# PVCCONFECTIONS Your Link to News & Information from the Fayetteville Public Works Commission May 2024

Upcoming Events

**Electrical Safety Month** May 1st – 31st

Memorial Day PWC Offices Closed Monday, May 27th

19th Annual Public Works Art Exhibit Arts Council on Hay (301 Hay St) FREE & Open to the Public Friday May 24th 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

#### PWC Connections: The Podcast

Listen to PWC's
Podcast for FREE
on your favorite
podcast listening
platform.
Get your questions
answered about your
utility services, learn
more about PWC,

and get the scoop.

on hot topics!





Learn More!

## PWC TV: Now Streaming!



Watch Your PWC Connections anytime on your favorite streaming device in addition to daily airings on Fay TV – the City of Fayetteville's government access channel on Spectrum Cable channel 7. Your PWC Connections is also available on PWC's Youtube channel & website.



#### PWC Hosts EPA Announcement About New PFAS Limits

#### New PWC & County Partnership Will Provide Safe Drinking Water to Gray's Creek

On April 10, 2024, at PWC's P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Facility, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Michael Regan, announced the first-ever national, legally enforceable drinking water standard to protect communities from exposure to harmful per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as 'forever chemicals.'

The EPA is also making unprecedented funding available to help ensure that all people have clean and safe water. The \$9 billion investment through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is the largest-ever investment in tackling PFAS pollution.

A few days later, on April 12, 2024, PWC and Cumberland County announced a partnership to expand PWC's current water system to provide drinking water to the Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District. This partnership will help address the widespread GenX contamination of groundwater throughout the county.



PWC and the County will work together to plan for, seek funding for, develop a schedule, and implement the installation of water system infrastructure, starting with service to the Gray's Creek and Alderman Road Elementary Schools. The NC General Assembly appropriated \$12 million to PWC to design and build water for the two schools.

To expedite the project, PWC will utilize/revise an existing design from 2021. Once installed, PWC will provide quality drinking water in keeping with the high standards set by the Partnership for Safe Water and all other requirements set by the EPA.

The County plans to utilize American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to help extend the water system to other areas within the Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District and will work with residents within the district to find funding for connection fees.

Scan the QR code to visit www.FayPWC.com/PFAS-Facts for more information about PFAS.

### Our Commitment to Providing High-Quality Drinking Water

PWC's top priority is providing high-quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all current regulatory standards. This includes continued advocacy to prevent PFAS from being discharged into our source water so that we can eliminate the exposure and financial burden for our customers. For nearly 10 years, PWC has strongly advocated with regulatory agencies to reduce and prevent the discharge of industrial pollution/contaminants like PFAS into the Cape Fear River, our primary drinking water source. That commitment has not changed – PWC continues to provide ongoing education and testing results in our efforts to respond to the PFAS threat.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

PWC was the first utility in North Carolina to be recognized with the Partnership for Safe Drinking Water's Director's Award for treatment efforts that exceed EPA requirements and has maintained those standards for 24 consecutive years.

Thinking about Charging Your EV at Home?

PWC offers a
Super Off-Peak
electric rate
which gives
you the
highest savings!
The Super Off-Peak hours are
9 p.m.-5 a.m. daily, so it's perfect

Fayetteville PWC Awarded a United Way Spirit of North Carolina Award!

Fayetteville PWC received state recognition for their support of the United Way when selected as a winner of the Spirit of North Carolina Award for the 18th year! The award provides statewide recognition for outstanding commitment and support to communities through local

United Way involvement. PWC was recognized in the category for Impactful and Engaging Campaign Event or Activity after PWC hosted an employee Meal Packing Event that provided over 35,000 meals used by three local food pantries.



#### **Submit your Art!**

for home EV charging.

Scan to learn more

Favetteville PWC is partnering with the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County to present the 19th annual Public Works Art Exhibit. Local artists will have custom art on display from May 24 through July 20, at the Arts Council located at 301 Hay Street. Public Works is a community-wide art exhibit open to all artists of all ages. Learn more at www.TheArtsCouncil.com and search for "Public Works".

## Water Heaters are Getting SMARTER PWC offers an incentive program to help you save on heating your water. The Peak

PWC offers an incentive program to help you save on heating your water. The Peak Savings Electric Water Heater Program helps you conserve electricity- and save money-during times of high energy demand. As part of the program, participants receive a FREE Aquanta smart water heater device when they sign up!

During Peak hours, the Aquanta smart water heater device will turn off the electricity to participants' electric water heaters using an algorithm. The water heater will not produce any additional hot water during Peak hours. However, water in the tank should remain warm and available for use.

Peak hours on weekdays 6 a.m. – 10 a.m. during the winter (November – March) and from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. in the summer months (April – October).

Some of the features of the Aquanta Smart Water Heater include:

- Smart control of thermostat and heat cycling for your water heater
- Energy savings suggestions
- Weekly and monthly usage data comparison
- See how much hot water is available
- · Remote turn on/off and scheduling capability
- Maintenance alerts
- Automatic overheating shutoff
- Intelligent Controls
- Autonomous learning function matches water heating with usage patterns
- · Operation via remote dashboard

Learn more about to sign up for the program by scanning the QR code or by searching "Aquanta" at FayPWC.com





#### Brighten Outdoor Paths with Solar Lights



Lights can help outdoor paths feel safer, but they also require energy. Fortunately, there's an easy fix! Solar pathway lights can be installed anywhere the sun shines – no wiring required. Once in place, they use FREE energy from the sun to keep your paths lit at night.

#### Spotlight on Safety: Mylar and Electricity Don't Mix!

As we enter celebration season (graduations, weddings, etc.) it is important to remember that mylar balloons cause thousands of power outages each year when they float away and come in contact with overhead power lines.

Balloons are fun and festive, but please remember to handle them properly to ensure they don't get released into the air by using weights to keep them in place. Loose balloons that strike power lines can cause explosions, power outages, or downed power lines.

It's recommended that you puncture the balloons to release the helium when it's time to dispose of them. If a mylar balloon does float away and gets stuck in a power line, don't try to remove it. Please call PWC at 910-483-1382 for assistance.

#### **Stay Safe While Working Outdoors**

With the warmer weather, your hometown utility would like to share some electrical safety electrical tips to help ensure your outdoor activities doesn't result in injuries,or worse. Learn more at www.FayPWC.com/stay-focused-on-safety-this-spring/



