Newsletter

February 2024

Introducing Commissioner Position #1

The District's newly elected commissioner was sworn in at the commissioners' first 2024 board meeting. He brings valuable experience to the table.

Carl has been a licensed Civil Engineer in California for nearly 30 years, working on various types of infrastructure: freeways, bridges, buildings, storm drains, sewers, rest areas, culverts, storm damage & landslide repair, etc. Carl and his wife Teri have been married for 30 years and have two adult daughters. They both retired several years ago and then spent the next two years travelling around the country with their truck and travel trailer. While their travel trailer was in the shop for several months they stayed in Brinnon, fell in love with the area, and found their dream homesite at Hartstene Pointe. They are currently building their permanent residence at 474 Chesapeake Dr. Carl says he looks forward to serving as an HPWSD commissioner to help support the Hartstene Pointe community.

CIPP Lining as an Infrastructure Rehabilitator

A cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) is a trenchless rehabilitation method used to repair existing pipelines. It is a jointless, seamless pipe lining within an existing pipe. It is one of the most widely used rehabilitation methods.

The process of CIPP involves inserting and running a felt lining into a pre existing pipe that is the subject of repair. Resin within the liner is then exposed to a curing element to make it attach to the inner walls of the pipe. Once fully cured, the lining now acts as a new pipeline. As a trenchless technology, CIPP does not require excavation to rehabilitate a pipeline that is either leaking or structurally unsound.

In the case of sewer lines, lateral connections are also restored without excavation via a remote controlled device that drills a hole in the liner at the point of the lateral connection.

CIPP can effectively reduce infiltration and leaks in pipeline systems without digging.

Looking toward the upcoming Sewer Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project, CIPP will be widely used to repair the District's sewerage. This will solve the decades-long problem of Inflow & Infiltration (I&I) and alleviate excessive flows of I&I into the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

District staff are hoping to share more information about the upcoming project in the next couple of months. Please keep reading monthly newsletters to keep up-to-date.

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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

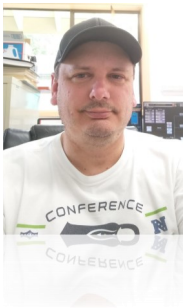
Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at 1:00 pm in the District Office, 119 E Liberty Rd. All meetings are open to the public.

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.

General Manager's Report

Comparing Water & Sewer Rates



Every so often, I hear people comment on our water/sewer rates, particularly about how high they believe they are. They compare ours to other places where they have lived. So I'd like to share some information to help with comparisons.

The problem with comparing rates is that it doesn't reflect the whole story. Every water system is different. In some places, the water that comes from the well is pristine, so it can be sent out to the system as is. Other places are required to chlorinate, so they have to purchase expensive chlorine and the equipment to inject it into the pipes before it goes to the system. Here at the Pointe, for instance, there is too much arsenic in the raw water. So, we actually have to have a Water Treatment Plant instead of just a well. To remove arsenic, we have to add chemicals, then run the water through a filtration system. As a result, we have to buy more chemicals than other systems, as well as operate more equipment, pay for the upkeep of this equipment and monitor it constantly. This requires operators to hold and maintain additional certifications, which in turn costs more money.

There is a nearby town with whom I've compared rates. Our sewer rate is now $90 per month, while theirs is $96. Our water is $99.90 for up to 500 cubic ft (3,740 gallons) and $5 for each additional 100 cubic ft. Theirs is $77.70 for up to 350 cubic ft, then goes up for each additional cubic foot. So, for 500 cubic ft of water, their bill would be $92.70, with a combined water/sewer of 188.70, as compared to our total of 189.90. The untold story is that they only need to chlorinate their water.

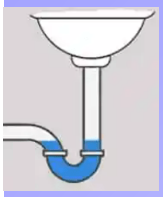
Lastly, when you break it down to cost per gallon (water only), our water currently costs less than 3 cents per gallon. Compare that to a gallon of milk, coffee, gasoline, propane, or even bottled water. Now imagine paying for 3700 gallons of one of those. Water is the cheapest and yet the most important of those.

— Jeff Palmer, General Manager

Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Wash full loads of dishes in efficient dishwashers. If you have to wash the dishes by hand, don't let water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water."

Is a Dry P-Trap Causing Odors



Plumbing traps or *"P-traps"* are critical components of plumbing systems. P-traps are installed underneath every plumbing fixture, such as sinks, tubs and toilets. When water enters the fixture's drain, the u -shaped p-trap traps and holds enough water to prevent sewer gases and odors from becoming airborne in the home.

A number of issues can cause water barriers in p-traps to dry up. A dry p-trap poses serious safety hazards and can cause health problems. If you notice strange sewer-like smells coming from a fixture in your home, it is critical to take action to remedy the issue.

The most common cause of a dry p-trap is that a fixture has not been used for an extended period of time, especially if it is in a warm, dry location. Simply flushing a toilet or pouring water down the seldom-used drain will restore the water barrier. Other causes can be addressed by a plumber.

Nanoplastics in Bottled Water

Bottled water is convenient and can be affordable, but did you know that a lot of the cheaper-end bottled water is unremarkable and in many cases, simply filtered tap water from the local drinking water provider? Water industry professionals are aware that a lot of water bottling plants have lower quality standards and lower laboratory testing requirements. Added to that, these bottling plants are rarely subjected to inspections. This is why industry professionals confidently drink tap water, even if they use a filter or other method to removing chlorine, for instance.

Scientists continue to research the negative effects of drinking bottled water. The study of effects from consuming *microplastics* in bottled water has been ongoing for several years. Now scientists are studying the negative effects *nanoplastics* have on the body. In a 2018 study, scientists discovered that an average single bottle of water contained 325 pieces of *microplastics*. A chemistry professor at Columbia University worries that whatever *microplastics* are doing to human health, *nanoplasics* are going to be more dangerous.

Learn more from the article originally published in the Washington Post →

https://coastalcare.org/2024/01/heres-what-youre-really-swallowing-when-you-drink-bottled-water-the-washington-post/