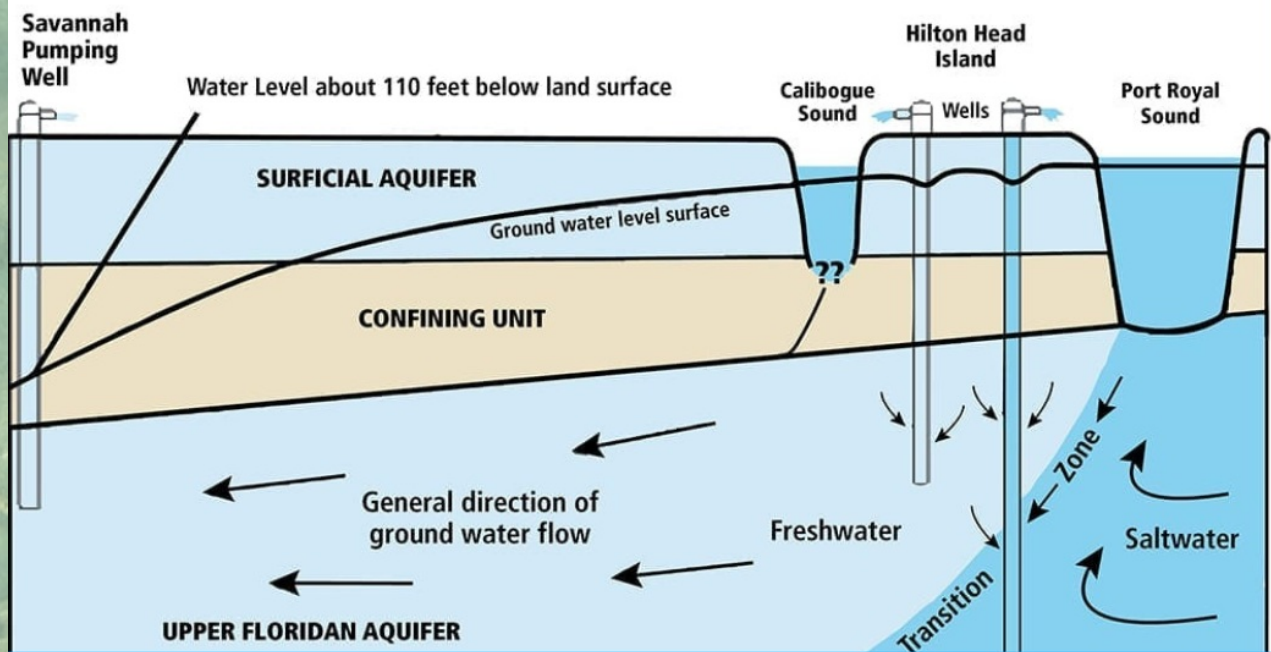




LIQUID E-NEWSLETTER



Hilton Head PSD loses another well to saltwater intrusion

Hilton Head PSD has been forced to take another of its Upper Floridan Aquifer wells out of production due to saltwater intrusion into the freshwater portion of the aquifer. The approximately 150-foot-deep well, known as the Union Cemetery Well, is located near the intersection of Union Cemetery and Dillon roads. There will be no interruption in customers' water service due to the shut-down.

Hilton Head PSD now has lost 10 drinking water wells to the phenomenon of saltwater intrusion into the Upper Floridan freshwater aquifer since

2000. Only two of the utility's four remaining Upper Floridan freshwater wells are currently unaffected by saltwater intrusion.

Read
More

PSD General Manager Pete Nardi named WateReuseSC President

Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) General Manager Pete Nardi has been named President of WateReuseSC, the South Carolina chapter of the national WateReuse Association, the nation's only trade association solely dedicated to advancing laws, policy, funding, and public acceptance of recycled water.



“WateReuse is a coalition of utilities that recycle water, businesses that support the development of recycled water projects, and consumers of recycled water. Our South Carolina chapter is working on expanding our recycled water toolbox, to provide utilities and consumers with more options for implementing recycled water projects and programs,” Nardi said. “One of our first steps is working with our S.C. Department of Health and Control on the regulatory framework for recycled water programs in our state.”

Nardi succeeds Tricia Kilgore of Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority as WateReuseSC President. Kilgore will now serve as the chapter's Director. WateReuseSC officers also include Murray Dodd of CDM Smith in Columbia, President-Elect; Heather Lawson of City of Rock Hill, Secretary; and David Niesse of ReWa in Greenville, Treasurer.

Hilton Head PSD has a longstanding recycled water program that provides the island's golf industry with an economical source of high-quality recycled water for course irrigation. PSD recycled water also nourishes pre-existing wetlands on Hilton Head Island, which helps to provide a vital habitat for wildlife and plant species.

Hilton Head PSD is the public water, wastewater, and recycled water utility serving more than 25,000 customers in the north- and mid-island areas of Hilton Head Island. Nardi has worked for the PSD since 2004 and has served as General Manager since 2015.



Hilton Head PSD Water Quality Laboratory Supervisor Sarah Hickman and Water Treatment Technician Tim Ryan represented the PSD at the Career Fair at Hilton Head Island High School on January 21. Careers at the PSD involve disciplines ranging from chemistry and construction to accounting and information technology.

New portal launching this month!

Hilton Head PSD's new customer experience portal is almost ready to launch!

The new portal should make it easier to set up payments, track your water use, and more!

With the new portal, you'll be able to create an all new online account that will combine our previous water usage and payment portals — plus give you access to leak and high water usage alert notifications.

We hope the new portal will

provide a simple and convenient way to manage your water accounts.

If you have enrolled in recurring credit or debit card payments, this will not transfer over to the new Portal. Once the Portal launches, you will need to create an account and re-enroll in this service.

Stay tuned!

The screenshot shows the Hilton Head PSD website dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Billing', 'Usage', and 'Account' menus. The main content area features a 'Remaining balance' of \$51.00, with a note that the next payment of \$51.00 is due on December 29, 2022, in 14 days. Below this is a bar chart titled 'HOW YOU'RE DOING SO FAR' comparing usage for 'NOV 2022' (LAST BILL) at \$51.00 and 'DEC 2021' (LAST YEAR) at \$53.00. To the right, there is a 'WELCOME TO HILTON HEAD' section with a 'Let us be connected to help you save more!' message. A large banner for 'Auto Pay' is visible, stating 'Setup automatic payments with your preferred Bank Account or Credit card to pay bills automatically, saving on penalties' and showing a 'MANAGE AUTOPAY' button. The footer includes 'Version No. 105', '© 2022 Smart Energy Water | All rights reserved.', and 'Powered By SEW'.

Exploring Hilton Head Plantation's Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy

A look inside one of the wetlands nourished by the PSD's Recycled Water Program.



The PSD's Recycled Water Program has been nourishing wetlands on Hilton Head Island since 1986.

One of those wetlands is Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy, a 137-acre wetlands conservancy located in Hilton Head Plantation — one of the island's private gated communities.

The conservancy is a favorite for bird watchers on the island, largely due to the wooden boardwalk that runs over the wetlands. The Boardwalk stretches over 1,100 feet and allows access to the heart of the swamp, without disturbing this delicate ecosystem.

The conservancy as a whole is a unique ecosystem on the island. From the Hilton Head Island Land Trust:

Formed as a shallow valley between ancient shoreline dunes, it consists primarily of freshwater black gum (or tupelo) forested swamp and open "savannah" swamp. Surrounding the wetlands is a swamp edge transition zone of thick, head-high bushes that separates the swamp from the pine dominated uplands. This breadth of habitats supports approximately 75 plant species and 100 wildlife species, identified by various interpretive signs throughout the Conservancy.



Our Recycled Water Program is just another way the PSD helps protect our beautiful island. Former wetlands biologist Todd Ballantine monitored the wetlands for the PSD, and reported 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.

Learn More About HHI's Protected
Lands

**Fall in love with your bathroom
this Valentine's Day.**



This Valentine's Day, fall in love with your bathroom.

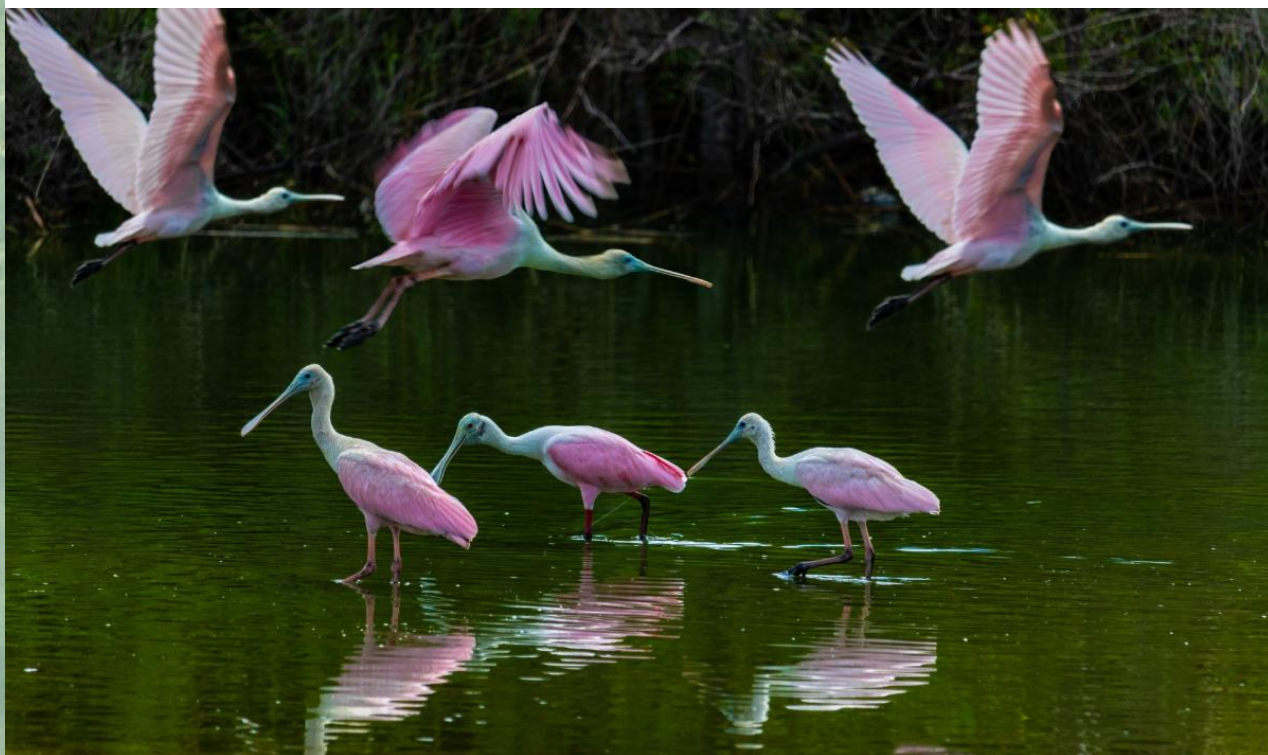
Upgrade your bathroom fixtures to the WaterSense label and swoon over the new look and water and money savings!

WaterSense makes it easy to find and select water-efficient products that can help your wallet — and the environment. Just look for products bearing the WaterSense label at your local retailer.

WaterSense labeled products are backed by independent, third-party certification and meet EPA's specifications for water efficiency and performance. When you use these water-saving products in your home or business, you can expect exceptional performance, savings on your water bills, and assurance that you are saving water for future generations.

Click the link below to use WaterSense's Rebate Finder to find incentives available in our area.





Spring is almost here!

**Hilton Head's best time of year for birdwatching
is right around the corner.**

It's almost Spring, which is one of our favorite times here on Hilton Head Island for birdwatching!

A huge variety of birds from all over the world migrate through our area during the Spring — including the beautiful Roseate Spoonbill.

And, of course, Spring is also the nesting season for many of the island's majestic birds — like the Great Blue Heron and Egret.

The PSD is a proud Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary: We help provide habitats for these birds by nourishing wetlands across the island with our Recycled Water Program (*like the Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy mentioned above*).

To learn more about our Recycled Water Program, click the link below.

Recycled Water
Program

Love seafood?

Help protect its source.

It's almost Hilton Head Island Seafood Festival time!

Seafood is a Lowcountry staple.

And we need to help protect its source.

One of the easiest things we can all do?

Help keep our beaches (and all waterways) clean!

That means: Don't litter — and pick up trash when you can — and don't flush prescription medications down your toilets or throw them in the trash. Instead, properly dispose of them in one of Beaufort County's drop-off boxes, locations of which can be found on [our website](#).

The main event of the HHI Seafood Festival is Saturday, Feb. 25. Click the link below to learn more:

HHI Seafood Festival
Info





Get ready to be a leak detective.



March 20-26, 2023
Fix A Leak Week

www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak

Save the date: Fix a Leak Week is right around the corner!

Join our WaterSense partner for this water-saving event from March 20-26.

Fix a Leak Week can help you save money AND help save the planet by protecting our most precious resource — water.

Our WaterSense Partner will share tons of tips to help you hunt down and fix leaks around your home — ultimately helping you save a TON of water.

Give them a follow on all social platforms, or check out their website to learn more:

Visit the WaterSense website

Still using a septic system?



GET ON THE WAITING LIST.

Don't wait until your septic system breaks.



It's not too late to connect to the sewer system on Hilton Head. Financial assistance is available.

Deep Well volunteers are on standby to help income-qualified homeowners and renters complete applications for Project SAFE and the Town of Hilton Head's sewer connection grant programs.

[Learn more here.](#)

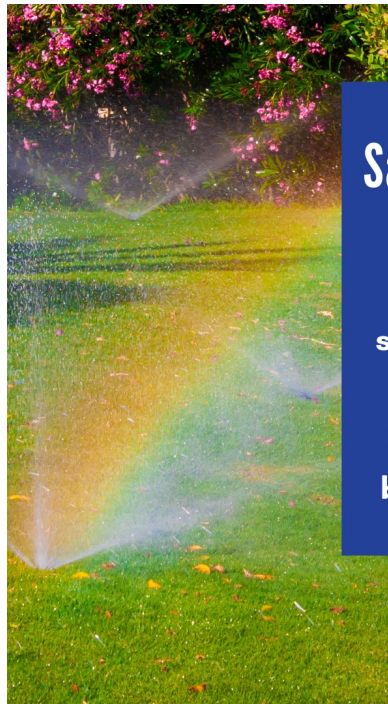
Get ready for Spring by planning a water-smart landscape

Spring is just a little over a month away!

If you're trying to save water this year, take a look at your landscape — and your irrigation system.

Creating a water-smart landscape and changing when and how you water your lawn can save tons of water.

(And remember: Hilton Head Island's town ordinance restricts water use for irrigation to twice per week — and requires that all irrigation systems have a working rain gauge).



Save water outside.

Learn how to create a water-smart landscape & check your irrigation system before the Spring.



Learn more from our WaterSense partner by clicking the link below.

Read More

Community Happenings

Gullah Celebration —



Feb. 1-28

The Hilton Head Island Gullah Celebration showcases the rich cultural heritage of the Gullah people and their history on Hilton Head Island.

[Learn more here.](#)

Hilton Head Seafood Festival — Feb. 20-26

The festival explores the South's evolving food culture, which has been returning to its roots in recent years by honoring its rich native agriculture. Experience our coast's rich fishing heritage during the weeklong festival.



[Learn more here.](#)

Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



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INFORMATION

