



# Hartstene Pointe Water – Sewer District

## Newsletter

November/December 2013

### Commissioners

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### District Office

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General Manager/Water Manager,

Mont Jeffreys

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### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Wastewater Treatment System Regulations and Requirements

In the last newsletter we took a look at the regulation of the District's water system. This issue, we will have a glimpse into requirements the District must meet in the operation of the wastewater treatment system.

The Department of Ecology (DOE) is charged with regulating sewer and wastewater treatment systems in the state of Washington. The DOE provides the District with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit which spells out requirements specific to the District for its system's operations, monitoring, reporting, and discharge limits. The District's permit requires:

- An operator certified for a Class II plant by the state of Washington to be in charge of the day-to-day operation of the wastewater treatment plant;
- An adequate operation and maintenance program for the entire sewage system, keeping maintenance records on all major components of the treatment plant, sewage system, and pumping stations;
- Strict enforcement of sewer ordinances, not allowing the connection of inflow (roof drains, foundation drains, etc.) to the sanitary sewer system;
- Regular monitoring of wastewater influent (coming into the treatment plant) and wastewater effluent (leaving the treatment plant, going into Case Inlet) for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BODs), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Total Residual Chlorine, Total Ammonia, Nitrates, and pH levels;
- All monitoring data shall be prepared by a registered or accredited laboratory;
- And submittal of monitoring results each month to the DOE on a Discharge Monitoring Report.

The NPDES permit also sets system limits, including:

- Influent limits for average flows, peak flows, BODs loading, and TSS loading;
- Effluent limits for BODs, TSS, Coliform, Chlorine, and pH.

Additionally, the wastewater treatment system must achieve 85% removal of influent TSS and BODs. Due to the system's ongoing issues with Inflow and Infiltration, this is a challenge for the District. Currently, large amounts of storm and surface water enters the system from unknown sources, resulting in an inflow of water into the plant that is too clean to allow for 85% removal of solids. Despite the District's issues achieving 85% removal, the effluent is still well below the 30 mg/L TSS and BOD allowed by the permit, resulting in only clean water going out into Case Inlet. The District's investigation of the inflow issue is ongoing. Subscribers can help by reporting any storm water or surface water suspected of draining into the sewer system.

For the full version of the District's NPDES permit and more information about the District's wastewater treatment system requirements, please visit [www.hpwatersewer.com](http://www.hpwatersewer.com).

## 2014 Budget Hearing & Water Conservation Public Forum

The District will host a public hearing to receive comments in regard to the proposed 2014 budget. The hearing will double as a Water Conservation Public Forum through which customers can learn about using water efficiently as well as help set water use efficiency goals for the District, as mandated by the Department of Health. The hearing will be held November 9, 2013 at 10:00 am at the HPMA Clubhouse, 202 E Pointes Dr. E.

### Budget at a Glance:

Operating Revenue	\$508,650.00
Nonoperating Revenue/Debt Proceeds	530,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,038,650.00</b>
Operating Expenditures	
Commissioner Comp./Payroll Taxes	13,253.76
Supplies	27,700.00
Services and Other Charges	334,375.00
Taxes and Other Intergovernmental Charges	35,365.00
<i>Total Operating Expenditures</i>	<i>410,693.76</i>
Nonoperating Expenditures	
Debt Service - Principal	54,583.00
Debt Service - Interest	22,860.00
Capital Outlay	866,000.00
<i>Total Nonoperating Expenditures</i>	<i>943,443.00</i>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,354,136.76</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(315,486.76)</b>
Plus 2013 Cash Balance Carry Over:	\$385,018.84
Minus 2014 Reserve Transfers:	(22,167.00)
<b>Net 2014 Ending Cash Balance:</b>	<b>\$47,365.08</b>

For the full version of the proposed 2014 budget, please visit [www.hpwatersewer.com](http://www.hpwatersewer.com).

## Outfall Settlement

The District has reached a settlement agreement in its case against Richard Phillips Marine, Inc. et al, bringing the almost two years of litigation, and five years of headache, to a close.

When the water and sewer systems were managed by Mason County, the County contracted the defendants to design and install a wastewater effluent outfall line into Puget Sound. In December 2008, less than one year after the project was completed, the outfall line floated to the surface. Through subsequent investigations, concerns were raised about the placement and condition of the line.

Following these discoveries, the District filed the complaint in October of 2011, seeking damages for breach of contract, breach of duties, and negligence. The settlement reached by the parties includes payment to the District in the amount of \$107,500 and further repairs to be completed on the outfall line.

The District has received the settlement payments from the defendants, and the repair work on the outfall line will soon commence, at the expense of the defendants. The District plans to use the settlement monies to help fund the installation of the new headworks screen at the wastewater treatment plant.

## District Audit

A junior auditor from the State Auditor's Office recently spent a considerable amount of time at the District Office completing an accountability audit for the fiscal years 2011 and 2012, a financial statement audit for the fiscal year 2012, and a federal grant compliance audit for the fiscal year 2012.

The financial statement and federal grant compliance audits resulted in three findings. Commissioner Cary and the District managers met with the audit team to go over the findings and the auditor's recommendations to the District for increased internal controls in regards to federal award contract management and financial statement preparation and reporting. The audit report is available on the State Auditor's website, [www.sao.wa.gov](http://www.sao.wa.gov), and on the District's website, [www.hpwatersewer.com](http://www.hpwatersewer.com).

The accountability audit has recently been completed with no findings. The audit report should be published within two weeks on the State Auditor's website. The District will also post the report on its own website once it becomes available.

**Reminder: The District Office does not maintain regular office hours, but voicemails will be returned within 24 hours. Call our 24 Hour Emergency Number, (360) 876-2545, if you experience problems with your service.**