



# Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

## Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

(360) 427-2413

772 E Chesapeake Dr.

Shelton, WA 98584

Email: [info@hpwsd.org](mailto:info@hpwsd.org)

Website: [hpwsd.org](http://hpwsd.org)

Operations Manager:

Jaron Sartori

[om@hpwsd.org](mailto:om@hpwsd.org)

Commissioners:

Carl Anderson

[canderson@hpwsd.org](mailto:canderson@hpwsd.org)

Stacy Swart

[sswart@hpwsd.org](mailto:sswart@hpwsd.org)

Stefan Birgh

[sbirgh@hpwsd.org](mailto:sbirgh@hpwsd.org)

## Pay Your Bill 24/7

Online: [hpwsd.org](http://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.

## Wastewater Treatment Equipment Upgrades

### Decant Float Replaced with Upgraded Unit

Wastewater Operators are passionate about quality treatment and constantly monitor processes to maintain high quality. They also look for ways to achieve even higher quality treatment. This includes routine cleaning/maintenance, keeping an eye out for anything out of the ordinary and replacing aging equipment.

In mid-August, the crew set aside two days to replace one of two *Decanter Floats* in one of the treatment basins (the other will be replaced at a later date). *Decanter Floats* are buoyant and ride upon the top of the wastewater level in the basin, so that treated wastewater from the top can be pumped out of the basin for further treatment; this leaves settled solubles at the bottom of the basin undisturbed.

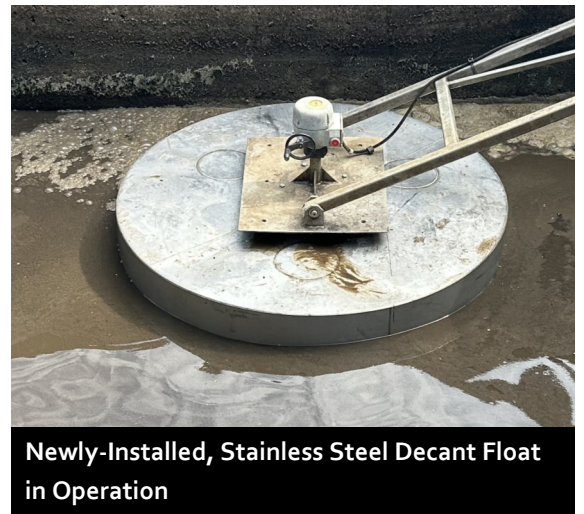
The old floats are made of fiberglass and are showing signs of deterioration. The new floats, procured at no cost through surplus, are made of stainless steel and will last for many years.

A small leak through one of the valves in the decant assembly was also discovered, which was replaced during the project. The leak allowed low amounts of accrued sediment through the piping and with this issue now fixed, treated wastewater will improve.

*Continued on Back Page >>>*



Old Decant Float Lifted Out of the Basin



Newly-Installed, Stainless Steel Decant Float in Operation

### Cyber Security Awareness

Utilities, such as Water & Sewer services, are critical to the health of the communities they serve. It is important for components of these systems to remain secure from cyber attacks. Several systems across the United States have reported instances of cyber attacks, but fortunately these attacks were detected and corrected quickly.

A cyber security audit was performed across the District's facilities in 2021 and recommended measures were followed. Operators are also trained to keep an eye out for anything out of the ordinary and take precautions to ensure systems remain secure.

## Droughts Can Alter Taste of Water

WA Dept. of Ecology declared a state of drought for the fourth consecutive year. This year, the drought extends to every county in the state.

Drought-related taste and odor changes in water are usually unpleasant rather than dangerous.

Droughts can cause properties of water in aquifers to change, with minerals and naturally occurring compounds becoming more concentrated. The District's drinking water is treated to remove minerals and compounds, such as manganese and iron. District operators perform routine laboratory tests to determine if any adjustments to treatment processes need to be made. Water is tested both before and after it is treated. For more complex testing (e.g. coliform, arsenic), samples are sent to an accredited laboratory. With frequent tests and treatment, droughts should not affect water quality at the Point and no reports of changes have been reported.

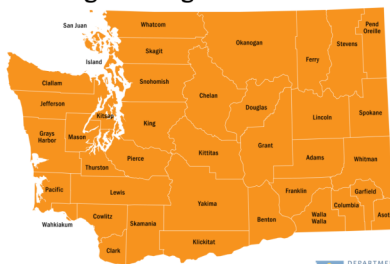
Chilling water can reduce the perception of tastes and odors, so drinking cold water helps. One way to improve the taste of household water is through water-filter pitchers.

The source of drinking water is often the most influential factor. More information on the sources and properties of drinking water at Hartstene Pointe is available in the annual Consumer Confidence Reports, available at [hpwsd.org](http://hpwsd.org) on the *Water Quality* page or at the District office.

*Adapted from a*

*Water Online article*

Washington Drought Declaration 2026



Drought Declaration

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
State of Washington



visit [www.nacwa.org/toilets](http://www.nacwa.org/toilets)

# TOILETS ARE NOT TRASHCANS™

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



## Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

**"Remember: Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are completely full to maximize water use!"**

## Continued from Cover

### New Effluent Flow Meter Installed, Vendor Calibrated

District operators installed a new *Effluent* flow meter. *Effluent* refers to wastewater that is fully treated and ready to be discharged. Effluent flows are part of the data submitted monthly to WA Dept. of Ecology, as required in the District's discharge permit. The installation involved cutting away a section of effluent piping, custom welding new support brackets and mounting the new meter. All work was completed in-house. The meter was later calibrated by the supplying vendor.

Due to the location of the preexisting effluent flow meter, accurate flow data was impossible to log, recording inflated values not correlating to actual effluent flows. With the new meter installed—and installed at a better location—operators will now be able to record truly accurate effluent flows to report to Ecology.



Newly Installed Effluent Flow Meter



### Grounds Improvement at Wastewater Treatment Plant

The seasonal worker continues improvement projects, including grounds improvements. He made significant grading adjustments at the wastewater plant, excavating grounds and laying crushed rock for added stability in high-use areas. Not only does this serve to add better accessibility to equipment and areas of the overall facility, but an added layer of safety is provided in key areas. *Bonus: the facility as a whole looks much tidier.*

District commissioners and staff are pleased with the completion of several valuable projects this summer.

