



LIQUID

E-NEWSLETTER

Don't risk your family's health.



hhpsd.com/connect-now/

Are you still using a septic system?

Get connected to the island's sewer system now!

If you're still using a septic system on Hilton Head Island, we urge you to get on the waiting list for a sewer connection today. Failing septic systems can lead to costly property damage, health code violations and liability issues.

They're also a serious risk to your — and your neighbors' — health and safety. Failing septic systems pose a threat to your health from harmful pathogens found in human waste. They can pollute our soils and waterways when they fail to properly treat your human waste.

Why connect now if your system is working?

Now that sewer connections are available throughout so much of Hilton Head Island, S.C. DHEC regulations prohibit repairing — or replacing — a failing septic system when the public sewer is available.

Meaning: If your system fails, you can't fix it. And since it can take weeks to schedule your conversion from septic to the public sewer system due to contractor availability, it's extra important to get on that waiting list now. So don't wait 'til it breaks!

If you do, you risk everyone's health and safety — and could potentially stink up your entire neighborhood — if your system fails.

Worried about the cost?

We know not everyone can afford to upgrade from a septic system to a sewer connection on their own. That's why we partnered with Project SAFE and The Deep Well Project.

Deep Well volunteers are on standby to help income-qualified homeowners complete the Project SAFE application that provides financial assistance to those eligible for the program — which can cover up to the full cost of your sewer connection.

For those who don't qualify for Project SAFE, we do have a few different payment plans available, including long-term/low-interest financing. Hundreds of your neighbors have used the PSD's financing program to



get connected already!

How do I get connected?

Getting connected is easy; just contact PSD Customer Service at (843) 681-5525 or at info@hhpsd.com. The PSD will arrange your connection for you.

Click the button below to learn more.

Get
Connected

PSD's Aquifer Storage & Recovery Facility to be featured in UNESCO publication



Hilton Head PSD's Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) Facility is one of 28 projects worldwide selected by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as global great examples of Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR).

The projects are being featured in an upcoming UNESCO publication entitled *Managing Aquifer Recharge: A Showcase for Resilience and Sustainability*.

The book was planned for unveiling at the 2020 Stockholm World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden, but that event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The PSD's facility is one of just two projects in the United States selected for the book. MAR includes surface recharge and also well recharge (ASR). As part of the UNESCO recognition, a presentation about the PSD's ASR Facility was given by the project engineer, David Pyne of ASR Systems LLC of Gainesville, FL, at a November webinar in Pisa, Italy.

The webinar was hosted by MARSoluT, the Managed Aquifer Recharge Solutions Training Network, which is a four-year Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Innovative Training Network funded by the European Commission to train scientific researchers from around the world. Pyne and PSD General Manager Pete Nardi contributed to the book's case study about the PSD ASR Facility.

Read
More

**PSD's saltwater intrusion response featured in University
of Maryland project**



Hilton Head PSD and the island's response to the ongoing issue of saltwater intrusion in our fresh groundwater aquifer was featured in a recent project by the Howard Center for Investigative Journalism at the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

The project, entitled "Saltwater Invasion," covers an array of topics related to saltwater intrusion and rising sea levels around the United States. The Howard Center provides students with hands-on investigative projects where they work with experienced journalists.

PSD General Manager Pete Nardi was interviewed by Howard Center visiting professional Bill Lambrecht for the project. Hunter Musi, a Charleston-area student who attends Stanford University, took photos of the PSD's Recycled Water program for the project. Hilton Head's investment to replace water supply lost to saltwater intrusion, as well its use of recycled water for golf irrigation and wetlands nourishment, are discussed in the project. The Howard Center project itself was the subject of a recent Associated Press story. "Saltwater Invasion" is online here.

See The
Project

Quick tips to save water:

- 1 Only run full loads of laundry and in the dishwasher.
- 2 Plug the sink while washing dishes by hand.
- 3 Turn the water off while you're brushing your teeth.
- 4 Upgrade to water efficient products, such as those with the WaterSense label.
- 5 Make sure you don't have any leaks.
- 6 Take shorter showers.



Pledge to save water all year long

A New Year's Resolution that will help you save water, energy and money through all of 2021.

Winter is a great time to start saving water — and it doesn't have to be hard.

WaterSense's monthly resolutions checklist can help you stay on track with this year's water-saving goals.

Saving water not only helps the environment, but it can help you spend way less on your utility bills!

By taking one or two simple steps each month, you'll also be helping protect our water for future generations.



Follow the link below to download it today!

Download the checklist

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

RESPONSIBLE LANDSCAPING & GARDENING



Join PSD's Facebook Group!

Let's keep the conversation about water conservation going! The purpose of the Facebook Group is to encourage responsible irrigation, landscaping and gardening.

Take us on a virtual tour of your gardens, yards and landscaping by posting photos. Share tips and resources.

[JOIN HERE](#)

Not used to the cold?

*Learn how to protect your pipes on the rare days
our temperatures drop below freezing*

It's that time of year — we're quickly approaching the few weeks where the island's temperatures might just dip below freezing.

We know that below-freezing temperatures are a very rare occurrence on Hilton Head Island, so here are a few reminders from Consumer Reports on how to protect your pipes:

- **Keep garage doors closed**, especially if there are water supply lines in the garage.
- **Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors** to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing, especially if your sinks are on an exterior wall.
- **Let the cold water drip from a faucet** served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe—even at a trickle—helps prevent pipes from freezing.

- **Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature** during day and night. Again, during a cold snap is not the time to set back the thermostat at night to save a few bucks on your heating bill.
- **If you plan to be away during cold weather**, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.
- **For the long term, add insulation** to attics, basements, and crawl spaces. Insulation will maintain higher temperatures in those areas. And to prevent drafts, seal cracks and openings around windows, doors, and at sill plates, where the house rests on its foundation.

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More

Sarah Gustafson of the Hilton Head Audubon Society recently visited our Recycled Water Plant lagoons to photograph the Bufflehead and Lesser Scaup ducks.



These lagoons are one of the only places on Hilton Head known to typically be visited by Bufflehead and Lesser Scaup, according to the Society.



Visitation by waterfowl is a sign of the high quality of the PSD's recycled water, which is the product created after the PSD cleans and recycles wastewater from the sanitary sewer system here on the island. ♻️

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Planting trees can help
keep our waterways clean**

Did you know planting trees can help reduce flooding and keep our waterways clean by reducing stormwater runoff?

From the Lowcountry Stormwater Partners:

Planting trees "can also stabilize our soils, reduce flooding, and protect our waterways from the detrimental effects of stormwater runoff ...

Stormwater runoff is a threat to water quality because it transports nonpoint source pollution into our waterways. Examples of nonpoint source pollution include litter, improperly applied fertilizers, and bacteria from pet waste. When it rains, stormwater runoff picks up and brings these pollutants to the nearest waterway through the network of storm drains and ditches.

Trees can reduce the effects of stormwater runoff pollution by intercepting rainfall. A typical, medium-sized tree is estimated to capture as much as 2,380 gallons of rain per year. That amount can fill over 95 average-sized kiddie pools! A tree's capacity to intercept rainfall reduces the amount of water that can flow across the landscape. Reducing water quantity can reduce flooding, drainage issues, and pollutant transport."

**PLANT
MORE
TREES.**



**LOWCOUNTRY
STORMWATER
PARTNERS**

A Service of Clemson Extension

Online Billing

- Pay your bill or check your account online! Here's how it works:
- To login and view your account or to pay your bill, you will need to use your PayID or account number and address number. Your PayID and account number can be found on your water bill.
- Your default password is the first word or number in your mailing address number, which you can change once you register.
- If you want, set up recurring bill pay so you never miss a payment!

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Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



MORE
INFORMATION

