



Hartstene Pointe Water – Sewer District

Water–Sewer Update

January/February 2013

Commissioners

Mary Alice Cary

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Roger Ray

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Nancy Nelson

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General Manager/Water Manager,
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Waste Water Operator,
George Campbell

District Office

772 Chesapeake Dr.
Shelton, WA 98584
(360) 427-2413
info@hpwatersewer.com
www.hpwatersewer.com

Customer Service

Account information

7:30 am-4:30 pm
(360) 876-2545,
customer_service@wsud.us

24 Hour Emergency (360) 876-2545

Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 1 PM in the District Office. 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 HPWSD.

Hartstene Pointe Water Sewer District is an equal opportunity service provider

Thanks to recent improvements to our system we are now experiencing increased water pressure. Be advised that with this increased pressure there is a greater potential for old, weak, or damaged plumbing in your home to experience leaks.

2013 Budget Passed

At the their November 8 regular meeting, the District Commissioners adopted the 2013 Operating Budget. There is no rate increase. A full copy of the budget is available at the district's website, www.hpwatersewer.com.



In September a cross connection control program policy, survey, and refrigerator magnet with important contact information was delivered to your home. If you have not already, please take a moment and do your part to protect our water supply by completing and returning the return postage paid survey card.

Should You Flush That?

There are many products on store shelves that bear the word “flushable,” but that does not necessarily mean they are safe for your sewer and wastewater treatment system.

Only human waste and toilet paper should ever be flushed into the system. Putting any other materials into the toilet can cause damage or upsets in the wastewater system, create plugged sewer lines forcing sewage to backup into homes, and can even cause unintended discharges of untreated or partially treated wastewater into the environment (think Puget Sound).

Here are some things to keep out of the toilet, even if they are supposedly “flushable”:

- disposable diapers
- feminine hygiene products
- cotton balls and swabs
- cleaning wipes of any kind
- facial tissue
- bandages and bandage wrappings
- automotive fluids
- paint, solvents, sealants and thinners
- poisons and hazardous waste
- unused medications
- fats, oils, and grease

Reminder: the District Office does not have set office hours, but we will return your call within 24 hours, so please leave a message. If you experience a problem with your water or sewer service call our 24 Hour Emergency Number (360) 876-2545

Winterize Your Plumbing to Avoid Damage

If you will be away from your home for an extended period of time this winter, some precautions should be taken to avoid coming home to a disaster. Failing to winterize the pipes in your home can lead to extensive damage, and worst of all, you won't be around when it happens. Here are some tips to avoid coming home to a scene like this:



Note: Some online articles may suggest leaving a faucet in your home turned on, maintaining water flow through the pipes to keep them from freezing. We ask that you do not follow this advice as it may not be enough to avoid property damage and is an unnecessary waste of water.

Maintaining heat in your home may make it unnecessary to drain water pipes while also preventing the cracking of paint and plaster and damage to wood furniture which can occur as a result of thermal expansion and contraction. Maintaining the heat at 40 degrees F should protect your home from temperature damage at a reasonable energy cost. However, if your home is not well winterized or water and sewer lines are far from the thermostat, a higher thermostat setting may be needed to maintain the necessary temperature. Of course, extended

power outages are not uncommon in our area and draining water lines is a good idea as an added line of defense.

The first step is to locate and turn off the main water source at the water meter box. If you have any trouble locating or turning off the main water valve, contact the district office at 427-2413 for assistance.

Open all the water faucets and valves inside your home to let the water drain from the pipes. When the water completely drains, turn off the main shut-off valve inside your home if applicable, but leave the faucets open and the meter turned off.

Wrap all exterior pipes as well as pipes in unheated areas of your vacation home with polyurethane or fiberglass pipe insulation.

Disconnect and drain your washing machine hoses, ice maker waterline and dishwasher's supply and drain lines. Turn off the water heater and drain the water from the tank. Drain the water from spray attachments at your sinks and from the handheld shower head hoses.

Flush your toilets and remove any excess water from the tanks and bowls with an old towel. Pour one cup of antifreeze into the toilet bowls and an additional cup down the overflow tube in the toilet tanks.

While these suggestions may seem extreme given our usually temperate climate, there is always the danger of an unexpected deep freeze which has the potential to cause thousands of dollars in damage and a great big headache. Taking these steps can give you peace of mind and help avoid unwelcome surprises.

Accounting and Administrative Services Change

The District contracts for services with Jeffreys Management Services, LLC (JMS), including Accounting and Administrative Services (AAS). The AAS duties have been performed by Terri Jeffreys, a principal in JMS. Terri has proved to be extremely valuable to the District working with the Commissioners to develop and refine administrative procedures as well as conducting accounting services.

In November, Terri was elected Mason County Commissioner. Her duties to the County will not allow her to continue providing services to the District. The District Commissioners will miss her presence and wish her success in meeting the challenges of her new, elected position.

JMS has sub-contracted with Miceal Carnahan to fulfill the AAS contract. Miceal has seven years of accounting, bookkeeping, and administrative experience, primarily in the private sector. The public sector follows different rules in several areas, and Miceal is quickly learning the methods and procedures required by state statutes and regulations.

The District Commissioners expect that this contractor change will go unnoticed with the level of service remaining constant.

Roger Ray, Commissioner