Hewitt wins statewide honor



PSD Water Services Supervisor Jim Hewitt, right, is presented with the South Carolina Water Operator of the Year award by Joe Desroches, chairman of the Water Environment Association of South Carolina's Awards Committee. Hewitt won the award for excellence in operating and maintaining the PSD's water system.

Jim Hewitt, PSD Water Services Supervisor, has been named the State Water Operator of the Year by the Water Environment Association of South Carolina. The award is given for excellence in water quality, water system maintenance and safety, and cost savings among other criteria.

Hewitt has been with the PSD since 2001. His duties include supervising the operation and maintenance of the PSD's drinking water distribution system including its Reverse Osmosis Drinking Water Treatment Facility as well as its Aquifer Storage & Recovery well.

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PSD Commission approves utility budget

The Hilton Head PSD Commission in May approved the utility's fiscal year 2014 operating budget, which goes into effect July 1. The budget calls for \$14 million in expenditures, a 2-percent increase over the prior year's budget.

PSD property taxes under the new budget are projected to total 6.88 mills, which represents less than \$28 per \$100,000 of assessed value. The 6.88 mills include 3 mills for operations and 3.88 mills for debt service. The PSD will not increase its operations millage despite anticipating a 10.5-percent reduction in tax revenue as a result of the Beaufort County property value reassessment currently under way.

The new budget continues implementation of the PSD's future water supply and sewer access programs. The utility is planning to expand the capacity of its Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility by an additional 1 million gallons a day. The RO plant will be able to produce 4 million gallons of fresh tap water a day after the project is complete.

The PSD and the Town of Hilton Head Island are continuing their partnership to provide sewer access throughout the PSD's service area. The Town and PSD are jointly funding two projects that will bring sewer access to parts of the Spanish Wells and Baygall areas.

Copies of the PSD's Fiscal Year 2014 budget are available at the PSD Water Resource Center at 21 Oak Park Drive off Mathews Drive.

Is your irrigation system ready for summer?

Below are some helpful tips from the PSD and The Greenery on how to make sure that your home or business' irrigation system is working properly as summer approaches.

- Remember the Hilton Head Island local irrigation ordinance:
 - Single family homes with even-numbered addresses irrigate on Tuesdays and Saturdays only.
 - Single family homes with odd-numbered addresses irrigate on Wednesdays and Sundays only.
 - Commercial buildings irrigate on Mondays and Thursdays only.
- Visually inspect your rain sensor. Remember, rain sensors are required by law on Hilton Head Island. If the irrigation system is on during rainfall or the system will not operate at all, you may need to replace your rain sensor. Normal usage over time can cause the rain sensor to malfunction.
- Check to make sure the settings are correct on your irrigation system controller:
 - Time and date
 - Correct days of operation and length of run time per each zone
 - Irrigation start times are set for early morning hours, such as 2 or 3 a.m., to avoid evaporation.
- Ask your landscaper or irrigation professional to perform a yearly or quarterly irrigation system audit. You'll save money and help ensure a healthy landscape.

PSD earns third straight financial reporting award

The PSD has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the third year in a row. The award, which is the highest form of recognition awarded by the association, is for the PSD's 2012 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The PSD's CAFR was judged to demonstrate a spirit of full disclosure and to have effectively communicated the utility's "financial story," according to the association.

The Government Finance Officers Association is a nonprofit association for financial officers in the United States and Canada.



Members of Kathy Weatherhead's Advanced Placement Environmental Science class at Hilton Head Island High School recently toured the PSD's Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive. The students learned how the PSD annually recycles more than 1 billion gallons of wastewater into beneficial recycled water for golf course irrigation and wetlands nourishment.



Hilton Head PSD General Manager Richard Cyr, at left, gave a presentation on the PSD's long-range water supply program to a packed house at the May "Coffee with Peter" meeting hosted by Hilton Head Plantation General Manager Peter Kristian. Cyr discussed the PSD's ongoing efforts to replace drinking water supply lost as a result of saltwater intrusion into the Upper Floridan Aquifer.

Hurricane season and your water service

The public water and sewer system operated by Hilton Head PSD is a critical component of Hilton Head Island's quality of life. Our operations can be affected by a hurricane and we ask all customers to consider steps you can take to prepare your home and family for a storm.

To ensure your household has a safe and adequate water supply after natural disasters take these precautions:

- Store enough drinking water for each family member and pet
- Store water in clean, non-corrosive, tightly covered containers
- Store containers in a cool, dark location
- Collect water in bathtubs for non-drinking uses

In the event of a hurricane, you can further protect the water supply going into your home and minimize property damage by following the guidelines below:

How to protect your water heater

- Switch off the electrical circuit breakers
- Turn off your water at the main valve

Finding your home's water shut-off valve

Your water can be shut off at the main valve. Everyone in your home should know where this is located. The main valve (usually with a wheel-type handle) normally is located either on the customer side of the meter box or just outside the point where the service line penetrates the foundation of the house. It will be in line with your water meter, which is usually located near the edge of your property line near the street.

Some homes may also have a water shut-off valve located in the garage. Bear in mind that closing such a valve will turn off water to the interior of the home, but not the exterior.

Also remember to turn off all electrical appliances that use water, such as water heaters, so that they do not create a safety hazard if they lose water. There also may be valves on appliances and fixtures, such as the water heater, washing machine and toilet. It is a good idea to turn these valves on and off from time to time in order to ensure they're working when you need them.

If you have questions about your water service in the event of a hurricane, please contact Pete Nardi, PSD Community Relations Manager, at (843) 681-0525 or info@hhpsd.com.

Hilton Head PSD
Emergency Information Hotline
(843) 681-0555

Beaufort County
Hurricane Hotline
1-800-963-5023



**Hilton Head PSD wants you to help save water.
Know the local irrigation law:**

- **Single family homes with even-numbered addresses irrigate on Tuesdays and Saturdays only.**
- **Single family homes with odd-numbered addresses irrigate on Wednesdays and Sundays only.**
- **Commercial buildings irrigate on Mondays and Thursdays only.**

***It's the law.
It's the right thing to do!***

HiltonHeadPSD

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Georgia moratorium to have little impact on Hilton Head water supply

The state of Georgia recently announced that it has placed a moratorium on new groundwater withdrawal permits in four coastal counties including Chatham County. The moratorium prohibits new wells from being drilled into the Floridan freshwater aquifer. The over-pumping of this aquifer in the Savannah region has been a primary cause of saltwater intrusion into Hilton Head PSD's Upper Floridan Aquifer wells. "The PSD considers Georgia's moratorium to be a step in the right direction but it will have little or no direct impact on Hilton Head's water supply because it does not address the over-allocation of withdrawal rights already permitted by Georgia. Further, the moratorium does nothing to reduce the continued over-pumping of the aquifer in coastal Georgia," said PSD General Manager Richard Cyr.

Hilton Head PSD has lost six of its 12 Upper Floridan wells to saltwater intrusion since 2000 and anticipates the loss of five of the remaining six wells by 2024. Studies and monitoring have shown that the saltwater is advancing through the freshwater aquifer at a rate of 400 feet or more a year. Ultimately, all Upper Floridan wells on Hilton Head are anticipated to be lost to as a result of the saltwater intrusion. The PSD has implemented an array of measures to replace our lost supply, including construction of our Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility and the island's first-ever Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) well.

For more information about Hilton Head PSD's water supply visit www.hhpsd.com or call PSD Community Relations Manager Pete Nardi at (843) 681-0525.

WE'RE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE ...

The tap water provided to you by Hilton Head PSD in 2012 once again met or exceeded all state and federal water quality standards. We annually test more than 500 samples of our tap water to make sure we're delivering top-quality water to your home or business. For more information about what's in your tap water, please view our 2012 Water Quality Report by clicking on the "Water Quality Report" link at

www.hhpsd.com or type <http://hhpsd.com/HHPSD2012CCR.pdf> directly into your internet browser. We're also glad to provide you a hard copy of the report upon request. For questions about our Water Quality Report please contact PSD Community Relations Manager Pete Nardi at (843) 681-0525 or info@hhpsd.com.

