



Newsletter

JANUARY 2025

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

Commissioner1@hpwsd.org

Stefan Birgh

Commissioner2@hpwsd.org

Stacy Swart

Commissioner3@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.

Keep Your Water Meter Visible, Accessible to District

Did you know it is the homeowner's responsibility to make sure the water meter is easily accessible to District staff at all times? There are a variety of reasons staff may need access to your water meter and, at times, making arrangements ahead of time with the homeowner is unfeasible. The Water System Policy & Regulations state, "Each meter box shall be kept clear and visible to provide easy access to District designated representatives. Any person not keeping the service valve clear will be charged an hourly labor fee if District designated representatives are required to clear away any debris, dirt, landscaping, fence, etc. to reach the valve. The hourly rate will equal 200% of the current hourly water operator/manager pay scale."



Reach out to the District office if you have questions about meter box accessibility.

Drinking Water & Wastewater Laboratory Testing

As a public water and wastewater system, operators are routinely required to send in samples taken from both the Drinking Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment facilities to an accredited laboratory for testing.

For drinking water, a schedule is set by the WA State Department of Health that operators must follow; for wastewater, the schedule is set by the WA State Department of Ecology. Drinking water is tested for the presence of pollutants and contaminants to ensure it is safe for the public. Various tests of wastewater ensure discharge is safe for Puget Sound as authorized in the permit. Operators send these samples for testing twice a week throughout the year, adding up to over 500 samples in a year! Every month, results are compiled and reports sent to the appropriate agency. If deadlines or samples are missed, it could cause a violation of the operating permit and can result in fines.



As is the case with many vendors, prices for laboratory testing services can vary among laboratory facilities. With over 500 samples per year, those price differences add up quickly. Please be aware that District operators are not only diligent about collecting and reporting required samples, they also try to keep costs down on these expenses as well.

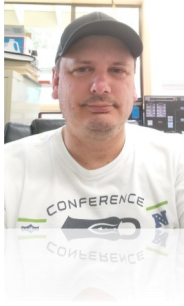
The District Recognizes Jim Anderson's Service



District commissioners & staff met in December to recognize Jim Anderson's service to the community as a commissioner and presented a plaque to him in his honor. Jim became a commissioner in March 2020 and served for four years as the Board President. During his term, the commissioners hired a new general manager, navigated the challenges of operating safely through pandemic conditions and worked with an engineering firm in the planning phase for the upcoming Wastewater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (WIRP). The District thanks Jim for his contributions to the team and continued moral support.

General Manager's Report

Contractor to be Awarded, Wastewater Project in 2025



As a contractor's bid will soon be awarded, 2025 is going to be a busy year with our upcoming Wastewater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (WIRP)—also known as “The Big Sewer Project.” So I want to make sure everyone is aware of work that will be taking place around the Pointe.

For those that live along the bluff on Pointes Drive East (PDE), from Portage to Bos'n, there will be work taking place on your lots and in the common areas in between lots, to connect the sewer line from your home to newly installed grinder pumps; there will be a new sewer pump station built in the common area off of the SE corner of PDE and Portage; there will be camera work performed in all sewer lines throughout the Pointe; any homes that currently do not have a sewer clean-out will have one installed; the majority of sewer lines will be lined using cured-in-place pipe (CIPP); and there will be areas where sewer mains will be replaced, where the road will be dug up. All of this means there will be extra trucks and heavy machinery; sometimes, roads and driveways will be temporarily blocked off. I understand that this will be an inconvenience at times, so we will try to provide as much advance notice as possible for affected areas.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.
—Jeff Palmer, General Manager



visit 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:

“Designate one glass for your drinking water each day, or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.”

Think you know a lot about treatment plants? Let's see how much of a water treatment expert you really are again here and in the next newsletter! (see bottom of page for answer)

What percentage of the Earth's water is freshwater?

- a) 50% b) 10% c) Less than 3%

Fluoride Treatment

For the last couple of months, there has been an increase in news stories about fluoride in drinking water. It's been stirring up some concerns, both for and against its use. While the District treats raw water from its wells, fluoride is **not** added to the drinking water.

Fluoride can be naturally present in soil and because of this, it is one of the samples operators are required to test for periodically. Following the schedule set by the WA State Department of Health, one of the District's wells was last tested in 2016 and the other in 2021. The maximum level the EPA has deemed safe is 4 parts per million (ppm) and both well samples had a result of 0.2 ppm, which is the lowest limit that must be reported.

Both wells are due to be tested for fluoride again in 2025. These results, along with all our other sample results, are reported every year in the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This report will be published and notice sent early in summer 2025.

2025 Water & Sewer Rates

The Board of Commissioners approved the fee schedule for 2025. As of January, base rates for residential water and sewer services will be as follows:

Water:	99.90
Sewer:	98.90
Total Monthly:	198.80

The increase will allow the District to meet its financial obligations in 2025, accounting for inflation, looking ahead at needed capital improvement projects and increased operational costs. Loan repayment for the Wastewater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (WIRP) begins in 2025. WIRP loan payment will increase substantially in 2026 and the monthly sewer rates per household may need to increase by an additional \$94.

Most other charges and fees remain unchanged.

Quiz Answer: (c) Less than 3%! In developed parts of the world, safe drinking water is so readily available on-demand from a tap, many people do not view freshwater as a finite resource. We must each do our part to treat freshwater as a precious resource and conserve as much as possible.