



Newsletter

September/October 2019

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

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Pay Your Bill 24/7

Online: hpwatersewer.com

By Phone: 360-427-2413

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.

Well #4 Pilot Study Complete

As we wrap up summer and head into fall, we are excited to announce the completion of a successful pilot study at Well #4. Our regional engineer at Department of Health (DOH) requested that we perform this study in order to demonstrate removal of arsenic from the well water. We are pleased with the results! After three weeks of testing, treated water arsenic levels are consistently below the MCL

(Maximum Contaminant Level) and we expect DOH to sign off and approve Well #4 to be used for regular operations. Here are some of the benefits:

- Well #4 is capable of producing 100 gallons of water per minute, which is adequate to supply the entire pointe community
- Well #4 is expected to be a reliable source of water for years to come
- With Well #4 online, we can take Well #2 offline to perform maintenance and focus on other projects in our Capital Improvement Plan



We hope to have Well #4 in regular operations by the end of September—thank you for your patience and support throughout this project!



September Board Retreat

The District will hold a board retreat on Sept. 21st at 10:00 am in the *John's Prairie Room* of the *Mason County PUD No. 3* building at 2621 E Johns Prairie Rd. in Shelton. All meetings of the Board of Commissioners—including the board retreat—are open to the public.

Annual Meeting and 2020 Budget Hearing

Saturday, November 2nd, at 10:00 am

HPMA Clubhouse

202 E Pointes Drive E





Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

"Regularly check for & repair water leaks. Even small leaks can waste hundreds to thousands of gallons of water a month!!!"

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

General Manager's Report

First off, I need to thank all of you for your continued conservation efforts. The level of support that we have received from the community is extremely encouraging.



That said, I'm happy to announce that our region has been down-graded from "Severe Drought" to "Moderate Drought" conditions. This is primarily the result of an unusually wet and rainy July/August. Though this rain has not quite made up for the lack of precipitation received between October 1, 2018 and June 1, 2019, it has helped to offset the deficit and cause Washington State to make adjustment to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

For more information and to read Department of Ecology's August Newsletter, visit: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-supply/Water-availability/Statewide-conditions>

Additionally, I have to thank the staff of Hartstene Pointe Water Sewer District for their hard work and dedication to serving this community. Thanks to their knowledge and expertise, we were able to install all of the additional equipment needed to bring Well #4 into compliance and complete the pilot study in just over a month and a half. By my estimates, performing this work in-house versus contracting it out saved the District close to \$30,000. Kudos to Mont Jeffreys, Jeff Palmer and Joe Sartori for your outstanding work!

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

- David Carnahan, General Manager

Commissioner's Corner

Last fall I attended the water-sewer district budget deliberations and was pleased to learn that our utilities are well-managed and that the Commissioners and staff work together harmoniously to assure you receive great service and excellent value. Little did I know that I would have the honor of being appointed to the Board of Commissioners this summer to fill an unexpected vacancy on the Board.



While I am "the new kid on the block" at the District, I'm not new to the Pointe. My wife Darlene and I bought our first point property over 25 years ago and have loved the Pointe ever since. Two years ago we retired and moved here full time.

Like all water districts in the area, we are now under a drought restriction established by the State of Washington. While it may not feel like a drought, we are experiencing a multi-year precipitation shortfall that reduces the available water in the aquifer we depend on. Conservation is essential to assure we have enough water for everyone who depends on this natural resource.

The Board and staff want to thank you for responding so positively to the notice at the entrance to the Pointe and the door hangers you recently received about the drought. We need to keep up the conservation across the remainder of the summer, and ultimately we will need to do more to conserve water.

The Board and staff are exploring two improvements designed to encourage conservation. First, we are considering moving toward a tiered rate structure that will feature a base rate everyone will pay, and a use charge that will kick in for high-volume water users. These consumption-based rate structures are very common and encourage water conservation.

Second, we are considering going to a monthly billing cycle instead of the bi-monthly billing we now use. By using a monthly billing cycle you will receive information each month, allowing you to see your water use in a more timely way. So, if your water use is higher than expected, you can respond quickly to find leaks or increase your conservation.

Thanks again for your wise water use!

- Carl Swenson, President, Board of Commissioners