



LIQUID E-NEWSLETTER

It's almost Spring!

Make sure to incorporate native plants
into your landscape!



Here's how native plants can help you save water, money & the planet

Can you believe it's almost Spring?

If you're planning what to plant this year, consider starting a water-smart landscape.

Using native plants significantly cuts down the amount of water and maintenance your landscape needs.

You can also use mulch to reduce water use — and, of course, make sure your irrigation system is free of leaks and aimed at what actually needs to be watered. *And remember: Hilton Head Island town ordinance also requires that all irrigation systems have a working rain gauge, and that you're only watering your lawn no more than twice per week.*

So back to the native plants — how do they help reduce water use, and why are they such a big deal?

Native plants thrive on their own

Native plants — or plants that are "native" to your region — require much less watering and less maintenance in general. Why? Because they're adapted to your local soil and climate conditions.

Because they're suited so well for your region, they also tend to be much "hardier" plants: Meaning, they usually don't require fertilizer and are more resistant to pests and diseases.

Generally, these plants don't need much — if any — supplemental watering. Rainfall on its own is usually enough water for native plants.

Native plants help the environment

By incorporating native plants into your landscape, you're providing natural habitats in your lawn. From the National Audubon Society:

Restoring native plant habitat is vital to preserving biodiversity. By creating a native plant garden, each patch of habitat becomes part of a collective effort to nurture and sustain the living landscape for birds and other animals.

If you're a bird lover, then using native plants in your landscape has even more benefits for you: The plants will help attract more birds to your yard. Birds depend on native plants to survive. And we don't just mean

hummingbirds who feed on nectar from flowers — most species of birds rely on insects for their diets. Without native plants, there aren't enough insects for birds to feed on.

And, of course, there are the pollinators — the adorable hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, moths, and even bats! Incorporating native florals into your landscape turns your yard into a pollinator's paradise. So in turn, you don't just get to enjoy the beauty these plants, insects and birds bring to your yard or garden, but you're helping the environment in a big way — including helping any nearby farmers or anyone nearby with a food garden.

Learn what to plant

Ready to get started? If you want to find native plants to Hilton Head Island and see what kinds of birds the plants may attract, check out the [National Audubon Society's online database](#).

You can also check out our [WaterSense partner's website](#) for more information on native plants.

Go Green This March!

Go green this March!

And no, we don't just mean for St. Patrick's Day.

We're talking about using the month to focus on being as environmentally-friendly as possible. And that means saving water.

Because you don't need the luck of the Irish to save water — and money.

Ready for some quick tips?

- ♣ Only run full loads in the dishwasher & washer
- ♣ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth or hand washing dishes
- ♣ Aim for 5-minute showers
- ♣ Make sure your irrigation system is aimed at your lawn/plants — and not the driveway, road or sidewalk (and that it has a working rain gauge!)



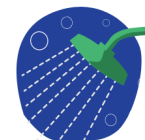
You don't need the luck of the Irish to save water



Only run full loads in the dishwasher & washer



Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth



Aim for 5-minute showers



Check your home for leaks



Make sure your irrigation system is efficient



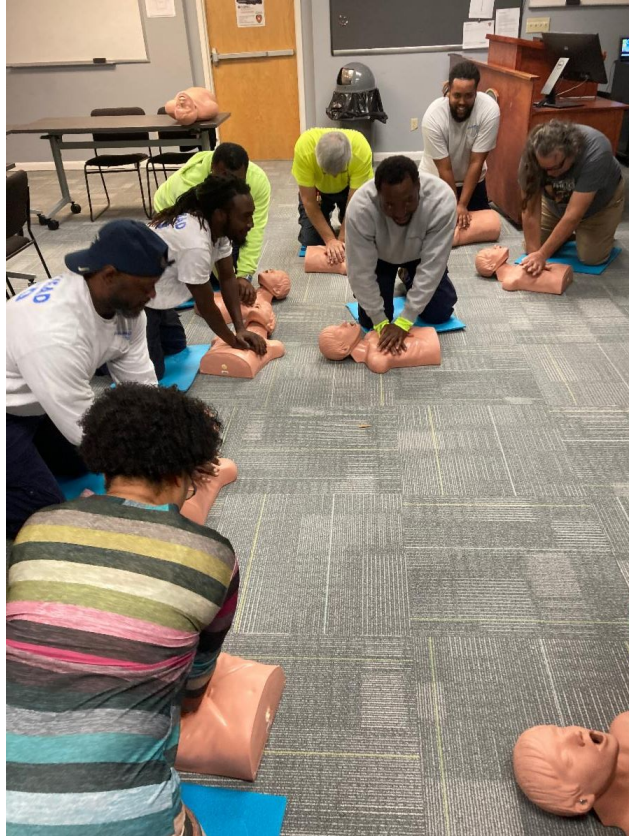
- ♣ Incorporate native plants into your landscape *(see article above!)*
 - ♣ Use more mulch in your landscape *(see article below!)*
 - ♣ Check your home for leaks *(see information about Fix A Leak Week below!)*
 - ♣ Upgrade your fixtures to the WaterSense label
-



Hilton Head PSD members recently participated in CPR/AED training. Learning CPR and how – and when – to use an automated external defibrillator (AED) means any of these employees could now save a life!

We're proud of every one of our employees who came out to this training. While we hope they never need to use their new skills, we think spending a few hours to for a class like this one is super important. On average, it takes first responders 8-12 minutes to arrive after a 911 call.

Knowing CPR or how to use an AED means you can help keep someone alive until help arrives.



Are your little leprechauns causing mayhem in the bathroom? Check out our What Not To Flush webpage

Are your little leprechauns causing mayhem in your bathroom?

While shoving toys down the toilet may seem like some funny shenanigans, it really can cause serious (and expensive!) damage to your pipes.

If you haven't been having any luck getting the little ones to understand why flushing random items isn't a game, we're here to help!



Are your little leprechauns causing mayhem?

Flushing toys down the toilet may seem like some funny shenanigans ... but it can cause serious (and expensive) damage!

We can help stop the shenanigans.

HiltonHead PSD

Learn more at hhpsd.com.

Head to our What Not To Flush webpage for free printables — including posters, worksheets and even a cool science experiment — to help end the shenanigans before St. Patrick's Day.

Learn What Not to

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

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



Happy (early) St. Patrick's Day! 🍀 Are you ready to celebrate on March 17?

Looking for your own pot of gold?

Save money AND help save the planet by protecting our most precious resource — water — during Fix A Leak Week from March 20 through March 26.

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.



Get ready to be a leak detective.



March 20-26, 2023
Fix A Leak Week

www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak

Did you know the average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year — and ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day?!

Don't let leaks send your money down the drain!

Learn how to detect and chase down leaks with our WaterSense Partner's 10-minute challenge [here](#).

WaterSense's goal during Fix a Leak Week is to help you save water and money by finding and fixing leaks in your home!

So go give them a follow on all social platforms so you don't miss any of the action during Fix A Leak Week, or check out their website to learn more:

Fix A Leak
Week



Celebrate the first day of Spring on March 20!

**Head to one of the island's favorite birdwatching spots
to celebrate the new season — and look for nests.**

We are so excited for Spring! This is one of our favorite times of year here on the island.

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 on Hilton Head Island with our Recycled Water Program. These wetlands make great birdwatching spots!

Wetlands nourished by the Recycled Water Program include the Palmetto Hall wetland and two more wetlands in Hilton Head Plantation — Cypress Conservancy and Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy. From the Hilton Head Island Land Trust:

Monitored and protected by the Land Trust, [Cypress Conservancy](#) is a 51 acre wetlands conservancy located within the gates of Hilton Head

Plantation. This conservancy is a forested freshwater wetland complex containing the only remaining, naturally-occurring stand of Bald Cypress trees on Hilton Head. These noble trees are southern relatives to redwood and giant sequoia trees.

There is an elevated boardwalk that weaves through the wetlands ending an area containing most of the Bald Cypress trees. As a whole, the Conservancy supports approximately 70 plant species and 115 wildlife species, identified by various interpretive signs along the boardwalk.

[Whooping Crane Pond Conservancy](#) is a 137 acre wetlands conservancy located within the gates of Hilton Head Plantation. 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.

The Conservancy consists of two distinct components. The first is along the the Nancy Cathcart Path which winds through a dry pine forest consisting of numerous old growth hardwoods. The Path joins the second section of trail on the Whooping Crane Boardwalk. The Boardwalk stretches over 1,100 feet and allows access to the heart of the swamp, without disturbing this delicate ecosystem.

Since 1986, the Hilton Head Public Service District has supplied highly treated reclaimed water to restore Cypress and Whooping Crane conservancies and in doing so has played a key role in the sustainability of Hilton Head's environment. Reclaimed water is the longest running and most beneficial green technology on Hilton Head. Additionally, the Conservancy reduces the danger of flooding in Hilton Head Plantation by absorbing millions of gallons of storm water each year.

The Land Trust surveys the plants and animals of the Conservancy, places interpretive signage along the boardwalk, and provides informational brochures to visitors. Land Trust members living outside of Hilton Head Plantation can email the Land Trust to schedule a tour of the Conservancy.

While we love these wetlands, there are several other great birdwatching spots on the island as well. Click the button below to see the best birding hotspots from the Hilton Head Audubon Society — and go celebrate the season & the wildlife on our beautiful little island.

[Find a Birding Hotspot](#)

Save water.



Save the planet.

Save the date: World Water Day is March 22.

Water is our most precious resource. And it's up to us to protect it.

That's why every year on March 22, the world comes together to discuss the issues surrounding clean water — and how we can help protect it and provide access to clean water for everyone.

From the CDC:

Water holds immense value. Every day, people use water in different ways including drinking, agriculture, industry, recreation, hygiene, sanitation, and health care. Water resources are precious and finite. Warming temperatures and other natural and human-made stressors threaten to further impact the quantity and quality of our water on a large scale. World Water Day highlights the value of water, the essential role water plays in our lives, and how we can better safeguard it.

Here are a few ways you can help:

Don't litter! If you see trash on the beach or near any of our waterways, pick it up when you're able to safely do so to help keep our water clean.

Follow the water-saving tips in the article above, including switching out your old plumbing fixtures with the [WaterSense label](#).

Plant a tree! Trees serve as natural filters, collecting rainwater and helping reduce runoff, so less water ends up in storm drains. [Learn more here](#).

Spread the word! Visit the World Water Day website by clicking the button below to learn more.

Visit the World Water Day
Website



Failing septic systems risk your health and property. Human waste contains multiple dangerous pathogens that aren't safe for the public health or the environment.

And where public sewer is available, repairs to failing septic systems are not allowed, nor may any new septic systems be installed, per DHEC regulations.

[Learn more here.](#)

Love golfing? The PSD helps keep 12 courses green

RBC Heritage is next month — which means we're approaching any local golf lover's favorite time of year.

If you're a huge golf fan on Hilton Head, did you know that the PSD's recycled water program helps keep multiple courses on the

island green?

It's just another way the PSD helps save water on our beautiful little island!

This is the same program that helps nourish wetlands on the island — so it's not just for the birds.

Learn more about our Recycled Water Program by clicking the link below.

**LOVE GOLFING ON
HILTON HEAD?**

**Our recycled water
program helps keep
12 courses green.**



Read
More

Community Happenings



Hilton Head Island St. Patrick's Day Parade — March 12

Check out the oldest St. Patrick's Day parade in South Carolina on Sunday, March 12! The parade will proudly march down Pope Avenue at 3 p.m.

[Learn more here.](#)

Deep Well Project's 50th Anniversary Celebration — March 28

Join the Deep Well Project in celebrating 50 years of helping neighbors in need! Cocktail Reception at 5 pm, followed by a short, original film premier and live panel discussion with Morris Campbell, Betsy Doughtie and David Lauderdale, moderated by WSAV-TV's Andrew Davis.



A night of history, personal recollections and celebration of Deep Well's impact on

our community. Ticket proceeds benefit the Deep Well Project.

[Purchase tickets here.](#)

Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



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INFORMATION

