

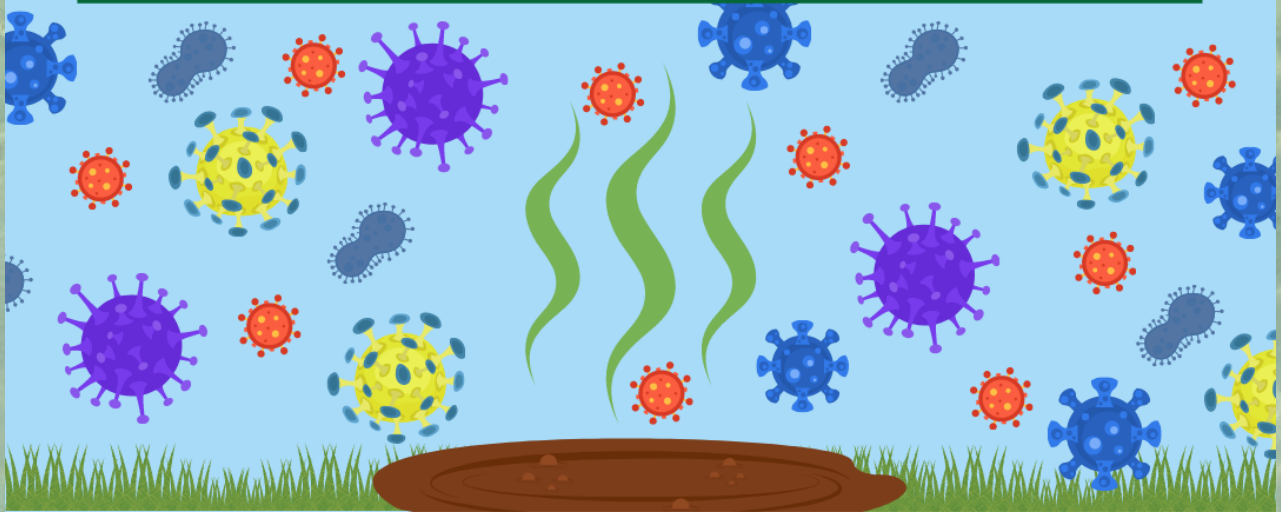


LIQUID

E-NEWSLETTER

**IT'S TIME TO GET
CONNECTED.**

**PROTECT YOUR FAMILY, YOUR
NEIGHBORS – AND THE ENVIRONMENT.**



Don't wait until your septic system breaks.

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.

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!

INCOME-BASED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE.



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

Are you ready for Fix a Leak Week?

Fix a Leak Week is right around the corner — are you ready to crack down on water waste?

Household leaks can waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide, so each year we hunt down the drips during Fix a Leak Week. Mark your calendars for EPA's annual Fix a Leak Week, March 15 through 21, 2021 — but remember that you can find and fix leaks inside and outside your home to save valuable water and money all year long.



**GET
READY
FOR FIX
A LEAK
WEEK!**



Ready to start saving? Take the [10-minute WaterSense Challenge!](#)

Save money AND help conserve water by participating in the 10-minute WaterSense Challenge! This challenge will help you find any leaks in your home — which can waste nearly 10,000 gallons of water per year.

[Read More](#)



**HAPPY
ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**

**FIND YOUR OWN POT OF GOLD
DURING FIX A LEAK WEEK.**



**New fire hydrants installed to offer
greater protection in Hilton Head
Island neighborhoods**



With the installation of 10 new fire hydrants and associated water main upgrades over the last two years, residents in some Hilton Head Island neighborhoods have better protection for their homes in case of fire.

“We partnered with the Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) three years ago to install fire hydrants in various areas of the Island to reduce the distances between existing homes and the fire hydrants,” said Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Chief Brad Tadlock.

In some areas, homes are farther away from hydrants than the local fire code recommends, and this increases the time it takes for firefighters to connect their hose to the hydrant and establish a sustained water supply.

“Property owners and members of the Town’s Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural Preservation Task Force expressed concerns about this. Our goal was to address and resolve this issue through our Joint Fire Hydrant and Fire Line Installation Program with the PSD,” Tadlock said. “We’re happy to say that we are almost finished with the project.”

The program is based on Fire Rescue’s needs in serving existing structures. PSD Information Technology/GIS Manager Ryan Lewis conducted an extensive Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis to identify specific areas where new fire hydrants needed to be placed.

“The joint program is a great example of the strong intergovernmental relationship between the PSD and the Town, benefitting our mutual customers – the residents of Hilton Head Island,” said PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. The PSD Customer Service Center also hosts Fire Rescue’s 911 Center and the Town’s Emergency Operations Center.

Read
More

March 22 is World Water Day!

March 22 is World Water Day!

World Water Day is all about understanding the value of water — and why we need to protect it.

So what does water mean to you?

Join the conversation by posting on March 22 with the hashtag #WorldWaterDay and learn more at worldwaterday.org.

Want another way to celebrate and help save our most precious resource?

Spend the day installing WaterSense labeled fixtures in your home.

CELEBRATE WORLD WATER DAY!



Shop WaterSense Products

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

RESPONSIBLE LANDSCAPING & GARDENING



Join our Facebook Group!

Let's keep the conversation about water conservation going! Our Facebook Group helps encourage responsible irrigation, landscaping and gardening.

Take us on a virtual tour of your gardens, yards and landscaping by posting photos. Share what you're planting this Spring, plus tips and resources!

[JOIN HERE](#)

Water-efficient landscape display coming to Port Royal

Port Royal is planning to create a native-plant

demonstration project at its Arboretum off Fort Walker Drive to help promote water-efficient landscape concepts. Lyn Taylor of Reflection Design & Landscapes has created a site plan for the Arboretum that features a wide array of South Carolina native plants. Hilton Head Island typically sees 40-60% of its annual drinking water demand used for residential landscape irrigation.



“We are asking residents to help turn around our paradigm of intensive landscape irrigation here on the island,” said Pete Nardi, Hilton Head PSD General Manager. “The same water that we produce and treat for drinking water is what’s being sprayed on our residential lawns and landscapes. Water is a precious natural resource and our efficient use of it today plays an important role in preserving it for future generations.”

Native plants being featured in the Port Royal Arboretum project:

White Fringetree	Christmas Fern
Sweetbay Magnolia	Trillium
Beauty Berry	Swamp Milkweed
Saw Palmetto	Coral Bean
Azalea	Blazing Star
Viburnum	Sunshine Mimosa
Cinnamon Fern	Scarlet Sage

Port Royal wants to help show that water-efficient landscapes can be beautiful and beneficial. The project will feature native plants that are drought tolerant, low maintenance, aesthetically pleasing and offer support to our native wildlife. Native plants generally require less watering, little or no fertilization, and less pesticides and fungicides.

“We are so pleased to announce that we are now partnering with Port Royal Plantation to create an educational garden within their Arboretum to promote water conservation,” said Taylor. “This newly designed section of the Arboretum will use a variety of evergreen and deciduous, flowering native plants that are beautiful and drought tolerant. Many of these plants are perfectly suited to be included in your home landscapes.”

The PSD asks residents to follow the Island ordinance that restricts irrigation to no more than two days a week at all times and requires a functioning rain sensor on all irrigation systems. The PSD also asks residents to perform a check-up on those systems at least once a year; Make sure the heads are intact and effectively positioned, to avoid watering concrete and asphalt and other impervious surfaces.

The PSD also encourages residents to learn about water-efficient landscape practices by checking out the Clemson Extension Service’s “Carolina Yards” program at clemson.edu/extension/carolinayards/. The South Carolina Native Plant Society is a great resource for learning about our abundance of beautiful native plants and

ideas for water-smart landscapes, at: scnps.org. Please visit the “Conservation” menu at hhpsd.com for more information.

“We are excited to develop a ‘Carolina Yard’ concept in the Port Royal Plantation arboretum,” said Port Royal General Manager Lance Pyle. “The ‘Carolina Yard’ will use native plants that require less irrigation/water and reduce maintenance. This display will be available for landowners to visit and collect ideas for their landscaping projects. “

PSD Commissioner Patti Soltys, a Port Royal resident, has helped facilitate the project. “I’m really proud to see Port Royal engaging in this important initiative to do the right thing for our environment by providing examples for residents to plant native plants and reduce water use,” she said. “Our hope is to see this initiative be a positive example that spreads to other neighborhoods as well.”

Love bird watching?

Learn about the island's migratory shorebird visitors



Spring is almost here! The season officially begins on March 20. Not only is it every gardener's favorite time of year — but it's a great time on the island for bird watching!

The PSD is proud to be a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, and we'll continue to do whatever we can to help conserve water and protect the island's wildlife.

Spring and summer are particularly exciting times for Hilton Head wildlife, as we see a large variety of migratory shorebirds each year.

Want to know a little bit more about the types of birds that visit our island?

Check out [this guide from S.C. DNR](#).

Learn More about our Audubon
Certification

Daylight Savings Day is March 14!

When you change your
clocks, make sure you also

check your irrigation timer.

Remember: You want to water your lawn during the coolest times of the day, so before sunrise or after sunset are best.

And don't forget: The Town of Hilton Head Island also has strict guidelines when it comes to water use for irrigation. Follow the link to learn more.

[LEARN MORE](#)



hhpsd.com

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

Pollinator Conservation & Native Plants for Pollinators

Clemson Extension Workshops presents this free webinar series
from 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17

Pollinators are a critical staple to healthy functions of our environment and food systems. Half of the species on the endangered species list are pollinator species! Learn what *you* can do to help preserve these incredibly important species and the habitats that support them.

Ben Powell, State Apiculture and Pollinator Specialist, will be presenting on pollinator conservation. TJ Savereno, Area Forestry and Wildlife Agent, will present on native plants for the benefit of pollinators.

Register for the
event

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.



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