March 2024 • HHPSD.com

## HILDOR LIQUID E-NEWSLETTER





# Thank a water professional today!

TODAY IS SC WATER PROFESSIONALS DAY!



## State of South Carolina celebrates first-ever "Water Professionals Day"

Make sure you thank a water professional on this first official SC Water Professionals Day!!!

The General Assembly of the State of South Carolina has officially declared the first Monday in March of each year as "Water Professionals Day," — making today, March 4, 2024, the first observance!

With the passing of this legislation, professionals working in all areas of the drinking water, wastewater and stormwater industries are honored for their dedication to serving the communities and residents of South Carolina.

The team at Hilton Head PSD is proud to be a part of showcasing the incredible water professionals we have across our state.



#### It's Mulch Madness time!

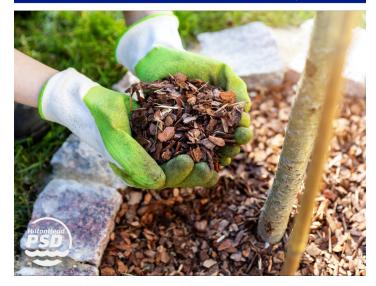
Heading into Spring means it's #MarchMadness time and for water-smart households, it also means it's time for #MulchMadness!

Using mulch in your gardening & landscaping can help you save water as well as help protect your plants.

Mulch helps reduce evaporation, which allows soil to retain water longer and means plants require less frequent watering.

#### March madness = mulch madness

Now that Spring is here, it's time for mulch madness! Use mulch for a water-smart landscape.



Check out more landscaping tips from our WaterSense partner by clicking the link below.

## Another way to save water outdoors? Add native plants to your landscape!



If you're planning your Spring landscaping or gardening, make sure you're incorporating native plants!

Native plants thrive in your local environment — meaning they require less watering and less maintenance overall.

Plus they're great for the local ecosystem, including pollinators!

Learn more — and find a list of native plants — from the South

Carolina Native Plant Society here.

Looking for a great chance to purchase native plants on Hilton Head Island?

Head to the Coastal Discovery Museum on Saturday, March 16, for the annual Native Plant Sale! View the details below:











PRO TIP!





NATIVE

ΟΙ ΑΝΤ

MARCH 16, 2024

Local plants

attract butterflies, wildlife, birds, and

pollinators!

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Saturday 10 AM - 1 PM

From VERDANT VINES to BLOOMING

**BUSHES** and everything native in between!

70 HONEY HORN DRIVE, HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC, 29926

## **Get ready for Fix A Leak Week!**

Spring is right around the corner and so is the EPA WaterSense's annual Fix A Leak Week!

Are you ready to celebrate?

Mark your calendar for March 18 & get ready to save!

Follow our WaterSense Partner on their social media accounts for quick tips on how to find & fix leaks in your home — and other ways to save water, energy & money.





Fix A Leak Week

www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak

Visit the WaterSense website



Our customer portal has a "leak alert" feature, which can help you identify potential leaks in your home.



Learn more at hhpsd.com.

As we get ready for Fix A Leak Week, we want to highlight the PSD's way to help customers find leaks in their homes.

Our customer portal includes a "leak alert" feature that will send you a notification if your household's water usage is significantly higher than usual — indicating a potential leak in the home.

If you do find a leak & promptly get it fixed by a plumber, save your receipt & you might qualify for a leak adjustment on your water bill!

Read More





When you change your clocks, check your irrigation system!



It's almost time to "Spring Forward" for Daylight Savings!

When you change your clocks on March 10, make sure you also check your irrigation system — and make sure you're following HHI ordinance.

Your irrigation system is required to have a working rain gauge, and you should only be watering your lawn no more than twice per week.

Visit Our Website



## Hilton Head PSD's tap water continues to meet or exceed all water quality standards

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.

About 86% of the PSD's drinking water is sourced and supplied from the island's own groundwater. Most of that water, about 62%, comes from the PSD's Reverse Osmosis (RO) Drinking Water Treatment Facility on Jenkins Island, which uses advanced membrane treatment to convert the island's own brackish groundwater into high-quality drinking water. RO is the same treatment method used in the production of many brand-name bottled waters and other beverages. The island's own freshwater groundwater continues to account for about 13% of the PSD's drinking water, while another 11% comes from our Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR) Facility. The ASR facility stores treated drinking water in the brackish portion of the underground aquifer in the winter months and then re-treats and distributes the water in the spring and summer months.

The remaining 14% of the PSD's drinking water is purchased wholesale from the Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJWSA) and blended in the PSD's water distribution system. All the water purchased from BJWSA continues to meet or exceed all water quality standards. The wholesale water quality is monitored at its entry point to the PSD's water distribution system. The PSD has the capability to shut off the wholesale water supply in the event of any water quality issues. You can view the PSD's water quality reports here.

Interested in a tour of our Reverse Osmosis Facility? Just drop us a note at info@hhpsd.com

#### No need to worry about PFAS

If you've heard about harmful PFAS being found in drinking water, then we have good news: There are no known PFAS-related environmental pollution sites within the PSD's service area, and none of the six PFAS compounds proposed to be regulated have been detected in the PSD's groundwater wells, according to recent monitoring.

The PSD monitors for more than 35 types of PFAS. The most recent monitoring showed no detection of any PFAS in our groundwater wells.

The PSD will continue to monitor for PFAS, including as part of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule program, which the PSD has participated in for many years.

The PSD will continue to implement any and all PFAS barrier technologies available to it. To that end, the PSD is seeking a grant from the state government to expand the capacity of our Reverse Osmosis plant in order to provide an even greater percentage of our water supply from the plant.

Check out our PFAS fact sheet here.

#### No lead in our drinking water

On a similar note, there is no evidence of lead in our drinking water.

Decades of analysis have proven there is no lead in the drinking water Hilton Head PSD provides to its customers. Lead is not present in the PSD's groundwater sources, nor is it found in the drinking water purchased wholesale from the mainland utility.

Lead in drinking water generally comes from private-side pipes or plumbing rather than the drinking water source. There are no lead water pipes in the PSD's public water distribution system.

Most of the PSD's water distribution system, as well as most customers' private-side water laterals, are plastic (HDPE or PVC). Lead piping was banned by the federal government in 1986. Beaufort County banned lead piping even earlier, in 1979.

Read	
More	

## Going Green this March? Our Recycled Water Program helps keep our island green year-round

Our recycled water program helps keep our island green year-round!



With St. Patrick's Day right around the corner, we're seeing a lot of green this month!

But you know what is always green, thanks to our Recycled Water Program?

A dozen of the island's golf courses!

Our Recycled Water Program turns wastewater into water used for irrigation for 12 of Hilton Head Island's golf courses — and helps

nourish multiple wetlands on the island as well.

It's just another way the PSD helps save water — and helps protect the island's wildlife.





Ready for St. Patrick's Day?

You don't need the luck of the Irish to save water — and money!

Just follow these 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 \*Check your home for leaks! \*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!)

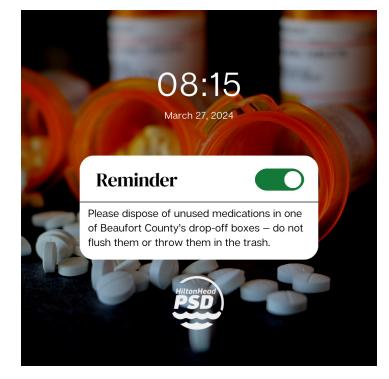
## Know how to properly dispose of unused prescription medications

Friendly reminder: Please don't flush unused prescription medications down the toilet — or throw them in the trash.

Medications that are improperly disposed of can pollute our local waterways.

You should always take unused medications to one of Beaufort County's dropoff boxes to help prevent contamination.

See the drop-off box



locations & read more about safe drug disposal on our website:

Read More

#### 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.



#### Learn more at hhpsd.com.

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!

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:

What Not To Flush

## Save with WaterSense for World Water Day

Water is our most precious

resource.

For #WorldWaterDay on March 22, swap out your old plumbing fixtures with WaterSense labeled models and start saving today!

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.



Learn more from our WaterSense partner by clicking the button below:

Learn more from WaterSense

## **Community Happenings**



#### **Hilton Head Irishfest**

Get ready to get your green on! IrishFest starts on Saturday, March 16th with an Irish Concert at Lowcountry Celebration Park in the afternoon. The parade will proudly march down Pope Avenue Sunday, March 17th at 2pm. Please note the earlier start time!!! Learn more <u>here</u>.

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#### **Hilton Head Wingfest**

Saturday's event will feature 20 – 25 local restaurants cooking their best wings. Over 6,500 lbs of chicken wings will be served at the fun-filled, family-friendly festive atmosphere. There will be many activities such as a kid's zone, rock climbing wall and bungee jump. Cheer on or participate in the Kid's Wing Bobbing Competition or Adult Wing Eating Contest. Vote for your favorite wing and watch the winner be crowned at 4:30pm. Admission is \$10 with children under 11 are free. Proceeds go to The Carmines Family Recreation Scholarship Fund. Learn more here.

#### **Hilton Head PSD Affiliations**

We are proud to partner with the following organizations.







