



# Newsletter

January/February 2019

## Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District

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## Pay Your Bill 24/7

Online: [hpwatersewer.com](http://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.*

## Is it *truly* “Flushable?”

“In the last decade, the toilet paper industry has spent millions convincing Americans that they need to use moist wipes in addition to toilet paper. That may be all well and good (although expensive), but don’t put them in the toilet. Remember, it may say “flushable” on the package, but just because you *can* flush them doesn’t mean that you *should!*”  
--Adam Conover, *Adam Ruins Everything*--

‘Flushable’ wipes—as they are misleadingly labeled—do not biodegrade quickly enough to avoid clogging pipes and machinery, causing expensive issues in systems all over the country. They can also get stuck in the drains in your own home, catching other waste as you flush. Next thing you know, you end up calling the plumber to snake your drain, setting you back hundreds of dollars!

Please help us tackle this problem and pay attention to what you flush down the drain!



## Free WaterSense® Shower Heads Available



Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District has a few EPA WaterSense® Certified shower heads left to give our customers! These low-flow, massaging showerheads are engineered to deliver a great shower with surprisingly little water, allowing our customers to conserve water while saving money on your energy bill. The shower head installs easily on a standard 1/2" shower arm. This is your last chance!

Hartstene Pointe residents can pick up your free shower head at the District office at 772 E Chesapeake Drive. We ask that residents take no more than two shower heads and only install them in homes at Hartstene Pointe.



## Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

**“Try waiting to run the dishwasher or washing machine until it's full. Those half-loads can add up to gallons of wasted water.”**

Watch for more of Drippy's tips in future newsletters and on our website, [hpwatersewer.com](http://hpwatersewer.com)

## General Manager's Report

We are in the process of wrapping up the construction phase of the Well 4 project. At this point Department of Health (DOH) requires us to take a series of samples called a “pilot study,” which tests for inorganic compounds such as Arsenic, Iron and others that could be detrimental to public health. Once we've received the all-clear from DOH, we'll put Well 4 online. This process could take several months to complete, but our aim is to have the new well online and operational no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.



The generator installation at Well 4 is underway. We have some final tests to run on it over the next few weeks, but expect it to be operational by the middle of January.

We also have some beautification work to do on the area around Well 4. This will be taking place throughout the month of January.

Again thank you for being patient with us on this project. Please don't hesitate to stop by or call us if you have any questions as we wrap up construction of Well 4.

Happy New Year!!

- David Carnahan, General Manager

## Commissioner's Corner

### What Happens When It Rains...

Winter months are quiet times here at the Pointe, but not for the talented and dedicated staff of your water and sewer district. They are working to repair, preserve and upgrade the Pointe's water and sewer systems for our community.



Fewer families are here enjoying the many benefits that make this place the wonderful retreat from the city, and the place we all love. The clear waters of Puget Sound, our pool, the trails and forest get a chance to prepare to again welcome us all back to our own corner of paradise. Summer has turned to winter and our welcome rain is here again. That means trouble for your water and sanitary sewer system. Too much rain water gets into the wastewater pipes, making it impossible to successfully treat the water before discharging the purified wastewater. The problem has a name: Inflow and Infiltration, or simply I&I. Doing all that can be done to correct this is high on our list of priorities.

Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) is groundwater that enters the sewer system through cracks and/or leaks in the sanitary sewer pipes. Cracks or leaks in sewer pipes or manholes may be caused by age-related deterioration, loose joints, poor design, road damage, or root infiltration.

When too much clear water enters a sanitary sewer system, it must be transported and treated like all sanitary waste water. Wet weather magnifies the I&I problem. As rainwater or snowmelt enters the sewer system, it eventually fills the collection and treatment facilities to capacity. Once the sewer system becomes overloaded, water can flow backward, flooding basements or households, or it can overflow the treatment facilities. System overflow happened last winter in Seattle, and a smaller overflow happened here at the Pointe the previous winter. That overflow flooded our facilities and allowed a brief release of untreated wastewater. The Hartstene Pointe Water Sewer District staff will be working throughout the Pointe this winter correcting the I&I challenge. Say hello and thanks when you see them.

- David McNabb, Audit Commissioner, Board of Commissioners

# Happy New Year!