

# Newsletter 2022

## 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.

# Tacoma Museum of Glass to Create First of its Kind Five-Foot Plus Aerodynamic Glass Water Drop



September 27, 2022

On Saturday, October 8, 2022, seven of the top glass blowers will assemble at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington to create I AM WATER, a human-sized water drop made solely from glass. Scheduled in the museum's signature 90-foot cone Hot Shop Amphitheater, guests will be able to watch as the artists manipulate the non-toxic, natural material into a first-of-its-kind, five-foot plus glass sculpture that mimics the real aerodynamic shape of a water drop.

I AM WATER was conceived by water activist and designer Tanja Andrejasic Wechsler in a bold move to raise awareness of water by showcasing the purity of its form and heralds what could be the start

of the first big global water campaign that calls for the consideration and respect of water and its powerful life-giving force.

"Out of all environmental and social issues, the most important issue of our time is water," Ms. Wechsler recently stated. "This sculpture represents water speaking and asking to be clean so it can support life as it's meant to be, restore nature's original blueprint and for water to be for everybody."

Considering the devastating damages to water and the search for better solutions that protect our environment, this incredibly unique sculpture sets the stage for a new approach to the water crisis that uses public space and product design to educate the public, inspire a new mindset and practices, and build a better human relationship with water. As such, Ms. Wechsler invites industry leaders, and anyone interested in glass as an art form, as well as anyone invested in the environment to attend this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness the creation of this beautiful art piece and exquisite organic design from the start and to join the collective effort to protect and restore water.

Once created, I AM WATER will be exhibited nationally and internationally and will first be offered to the Museum of Glass as an exhibit as well as to the United Nations for display at The UN 2023 Water Conference taking place at UN Headquarters in New York, 22-24 March 2023.

Source: Water & Wastes Digest, wwdmag.com

Budget Meeting announcements will be posted on the District's website this month

# **Conservation VS Flushing**



Recently, we encountered a problem with one of our wells and as a result, asked everyone to conserve water. But hadn't we just been flushing our hydrants, thus wasting water while asking all of you to conserve?

First, why do we flush water from the fire hydrants? We are actually using the hy-

drants to flush the drinking water distribution system. This is necessary, because over time, loose sediment and mineral deposits can slowly build up inside the water mains, resulting in discolored water and reduced capacity. Flushing creates high velocity and large volumes of water flow through the pipes. We do this approximately every 3 months. Call it a necessary evil, but in no way are we "wasting" water; rather, we are trying to keep it clean for you.

Before flushing, we take into account current conditions: How many people are at the Pointe (thus how much water is being used)? What is the level of water in the reservoir? Are we in a conservation situation? The last time we flushed was originally scheduled to take place in August. However, due to the higher summer population, we expected more people would be using water and did not want to "compete" for it. So, we waited until after Labor Day, when there would be fewer people here.

When we asked everyone to conserve water, it was unexpected. However, we had finished our quarterly flushing the week before, so we did not do any flushing during that period. The two events did not coincide.

Please know that we do not like to see treated water wasted, whether it's a resident or ourselves. Sometimes, there are leaks that appear. These are also water wasters and we try to fix them as soon as we can. When addressing leaks, we must first call in locate services (811), as part of the "Call Before You Dig" law. It can take up to two business days for locate services to mark underground utilities. If a leak is not repairable considering District resources, we need to hire a contractor. As many of you may be aware, it can be difficult to find an available one in recent years. These delays can result in greater water loss or potential service disruption.

If you ever have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call or email us.

—Jeff Palmer, General Manager

# **What to Know About Chlorine**

Chlorination is the most common method of drinking water disinfection. Not only is chlorine effective, it continues to help keep drinking water safe from the treatment facilities all the way to your tap. Find out more about water chlorination from the CDC:

### WHAT IS CHLORINATION?

Chlorination is the process of adding chlorine to drinking water to kill parasites, bacteria, and viruses. Different processes can be used to achieve safe levels of chlorine in drinking water. Using or drinking water with small amounts of chlorine does not cause harmful health effects and provides protection against waterborne disease outbreaks.

ARE THERE HEALTH ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH CHLORINE? Your water company monitors water quality regularly to provide you with safe drinking water. Some people are more sensitive than others to chemicals and changes in their environment. Individuals who have health concerns should seek medical advice from their healthcare provider before contacting their local health department.

WHAT ARE SAFE LEVELS OF CHLORINE IN DRINKING WATER? Chlorine levels up to 4 milligrams per liter (mg/L or 4 parts per million (ppm)) are considered safe in drinking water. At this level, harmful health effects are unlikely to occur. (HPWSD's is consistently well below 1 mg/L)

WILL CHLORINE AFFECT MY WATER'S TASTE OR SMELL? Chlorinated water can taste and smell different than untreated water. Some people like the taste and smell of chlorinated water, and others do not. Taste and smell problems may arise depending upon the water quality and amount of chlorine in the water.

### WILL CHLORINE AFFECT MY PETS?

Chlorine and chloramine are toxic to fish, other aquatic animals, reptiles, and amphibians. Unlike humans and other household pets, these types of animals absorb water directly into the bloodstream. Don't keep these animals in water that contains these disinfectants. Chlorine can be removed from water by letting it sit out for a few days or by buying a product at your local pet store that removes the chlorine. Ask your local pet store about methods of removing disinfectants from water for these pets. The small amount of chlorine added to water will not affect other pets (such as mammals and birds) and can be used regularly for watering and bathing animals.