



James Island Public Service District

Dedicated to Public Service Excellence

Dave Schaeffer – District Manager

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER

June 12, 2023

Dear Property Owner:

Over the past several years, pollution in James Island Creek and surrounding tidal marshes has rapidly increased to harmful levels. As a result of recent environmental water quality sampling and testing, the South Carolina Department and Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) listed the James Island Creek Watershed as an impaired waterbody containing the fecal bacteria indicator Enterococci. Studies in many areas have determined that the primary source of this bacterial contamination is insufficiently treated human waste originating from septic tank tile fields. This contamination is subsequently transported by stormwater runoff and shallow water table seepage into the surrounding tidal marshes from residential properties currently served by septic tanks and tile fields within the James Island Creek Watershed.

To remedy this harmful contamination and allow tidal waters and surrounding marshes to recover to acceptable levels allowing fishing and watersports, the James Island Public Service District (JIPSD) has secured Federal grant funding, as well as State and Local matching funds totaling \$10,306,087 to extend public sewer service to serve designated residential subdivisions within the targeted area of the James Island Creek Watershed. This joint JIPSD and Charleston Water System (CWS) project will extend public sewer service to 199 properties.

Due to the extensive existing underground utilities, existing roadway and drainage facilities, high ground water table elevations, and extensive tree canopies throughout the project areas, the proposed project will utilize low pressure, small diameter collection and transmission force mains and individual sewage grinder pump chambers installed in each property to be served.

The JIPSD's governing Use and Rate Resolution will require each property owner within the proposed project area to connect into the proposed public sewer system after its completion. The average monthly customer bill will be approximately \$97 per month (\$67 in monthly wastewater charges plus \$30 grinder pump maintenance fee).

To implement the proposed project, the JIPSD will require access onto your property to install, and maintain a small below-ground pump chamber, a small control panel, and associated piping and wiring. Once the new grinder pump system is completed and placed in service, each property owner will be required to pump out, back-fill, and abandon the existing septic tank.

Connecting your home to JIPSD sewer will relieve you of the burden of maintaining your septic system. It will also ensure that you always have sewer capacity, improve public health, and help promote a healthy environment. This project will also require your cooperation in the future, to allow JIPSD personnel to enter your property from time to time to maintain the pump system.

1739 Signal Point Road | P.O. Box 12140 | Charleston, SC 29422-2140
P 843-795-9060 | F 843-762-5240 | schaefferd@jipsd.org | www.jipsd.org

JIPSD is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider, an At-Will Employer, and a Drug-Free Workplace. We participate in E-Verify.

Preliminary Phase surveying and engineering for this project is currently underway. However, it is possible you may not see construction in your neighborhood until the last quarter of 2024 and into the first quarter of 2025.

Each property owner to be served by the proposed project will be required to sign an easement agreement allowing the JIPSD to install and maintain the small pump chamber, piping, and wiring within your property. More information is to come when dates for community meetings are established in the coming months.

Sincerely,



Dave Schaeffer
District Manager

Questions:
JIPSD Customer Service 843-795-9060