



Newsletter

September/August 2014

Commissioners

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District Office

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General Manager/Water Manager,

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Waste Water Operator,

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Customer Service

Account information

7:30 am - 4:00 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 provider and employer.

New Headworks Screens Installed



Old headworks screens



New headworks screens

In August the District completed its wastewater treatment plant headworks screen replacement project. This upgrade was required in order to comply with new requirements set by the State Department of Ecology.

After wastewater is collected via the sewer system, the raw wastewater enters the treatment plant headworks, where screens trap large solids before the wastewater enters the settling basins. The new regulations required a smaller screen size of 3/8 inch. This smaller screen size prevents flushed refuse from entering the treatment basins, and eventually, the Puget Sound.

The District installed a self-cleaning mechanical screen in the primary channel of the headworks and a manually-cleaned screen in the secondary channel. The self-cleaning screen will reduce maintenance and operating costs by limiting the number of labor hours required to maintain the screens. The self-cleaning screen will also prevent spills by maintaining at least one free-flowing channel during times of high influent flows.

Additionally, the new screens keep materials that do not readily break down, such as plastics, paper towels, wipes, hair, personal hygiene products, and other garbage, out of the wastewater treatment plant. These materials damage, clog, and shorten the lifespan of pumps and other equipment within the plant. The new screens will lower maintenance and repair costs and extend the life of many costly pieces of equipment.

The project, spanning over three years, came to a total price tag of \$240,000, including almost \$80,000 in engineering costs.



The old, larger screens allowed large quantities of refuse to enter the plant.



The new, smaller screens keep the plant free of garbage.

Please Don't Flush Garbage

Disposing of trash down drains and toilets not only increases maintenance and repair costs for the District, it can also lead to sewer overflows and back-ups that can cause harm to human health and our local environment. Here are some helpful hints to keep you out of a stinky situation.

In the kitchen, scrape grease and food scraps into the trash, not into the drain. In the bathroom, think trash, not toilets. Facial tissues, wipes, feminine products, hair, and other garbage do not belong in the drain or toilet. Even products that claim to be "flushable" can clog sewer lines and damage pumps and other equipment. "When it comes to toilets, think it through. Only flush your pee or poo."



Please take some time to educate your household, guests, and renters on what should and should not go into your pipes. Its your home, your community, and your earth.

WET Science Center

Have you visited LOTT's WET (Water Education and Technology) Science Center yet? It opened in 2010 to provide the community with a fun, hands-on opportunity for learning all about water – one of our most precious resources.

The WET Science Center, located in LOTT's Regional Services Center, at 500 Adams Street NE in downtown Olympia, is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm, and admission is free. They have interactive exhibits, weekend family activities, and environmental presentations.

A member of the District's personnel recently visited with her children and they all had a great time! There is something for young and not-so-young alike, so plan a visit soon!



Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly, and food scraps clog pipes and sewers. Add food wastes to your compost pile instead of using the garbage disposal."

Watch for more of Drippy's tips in future newsletters and on the District website, hpwatersewer.com.

Turning Off Water for the Winter

If you will be away from your home this winter, it is a good idea to turn off the main water source to your home and drain water from the pipes to avoid a disaster caused by frozen or burst pipes. 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.

If you have any trouble locating or turning off the main water valve, contact the district office at 427-2413 for assistance.

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 wastes hundreds of thousands of gallons of water, taxing our water system.

Task Force Member Change

At the July 24th regular meeting of the District commissioners, Jim Anderson informed the commissioners that he would be unable to continue to serve on the Rate Study Task Force due to time constraints. Roy Ferguson volunteered to fill the vacancy, and the commissioners appointed Mr. Ferguson to the task force at the August 14th meeting.

The Board of Commissioners has asked the task force to make its recommendations no later than September 25th for consideration during the 2015 budget preparation.

2015 Budget Special Meetings

Summer is not quite over, but the District is already gearing up for 2015 with the preparation of next year's annual budget. Here is the schedule of budget prep special meetings:

- Date/Time:* October 30, 2014 at 10:00 am
Location: District Office
Purpose: Discuss and refine preliminary budget
- Date/Time:* November 6, 2014 at 10:00 am
Location: District Office
Purpose: Prepare for budget hearing
- Date/Time:* November 8, 2014 at 10:00 am
Location: HPMA Clubhouse, 202 E Pointes Dr East
Purpose: **2015 Budget Hearing** to present the proposed 2015 budget and receive questions/comments from the public
- Date/Time:* November 10, 2014 at 1:00 pm
Location: District Office
Purpose: Review and respond to questions/comments received at the budget hearing

As always, all District meetings are open to the public.

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.