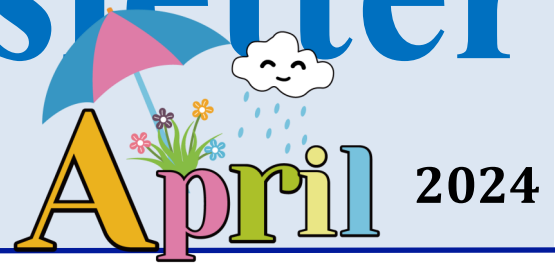




Dedicated to Service

Newsletter



Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

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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.

HPWSD Encourages You to Celebrate Drinking Water Week



HPWSD joins communities across North America in celebrating Drinking Water Week, an annual observance led by the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Taking place May 5-11 this year, Drinking Water Week serves to highlight the importance of safe drinking water and recognize the tireless efforts of water professionals who keep it flowing around the clock in our communities.

This year's celebration also coincides with a historic milestone—the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in the United States, a landmark law designed to safeguard the public by setting high drinking water quality standards. The SDWA provides a scientific framework to identify potential risks to drinking water and address them in partnership with states and water utilities. In addition to the SDWA, WA State Department of Health holds drinking water systems in the state to an even higher standard of water quality.

"Drinking Water Week is the perfect time to reflect on all that safe drinking water means in our lives," said AWWA CEO David LaFrance. "Safe, reliable drinking water is critical in many ways, including public health, economic prosperity and our high quality of life. With the Safe Drinking Water Act anniversary, we also celebrate the committed water system workers, the vigilant regulators, the researchers, the public health professionals, the environmental advocates, and everyone with a hand in fulfilling the high standards and spirit of the SDWA."

About Drinking Water Week

For several decades, AWWA and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week, a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together in recognizing the vital role water plays in daily lives. Free materials for download and additional information about Drinking Water Week are available on the Drinking Water Week at:

[>> https://www.awwa.org/Events-Education/Drinking-Water-Week](https://www.awwa.org/Events-Education/Drinking-Water-Week)



Special Meeting Announcement

The District will hold a special meeting with updates to the Wastewater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project focused on the *bluff* infrastructure. While all are welcome, this meeting is intended specifically for property owners with homes in the area between Portage & Bos'n.

Date/Time: Saturday, April 27, 2024 @ 10:00am **Place:** HPMA Clubhouse 202 E PDE

General Manager's Report

Stefan's Retirement



Last month, Stefan retired as the General Manager of HPMa. I wanted to take a moment to share my thoughts about it.

As some of you know, I used to work for Mason County. I started there in 2006 when they still operated the water and sewer systems at Hartstene Pointe. At that time, the GM for HPMa was Bob Rabourn. I rarely interacted with Bob myself, but he seemed like a nice guy. My observation was that he was effectively one of the maintenance crew. Then the District was formed and county operations ceased here in late 2008.

Several years later, I found myself again working out here as the wastewater operator. During that time, I was introduced to Stefan. I remember thinking that the GM role certainly had changed, but I didn't think it was going to affect me very much, as I would rarely interact with Stefan. Little did I know that three years later, I would become the GM for the Water-Sewer District, thus having much more of a working relationship with Stefan.

I'm very happy to say that it's been a great relationship. Naturally, we were GMs of two different organizations and each had our own agendas. Fortunately that never put us at odds with each other. He was always very easy to get along with and very knowledgeable, which made my job easier. So I have to say a very heartfelt thank you to him—I am very grateful for the time we had working together. I truly hope that I can have the same kind of working relationship with his replacement.

I'm sad to see him go, but happy for him and his family. I'm also happy that we'll still see him around, just hopefully not for a water/sewer related emergency at his house!



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Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"As we approach warmer weather, please water sparingly when gardening—consider repurposing used water instead of fresh. Also, note that most island vegetation is already drought tolerant!"

Water System Flushing



The crew will be performing quarterly flushing April 8-19. A reminder: please give the crew plenty of space so that they can safely perform this task.

You may experience a brief period of low water pressure when flushing is taking place near your property. Flushing is a common practice in a lot of older water distribution systems and helps clean the water main lines, so that we can deliver the best drinking water to your home.

If you notice any discolored water coming from your tap during this time, run water until it turns clear.

Thank you for Attending Meeting, Providing Feedback

Thank you to those who were able to participate in the District's latest meeting (an estimated 55 community residents) where the Wastewater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (WIRP) engineers provided project updates to the community. Following the conclusion of the meeting, District Staff & Commissioners received correspondence with questions and feedback from a number of residents, which are discussed at commissioner meetings.

Project slides from the meeting are available on the District's website on the WIRP page.



Ecology Visits Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Dept. of Ecology regulates wastewater systems in the state. This includes certifying operators, approving design plans (e.g. the upcoming sewer project) and the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Every month, District staff submit reports with data that includes daily and weekly laboratory tests of incoming sewer water and treated discharge to the Sound. Ecology reviews results to ensure the WWTP is in compliance with the District's discharge permit. While these are just numbers, periodically Ecology performs site visits, most recently this past January. Ecology published their report conveying satisfaction with our operations and noting they are pleased regarding the upcoming sewer project. The report is available on our website:

bpwsd.org/news/march-112024-ecology-report

