



Newsletter

MARCH 2026

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

(360) 427-2413

772 E Chesapeake Dr.

Shelton, WA 98584

Email: info@hpwsd.org

Website: hpwsd.org

General Manager:

Jeff Palmer

gm@hpwsd.org

Commissioners:

Carl Anderson

canderson@hpwsd.org

Stacy Swart

sswart@hpwsd.org

Stefan Birgh

sbirgh@hpwsd.org

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 1:00 pm 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.

New Lift Station in Operation on Pointes Dr. East

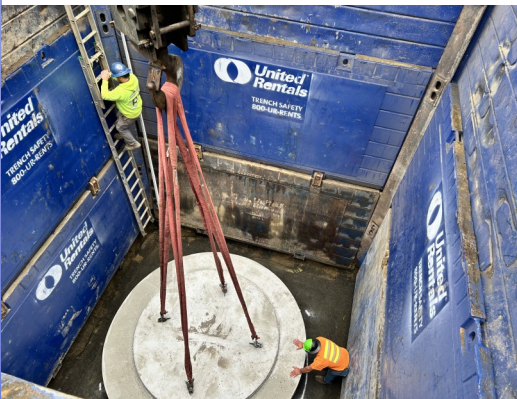
The new lift station on Pointes Drive East at the base of Portage Road is now in operation. This addition to the District's wastewater infrastructure includes state-of-the-art technology and a robust design planned to last many years into the future. The aged sewer main that ran along the bluff will be abandoned and portions removed, mitigating the risk that existed near Case Inlet.

Engineers designed the new lift station to be able to operate continuously, even while various components are pulled for service by operators or technicians. For example, this new lift station has three pumps installed and online, so if one or two pumps require maintenance, the third can continue to operate until maintenance is completed.

The new lift station is equipped with generator hookups, so District operators can keep it running, if needed, during an extended service outage. The "wet wells" where sewage is stored before being pumped to the gravity main also have deep storage capacity (and additional backup capacity), so even if a "perfect storm" of component challenges arises, operators will be able to respond long before an emergency could become dire.

Plans are in the works for installation of commercial fencing around the Bluff lift station panel, which will not only provide protective security to the site, but will also provide screening that will closely match HPMA's fencing.

Throughout the sewer project, WA State Dept. of Ecology assessed the conditions of the District's other lift stations, which have aged considerably since their installations many years ago. Engineers and Ecology representatives are reviewing potential upgrades that would improve existing lift stations.

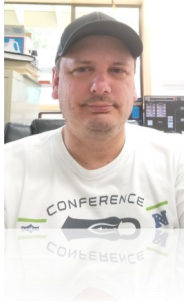


Above: Workers install the base for the new wet well
Right: The wet well after installation



General Manager's Report

Sewage Spills



Last month, someone reported a water leak to us down at the end of Nantucket. It actually turned out to be a sewage leak. There is a pipe 7-feet underground that had a crack in it. Every time wastewater pumps turned on, sewage would seep out. As is true with water leaks, sewer leaks can occur for a period of time before finally surfacing and becoming identified.

Repairs were made, but due to a ditch adjacent to the spot, stormwater drainage carried some of the sewage down to the beach. Calls were made to Dept. of Ecology, WA State Dept. of Health and Mason County Dept. of Health to report a sewage spill. Mason County took some samples at the beach and, not surprisingly, they tested high levels of bacteria. As a result, they closed the beach for shellfishing. If you pass by the area of repair, you'll notice a white powder covering the ground. This is hydrated lime, which is applied to sewage spills to counteract. We will continue to treat it in this manner until Mason County informs us that their continued sampling produces good results.

How did this happen when we've got this big sewer project going on to fix pipes? This section was not part of the original plan to replace. There is a lot of aging infrastructure and the funds only cover so much. Even though it was a relatively small amount for a spill, it's still not acceptable per our standards. We are having discussions with Ecology and will provide any updates in a future newsletter.

—Jeff Palmer, General Manager



Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Say goodbye to plastic water bottles for good. Switch to one of many reusable water bottles available on the market and help the planet significantly!"

Grinder Pumps Now Active



In order to abandon the bluff sewer main and re-route to the new lift station, approximately 30 grinder pumps were installed for residences that could not have sewage delivered by gravity. These homeowners were provided instructions on grinder pump basics and reminders of items that should never be flushed into a grinder pump to prevent component failures.

This seems like an appropriate time to remind the community of what should and should not be flushed into sewerage. Basically, anything that should not be flushed into a grinder pump should also not be flushed into gravity-fed sewer.

Please flush only the "3 P's": **P**ee, **P**oop & **T**oilet **P**aper. Floss, cotton, hair, feminine hygiene products or wipes of any kind should be discarded in a waste receptacle, in order to prevent damage to internal household plumbing and prevent damage to wastewater treatment equipment.



visit www.nacwa.org/toilets

TOILETS ARE NOT TRASHCANS™

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

Dishwasher Pods, Laundry Sheets Face Ban

Adapted from a wateronline.com article

New York City is looking to introduce legislation that would ban the sale or distribution of dishwasher or laundry detergent pods and laundry sheets that contain *polyvinyl alcohol*, or PVAs. While detergent pods and sheets



"dissolve" in the wash, PVAs are a type of plastic, so microplastics and nanoplastics end up polluting waterways.

Microplastics are an emerging concern for water systems, but removing them from wastewater is a daunting prospect that will require serious innovation to become feasible

NYC's latest efforts could point to a new model for curbing contamination by blocking microplastics from entering the environment altogether.