



Water Wise

The Quarterly Newsletter of Charleston Water System

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Crush, Don't Flush!

MUSC students study public awareness of proper disposal of medications

A study by Medical University of South Carolina students found that despite growing concerns about pharmaceutical compounds in water, most people continue to flush their unwanted medications.

Flushing medications—combined with increased use of prescription medication over the last several decades—has resulted in pharmaceutical compounds making their way into rivers and lakes, impacting wildlife and drinking water supplies.

The students recommended more public awareness efforts on proper disposal of medicines to prevent these compounds from entering our water environment. For details on the study, visit www.charlestonwater.com.

MUSC Presidential Scholar students Emily Bauer, Lauren Davis, Colin Crowe, Heather Leisy, William Marshall, Khaled Moussawi, Jamie Rudisill, and Joe Vuthiganon developed this educational flyer about the proper disposal of unwanted medications.



Project Profile:

New Water Transmission Main



This 4-foot-diameter transmission main will carry water from our Hanahan Water Treatment Plant to another major water main on Lincoln Avenue. When complete, the \$17-million pipe will be among the largest in our water distribution system and will provide redundancy to keep the water flowing in the event of failure in another transmission main. This project is part of Charleston Water System's Capital Improvement Program. To learn more, visit www.charlestonwater.com.

Water TRIVIA!

Test your water knowledge!
Send us the correct answer to the question below by July 8, 2009 to be entered in a prize drawing!*

Question:

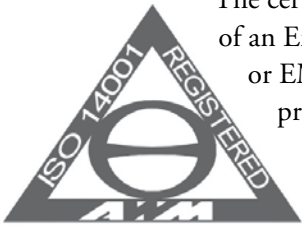
In the average American home, what indoor activity uses the most water?

Send your answer via e-mail or mail:
info@charlestoncpw.com
Charleston Water System
Attn: Water Wise Trivia Contest
PO Box B
Charleston, SC 29402

*Charleston Water System employees and their family members not eligible to enter.

Celebrating 10 Years of Environmental Improvement!

Ten years ago, Charleston Water System became the first water and wastewater utility in the nation to earn certification under ISO 14001—the standard for environmental management.



The certification requires the implementation of an Environmental Management System, or EMS, which is a set of standards that provide a framework for how to identify and control how our operations impact the environment.

Charleston Water System's EMS governs everything from standard procedures to record-keeping and the development of objectives and targets for improving environmental performance.

In short, our Environmental Management System helps us provide you with safe and reliable water and wastewater services that meet or exceed regulatory requirements and minimize negative impacts on our environment.

Learn About Your Water!

Schedule a speaker to visit your school or community group and get the answers to all your questions about drinking water!

We can tailor our talk to your group's interests. You might be surprised at how interesting water can be!

Call (843) 727-6856 or send an e-mail to info@charlestoncpw.com to schedule a speaker.

Every Drop Counts!

Did you know...more than 50 percent of commercial and residential water use goes to waste due to evaporation, runoff, or over watering. To reduce the more than 7 billion gallons used for landscape irrigation every day, the WaterSense program promotes efficient irrigation technologies and certification programs for irrigation contractors. Want to learn more? Visit the WaterSense web site at www.epa.gov/watersense for a list of WaterSense irrigation partners.



WaterFACT

Turn it off! The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of two gallons per minute. Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save up to 8 gallons of water per day, which equals 240 gallons a month!

Our Mission is to protect public health and enhance the environment of our service community by providing clean water services of exceptional quality and value.

Our Vision is to become, by 2012, an organization worth of a SC Governor's Quality Award through teamwork, customer focus, and performance excellence.