



Newsletter

AUGUST 2026

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.

District Staff Install New Water Main Street Valves

Water main street valves were installed by District staff in strategic locations throughout the drinking water system infrastructure during July. This was a planned capital improvement project for 2026. The more street valves there are in the infrastructure, the greater the benefit to both the District and residents. Street valves enable operators to isolate segments of water mains in scenarios when water must be shut off. With more installed, operators are able to isolate **smaller** segments, thus affecting fewer residences when work on mains needs to be performed.

Added street valves are also helpful when performing system flushing (see reverse for information on system flushing).



Sewer Project Update

Sewer lining work is now complete and contractors are in the demobilization phase, removing equipment and cleaning up work sites. This wraps up the majority of project work. Representatives from WA Department of Ecology visited the Pointe to inspect improvements, including the new lift station, grinder pumps and trail restoration. From the outset of the project, Ecology recognized the tremendous need for this project and provided both grant and low-interest loan capital.

District commissioners and Ecology are planning needed rehabilitation of the existing Lift Stations, which have deteriorated due to age. More information will be provided in a future newsletter as plans develop.

Jaron Recognized by *WaterWorld*

Recently, the District's Operations Manager, Jaron, was recognized in the May/June 2026 edition of *WaterWorld*, a periodical that serves the water & wastewater municipal industries. The article, "Emerging Leaders," highlighted up-and-coming leaders in the industry across the country.

Jaron has certainly proven to be an emerging leader. He began working at the District in the summer of 2022 in an apprenticeship program in collaboration with Evergreen Rural Water of WA (ERWoW). ERWoW is the only organization accredited to offer apprenticeship trainings that are designed to help determined, aspiring participants attain certifications earlier than those following the conventional path.

Since Jaron began, he worked hard both in the field and in the classroom. He has earned certifications as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (WWIPO), Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) and Water Distribution Manager (WDM), each at level two (out of four). These are valuable certifications in the water and wastewater industries. He is also a Cross Connection Control Specialist (CCS) and recently earned his Backflow Assembly Tester certification.

Now that Jaron is filling the role of Operations Manager, he's demonstrated skill in managing day-to-day operations and project management. This summer, he has led multiple major projects, including reservoir preventative maintenance, wastewater treatment plant improvements, street valve installations and clearing/organizing across facilities.

WASTEWATER DIGEST

Jaron Sartori, 21 years old, Lead Operator at Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District, Shelton, WA

Jaron Sartori's rapid rise in the wastewater industry reflects both exceptional work ethic and a deep commitment to mastering his craft. Joining Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District straight out of high school, he quickly distinguished himself through Washington's Rural Water apprenticeship program and an impressive list of certifications earned in just a few years. Now serving as Lead Operator, Jaron brings hands-on expertise across both water and wastewater systems, along with a level of ownership that sets him apart. His willingness to learn, take initiative, and support system operations has earned the respect of colleagues and contractors alike. Jaron represents a new generation of operators who combine technical skill with pride in public service, positioning him as a future leader in utility management.



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Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Consider installing water tanks to collect roof runoff for garden or household use, reducing reliance on treated water."

Benefits of Water System Flushing

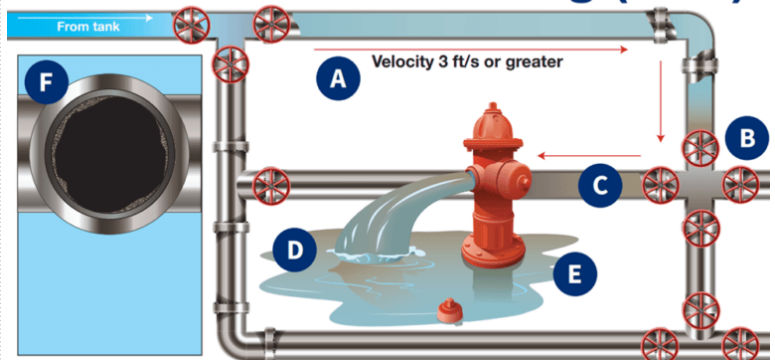
Routine directional water system flushing (also called unidirectional flushing) was completed by staff in July. Flushing is an industry-best practice that helps maintain water quality. This preventative maintenance process cleans water distribution mains by removing sediments that build up over time.



Crews close street valves in a specific order and flush water out of hydrants, which directs high flow in a single, controlled direction. The high velocity flushes out accrued sediments.

Flushing work begins at the District's reservoir and progresses strategically to the north end of the Pointe. This process is scheduled to be done three times per year. Previously, this work was performed four times per year, but following improvements to water treatment, the frequency was lowered to three. The next planned system flushing will be scheduled in November.

Unidirectional Flushing (UDF)



Flushing Internal Household Plumbing

Homeowners can flush their own internal plumbing and there are times when it needs to be done, particularly following a water outage or when water has not been used for an extended length of time. Flush your plumbing by running water until you feel a temperature change. The goal is to have cold, fresh water from the main in the street come out of your tap before drinking water.

Faucet aerator screens should be cleaned at least twice a year as well, since sediments can accumulate in these screens over time. As a habit, when flushing your plumbing, make a point to save flushed water for other purposes, rather than wasting it down the drain. Flushed water can be useful for watering plants or cleaning.

