



50 HiltonHead
PSD
FIFTY YEARS
1969-2019





The PSD was created by the South Carolina General Assembly in 1969 to provide water and sewer services to Hilton Head Island.

1969

Before there were three PSDs, residents relied on private wells for their drinking water needs until 1957. At that time, a local development firm called the Hilton Head Water Company introduced a community waterworks system, installing water lines and drilling wells throughout the island. As the community expanded and development progressed, however, Hilton Head citizens became increasingly aware of the need for enhanced services, a need especially apparent in fire protection, water flow and sewer services.

1995

In 1995, the District acquired the four utilities that now comprise its current service area, including Hilton Head Plantation Utilities, Hilton Head Island Rural Community Water District, Coastal Utilities and Hilton Head Utilities. In addition, the PSD acquired two small systems on the island previously served by the Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority. Consolidation of the remaining island utilities formed the three public service districts currently serving Hilton Head Island — Hilton Head, Broad Creek, and South Island PSDs.





The Hilton Head Public Service District recycles more than 1 billion gallons of wastewater a year into beneficial recycled water. While this water is not used as drinking water, it does help save our drinking water supply.

Recycled water plays a vital role in the 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. Wetlands biologist Todd Ballantine monitors 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.

2004

The PSD's long-range plan for the Master Sewer Plan began in 2004, and work continues to bring sewer service to homes in Hilton Head Island's north- and mid-island neighborhoods. About 440 existing homes ultimately will gain access to sewer thanks to this jointly funded project. The Town of Hilton Head Island is contributing \$10 million for sewer mains, the PSD is funding \$3 million for new sewer lift stations and additional sewer mains, and Project SAFE (Sewer Access for Everyone), a charitable fund of the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, is raising \$3 million for grants for low- and moderate-income homeowners' sewer connection costs.





The PSD's Reverse Osmosis (RO) Water Treatment Facility provides about 50 percent of our water supply. It was built in 2009 and expanded in 2015. It now produces 4 million gallons of water a day. The RO Plant's construction was necessary to replace water supply lost to saltwater intrusion. The plant uses state-of-the-art filtration to produce very high-quality water.



2011

The PSD built the island's first-ever Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) facility in 2011. The ASR facility stores treated water purchased at a less expensive wholesale rate during the winter and then withdraws and re-treats the water in the summer months of higher demand. The ASR process involves the PSD annually injecting 240 million gallons of treated 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 Middle Floridan water and a buffer zone is created at the edges of the fresh water bubble. When the ASR facility is used to withdraw water, the water is drawn from the center of the fresh water bubble and re-treated for distribution.

Thanks to the hard work of its team and the support of its customers, today's PSD has achieved numerous awards and accolades:

- South Carolina Rural Water Association Wastewater System of the Year
- South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Facility of Excellence and Laboratory of Excellence
- Government Finance Officers Association Excellence in Financial Reporting
- U.S. EPA/American Water Works Association Partnership for Safe Water
- MarCom Gold Award
- American Council of Engineering Companies Engineering Excellence
- U.S. HUD Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships
- Audubon International Environmental Planning









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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