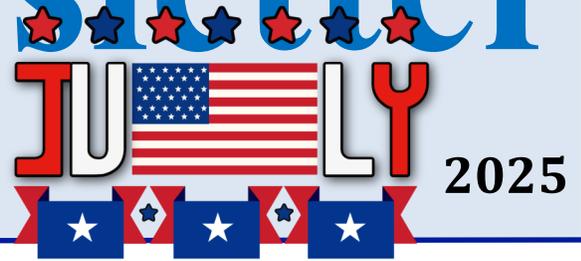


Newsletter



Reminder: Do Not Flush Non-Flushable Objects

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

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Pay Your Bill 24/7
Online: hpwsd.org
By Phone: 360-427-2413

Billing Office Hours
Mondays: 9:00 am—2:00 pm
Tuesdays: 9:00 am—2:00 pm
Thursdays: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 9:00 am in the District Office, 119 E Liberty Rd. All meetings are open to the public.

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District is not associated with or governed by the Hartstene Pointe Maintenance Association. Please direct water-sewer service related questions to the District.

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



It's easy to develop a mindset that anything that can go down a toilet is flushable. In fact, that is far from the case.

Over one night this past month, an operator had to return from home to the Wastewater Treatment Plant to remove a clog at the headworks where sewage enters the treatment plant (see photos).

In this particular case, the culprit included articles of clothing. It should be obvious

to anyone who can flush a toilet that clothing is not flushable, but the District would like to take this opportunity to educate the community about some perhaps less-than-obvious items that are not considered flushable, which includes:

- Feminine Hygiene Products
- "Flushable" Wipes
- Paper Towels
- Diapers
- Dental Floss, Cotton Swabs, Condoms
- Medications
- Paint/Solvents

The list could go on ad nauseam. Non-flushable items can clog up internal plumbing and/or treatment equipment or contribute to pollution of Puget Sound. The proper place to dispose of items that should not be flushed is a wastebasket.

The simple way remember what is okay to flush during daily routines is to remember the three "P's": Pee, Poop & Toilet Paper.



visit www.nacwa.org/toilets

TOILETS ARE NOT TRASHCANS™

Only Flush the 3 P's: Pee, Poop, & Toilet Paper

2024 Annual Consumer Confidence Report Published

Every year, water systems across WA State publish a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) so that the public is aware of the contents of the water they use from their tap. The District's 2024 CCR is available either online at <https://www.hpwsd.org/ccr2024.pdf> or by request from the District office.

Through water treatment and routine laboratory testing, the District ensures drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds standards set by EPA and WA Dept. of Health.



General Manager's Report



In last month's newsletter, I extended my thanks to everyone for their support and understanding of the various issues associated with our sewer project. Now I'd like to do so again. As work moved from Nantucket to Pointes Drive East, so did the road closures and so I ask for your continued patience and courtesy to the contractors, and again thank you deeply on behalf of the District.

At the same time, I need to address some things. As the work is being performed, there have been associated road closures and detours. Additionally, the bluff trail was closed from Portage to Bos'n. This was done to prevent anyone from walking from the trail directly into the work area, but work will also start on the trail side soon. There have been multiple reports of people still walking on the trail and also through the work zone, even walking up to open trenches to peer down into them. Please understand that this presents a huge liability. It is not meant to inconvenience people, but to keep them safe. There have also been vehicles driving through the work zone at unsafe speeds, which will often result in fines from HPMA. This endangers any workers along there and folks who ignore the closure signs.

I'm aware that not everyone agrees with the need for this project and some are just not happy about being inconvenienced; however, the project is well underway and there will be an end to the disruptions. Keep in mind that any injury occurring to a resident or worker due to failure to obey the posted signs will slow down the project further, thus extending the inconvenience.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

—Jeff Palmer, General Manager



Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Let the dishwasher do the work! Scrape dishes clean instead of rinsing them before washing. There is no need to rinse with most modern appliances, unless the dishes are heavily soiled."

Protecting Public Lands Means Protecting Water

Protecting Public Lands = Protecting WA's Drinking Water. Public lands are vital to Washington's clean water.



Source Water Starts in Our Forests

Nearly two-thirds of Washington residents rely on surface water, which mostly originates in national forests and other public lands. Watersheds that supply Seattle to Wenatchee & Yakima basins (which in turn supply dozens of smaller water systems) are part of public lands that act as natural reservoirs.

Natural Filters & Flow Regulators

Healthy forest cover reduces sediment, nutrients & pathogens in source water, which protects public health and reduces treatment costs. Forested watersheds also help buffer impacts of wildfires, drought & flooding, all of which intensify with climate change.

Economic & Operational Value

Every acre of protected headwaters saves utilities money by delaying or avoiding expensive filtration upgrades. Clean source water makes regulatory compliance more attainable for small & medium-sized systems.

Local Cast Study: Olympic Peninsula

Recent timber sales near the Elwha River triggered protests from community members concerned about potential impacts on Port Angeles' drinking water intake. This is a vivid reminder that land management decisions upstream have direct effects downstream.

What Water & Sewer Districts Can Do

- Stay engaged with land management planning led by agencies such as the Forest Service & Natural Resources
- Educate Consumers about the direct connection between protected lands and the affordability & reliability of their drinking water.
- Advocate with policymakers to ensure any future proposals respect the essential role of public lands in water protection.

Washington's drinking water starts in our mountains, forests & rivers—public lands that belong to all of us. Keeping them intact isn't just an environmental priority, it's the most cost-effective, reliable way to ensure clean water for generations to come.

