



Newsletter

July/August 2019

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. 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.

HP Water-Sewer & PUD 3 Joint Fiber Project

For years, the Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District has been working hard to improve its service to Hartstene Pointe. That's why we are happy to announce that we are partnering with PUD 3 to help bring more reliable internet to the south end of the community. This will ensure that our systems remain reliably connected.

The Mason PUD 3 Telecommunications Department received many requests for fiber-to-the-home service from residents of Hartstene Pointe. This project sets a solid foundation to establish the PUD's fiber-optic network presence within the community.

As part of the project, the Water-Sewer District is paying for a line extension to bring fiber optic cables through conduit that PUD 3 installed several years ago.

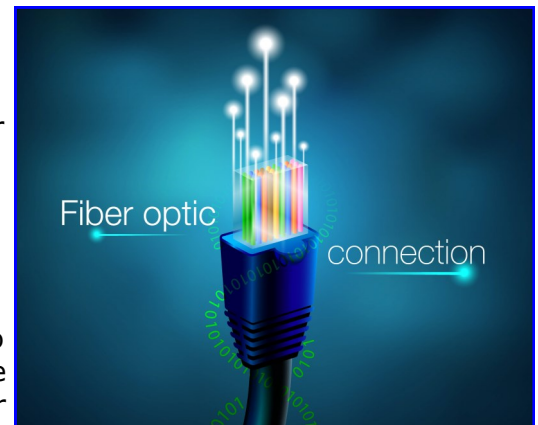
PUD 3 will install an upgraded distribution hub near the clubhouse. This equipment will have enough capacity to connect homes in the community to the network, once they have access to fiber conduit.

For now, homes along Nantucket Road, Cutty Sark, Barnacle Boulevard, Liberty Road, and the Clubhouse will have access to high-speed fiber optic broadband.

Once the Water-Sewer connections are complete, eligible customers will get a PUD 3 mailer, including an application to connect the fiber to their homes.

Our hope is that in the future, when performing water/sewer pipe replacement projects and have open trenches, that we will be able to work with PUD 3 to install power, fiber conduit and vaults. As the continuous path of fiber conduit reaches more homes, PUD 3 will be able to connect them to the fiber network.

Please stay tuned for updates and announcements as we move forward with this very exciting project.



Commissioners Welcome Carl Swenson

The Board of Commissioners will miss Robert Scarola, who served as president and presided over his last meeting on June 20th. The district is excited to welcome Carl Swenson, who was voted to fill the seat for the remainder of the term. Mr. Swenson has over 35 years experience in public service as a City Manager and Deputy Manager of Peoria, AZ, Bellevue and Oak Park, IL. The District is thankful to him for his willingness to serve.



Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Did you know that one sprinkler can use up to 1,000 gallons of water per hour!! Try watering by hand whenever possible and help conserve our most precious resource."

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

General Manager's Report

Wow—Summer has officially arrived and the 2019 year is half way over already! Time truly does fly by!



As we transition into the dryer and warmer months of the year, I'd like to leave you with a few important pieces of information.

The first piece of information is that we had hoped to have our lead well (Well 4) fully approved by the Department of Health (DOH) by this time. However, our Regional Engineer has requested that we perform some additional testing before DOH will sign off on the official approval notice.

What does this mean for the community? It means that while we do still have one approved and fully operational well (Well 2), we will once again need to ask you all to help us conserve water throughout the Summer. Please hand water your plants as much as possible and avoid leaving sprinklers on for more than 10 minutes per day. Also, please DO NOT water the green belt. I know that fire danger is a real concern here in the Northwest, however HPMA has been working tirelessly to help mitigate this danger through proper forest management.

The second piece of information is that we have some minor construction projects that will be taking place throughout the summer months. One of those projects includes the installation of backup generators at two of our four lift stations. The timely completion of this work will ensure that our infrastructure is more adequately hardened against prolonged power outages.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns that you'd like to discuss with me, please don't hesitate to call or email. Additional updates can be found on our website as well as at our regular board meetings.

Thank you for partnering with your local Water-Sewer District and have a great Summer!

- David Carnahan, General Manager

Commissioner's Corner

The end of winter is bringing great changes here at the Pointe. All of us welcome the change to warmer and dryer weather. However, as new construction and ownership turnover continue at a rapid pace, the demand for freshwater at the Pointe is increasing rapidly. These changes are happening along with big changes in our overall weather patterns. Climate scientists are in general agreement that our climate change in Washington is resulting in less winter snowfall and warmer, wetter summers. Meanwhile, large sections of the center of the Island are being denuded of timber. Heavier summer rainfall and bare soil means more of this rain is more likely to run off rather than being slowly absorbed to refresh groundwater resources.



Despite our brief snowstorm earlier this year, the winter snowpack in Washington's mountain ranges are below average. The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service reports that the 2019 winter snowpack is as follows:

- South Puget Sound 96% of average
- Central Puget Sound 80% of average
- North Puget Sound 85% of average
- Olympics 90% of average

These changes are important to us at the Pointe because all of our freshwater is drawn from aquifers said to be fed mostly by snowmelt in these four areas, with the remainder accruing from rainfall on the Island. Clearly, we must make better use of what water we have. Our Well 1 no longer contributes to our supplies. Well 2 is rapidly declining in production. Well 3 will require a significant investment to utilize it as a source; as it now stands, we do not use any water from this source. This means we must depend primarily on water from Well 4 until we can rehabilitate Well 2 and make the investment needed to bring Well 3 up to standards. Until then, your water and wastewater service is encouraging you to conserve as much water as you can this summer.

The District is researching ways to further increase conservation with the least possible disruption to owners' enjoyment of all the Pointe's benefits. Most water districts like ours have converted to consumption-based rating schedules as an incentive for conservation, with a limited fixed base rate for owners who use their properties only periodically. Experience elsewhere has shown that fixed rates for fresh water provide little or no incentive for conservation. As we continue to provide all Pointe property owners and guests with clean, safe freshwater and thoroughly treated and sanitized wastewater, we encourage you to practice water conservation, thereby assuring there will always be plenty of clean, pure freshwater available for everyone this summer and all future summers. And thanks for the opportunity the last four years you've given me to serve as commissioner.

-David E. McNabb, HPWSD Audit Commissioner