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## E-NEWSLETTER

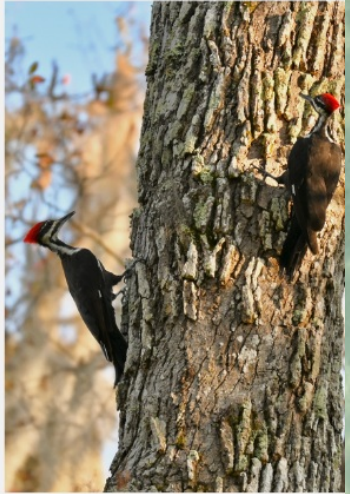


# Hilton Head PSD & our Water Quality Supervisor earn statewide honors

Hilton Head Public Service District (PSD) earned the Facility of Excellence Award from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), and its Water Quality Supervisor, Sarah Hickman, was recognized with the Crystal Crucible Award, and a statewide asset management workshop hosted by the PSD earned recognition. The awards were presented by the Water Environment Association of South Carolina (WEASC) at this month's South Carolina Environmental Conference.

DHEC's Facility of Excellence Award recognizes environmental protection and regulatory compliance at the PSD's Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive. The plant annually recycles about 1 billion gallons of treated wastewater, producing beneficial recycled water that is then used for golf course irrigation and wetlands nourishment, with zero discharge to area waterways.

*"The PSD's Recycled Water Plant plays a vital role in the sustainability of our delicate island environment," said PSD General Manager Pete Nardi. "The professionals at the PSD are ensuring that our interior wetland habitats continue to help wildlife and plant and tree species flourish, while also helping to preserve our water resources by providing our golf industry with high-quality recycled water for course irrigation."*



# DHEC FACILITY OF EXCELLENCE

HHPSD Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive  
helps nourish wetlands on our island



PHOTOS BY JACK ALDERMAN

[Read More](#)

## Birds love our Recycled Water Wetlands!

A bald eagle has been frequently spotted this spring at the PSD's Recycled Water Plant on Oak Park Drive. The PSD's property is a Certified Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary and is a site visited annually by the Hilton Head Audubon Society as part of its Christmas Bird Count.

*Photo by PSD Administrative Assistant  
Connie Whitehead.*



## **Celebrate National Gardening Day on April 14!**

**IT'S NATIONAL  
GARDENING DAY!**  
INCORPORATE NATIVE PLANTS  
INTO YOUR GARDEN!



**April 14 is National Gardening Day!**

**Have you incorporated native plants into your garden yet?**

**Native plants thrive on their own: They require much less watering and less maintenance in general.**

**Why? Because they're adapted to your local soil and climate conditions.**

**Native plants also help the environment by providing**

**natural habitats in your lawn – helping birds, pollinators and other animals and insects thrive.**

**Learn more from the South Carolina Native Plant Society:**

SC Native Plant  
Society

# Get your irrigation system in check before the weather heats up!

Now that Spring is here, it's time to make sure your irrigation system is working properly before the weather really heats up!

You should follow these steps from our WaterSense Partner to complete a Sprinkler Spruce Up:

1. **Inspect:** Check your sprinkler system for leaks & breaks
2. **Connect:** Make sure all sprinklers, pipes and valves are properly connected
3. **Direct:** Your sprinkler system should be watering your lawn and any plants you have in your landscaping — not the driveway, sidewalk, or road.
4. **Select:** If your irrigation system is out of date or just not up to current standards, select a WaterSense-labeled irrigation controller and water smarter!

***\*Please remember to also follow local town ordinance, which requires all irrigation systems to have a working rain gauge, and limits water use for irrigation to no more than twice per week. And once the weather really heats up, avoid watering during the heat of the day! Stick to early morning or evening for irrigation.***

Visit the WaterSense website



The tap water provided by Hilton Head PSD continues to meet or exceed all water quality standards set by the U.S. EPA and S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The PSD has a longstanding track record of water quality compliance. [You can view the PSD's water quality reports here.](#)

Worried about PFAS? None of the six PFAS compounds proposed to be regulated have been detected in the PSD's groundwater wells, according to recent monitoring. [Read more here.](#)

**CURIOUS  
ABOUT WHERE  
WE GET OUR  
TAP WATER?**

Read more at  
[hhpsd.com](http://hhpsd.com)



On a similar note, there is also no evidence of lead in our drinking water. [Read more here.](#)

If you want to learn more about where Hilton Head's drinking water comes from, click the button below!

Read  
More



Hilton Head PSD's Pete Nardi was recently on Hilton Head's Talk of the Town to discuss recent grant projects, plus how to save water (and money) on irrigation as the weather warms up. Watch the video above to learn more!

# Excited for the RBC Heritage? Our Recycled Water Program helps keep the island's golf courses green



It's almost time for the RBC Heritage!

If you're a golf lover on Hilton Head, then you should know that the PSD's Recycled Water Program helps keep several of the island's golf courses green!

This recycled water plays a vital role in the Hilton Head Island's economy and ecology by providing irrigation water for 12 golf courses — helping us save one of our most precious

natural resources (and keep up our drinking water supply).

Learn more about the program on our website:

Learn  
More

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# Save water this Spring by following these quick tips:



Make sure your irrigation system is efficient



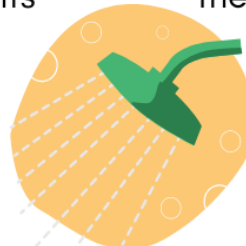
Save water used for rinsing produce to water plants



Only run full loads in the washer and the dishwasher



Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth



Take shorter showers



Save water this Spring by following these quick water-saving tips:

- Make sure your irrigation system is working efficiently (meaning it has no leaks, is directed only on plants and not sidewalks or driveways, has a working rain gauge, and you're only using it up to twice per week).
- Save water used for rinsing produce to water any indoor plants
- Only run full loads in the washing machine & dishwasher
- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- Take shorter showers (aim for 5 minutes!)

## Celebrate Earth Day on April 22!

Earth Day is April 22, and there's a lot you can do to celebrate!



Here are a few ideas:

- Plant some native flowers or other native plants in your yard/garden to help pollinators & reduce water use for irrigation
- Adding mulch to your garden beds can also reduce water use!
- Save water from rinsing produce to water any indoor plants!
- Purchase a good cover for your pool now before summer arrives to reduce water evaporation when the weather heats up!
- Go to the beach & pick up any trash you see to help keep our water clean!
- Upgrade your irrigation system to a WaterSense-labeled irrigation controller! Our WaterSense partner can help you save water and money.



Learn more about how to practice water smart irrigation from our WaterSense partner:

Visit the WaterSense website



## It's National "Hug A Plumber" Day!

Show your local plumber some appreciation today!

April 25 is "National Hug a Plumber Day."

While your favorite neighborhood plumber may not want an actual hug, it's still a great time to show them some appreciation!

Many plumbers have saved the day – and have probably helped you save water (and a mess!)

It takes great expertise to really know what goes on in those mazes of pipes and how to keep them all running like clockwork.

So to all of the plumbers out there: We appreciate you!

This is also a great reminder to not make their jobs more difficult by flushing wipes & other items down the toilet! You should only flush human waste and toilet paper — other items, even those so-called "flushable wipes" can clog your pipes, leading to (*expensive*) damage!

Learn more about What Not To Flush — and get free resources to help teach the little ones — by clicking the link below.

What Not To  
Flush

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# Sign up for automatic payments & track your water use with our customer portal

Our customer portal has a ton of resources to help you & your family save water at home — including a water usage portal & a "leak alert" notification system.

This "leak alert" lets you know if your household's water use is way higher than usual, indicating a potential leak in the home. If you find the leak and promptly get it fixed, save your receipt from the plumber & you may be eligible for a leak adjustment!

You can also sign up for automatic payments so that you never forget to pay your bill on time!

Learn more about leak adjustments by clicking the link below:

[Learn about leak adjustments](#)



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## Community Happenings



## RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing

The Heritage Classic Foundation is excited to announce that the 56th annual RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing will take place April 15-21, 2024. This year's tournament will be catching the eyes of the biggest stars in golf as they compete for the plaid jacket. Learn more [here](#).



HISTORIC MITCHELVILLE  
FREEDOM PARK | BHM

ANNUAL  
**BLUE  
& BBQ**  
WITH LIVE MUSIC

APRIL 6, 2024 • 12PM-3PM

@exploremitchelville    
exploremitchelville.org

## Annual Blue & BBQ to support Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park

This annual event features live music, dancing and award-winning BBQ and supports the efforts of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park all year long. Learn more & purchase tickets [here](#).



### **#EarthDayHHI Beach Sweep with The Outside Foundation**

Join The Outside Foundation for a litter clean-up of all 12 miles of beach and other natural spaces on Hilton Head to celebrate the 23rd anniversary of Earth Day on April 22nd. Learn more [here](#).



### **2nd Annual Hilton Head Kiwanis Cornhole for Charity**

The second annual Kiwanis Club of Hilton Head Cornhole for Charity Tournament

hosted by Lincoln & South Brewing Company, will take place from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on April 27 at Lincoln & South at 138 Island Drive on Hilton Head Island. This year's tournament will benefit SOAR Special Recreation of the Lowcountry. Cornhole teams will compete for cash prize donations to the local youth cause of their choice. Learn more [here](#).

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## Hilton Head PSD Affiliations

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.



MORE  
INFORMATION

