



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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### **Residents asked to observe voluntary water conservation measures beginning Oct. 10**

Due to ongoing low water levels in the James River, Henrico County is joining the city of Richmond and Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover and Powhatan counties to implement voluntary water conservation measures, effective Tuesday, Oct. 10.

As part of the measures, residents are asked to water their home lawns according to the following schedule:

- Monday: No watering
- Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: Odd-numbered addresses
- Wednesday, Friday, Sunday: Even-numbered addresses

In accordance with Richmond's James River Regional Flow Management Plan, voluntary conservation measures are implemented when water levels drop to 1,200 cubic feet per second (CFS) or to a depth of 3 ½ to 3 ¾ feet at the Westham gauge. The region tracks river-flow levels on a 14-day rolling average. Voluntary conservation measures will be suspended when the rolling average remains above 1,200 CFS for 14 days.

Voluntary compliance will help water treatment plants in Richmond, Henrico and Chesterfield provide water to all customers in the region while also meeting the James River Regional Flow Management Plan. Although the localities are asking customers to conserve, they remain able to produce and deliver safe drinking water to meet necessary use and emergency requirements of communities in the region.

Additional water conservation tips are available at [www.vdh.virginia.gov/drinking-water/office-of-drinking-water/water-conservation-tips](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/drinking-water/office-of-drinking-water/water-conservation-tips).

Goochland residents with questions can contact the county's Department of Public Utilities at 804-556-5835.

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**County of Goochland, Virginia**  
**Department of Public Utilities**  
**Water Conservation – October 2017**

**1. What does a voluntary water conservation measure mean?**

Residents in Goochland are asked to voluntarily restrict water use for those on Public Water. The biggest impact to residents with voluntary restriction is the watering of their lawns which is:

- Monday- No watering
- Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday – Odd property addresses
- Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday - Even property addresses

This watering schedule spreads the water demand over the week so we don't have to pull as much water at one time out of the James River.

**2. Why did Goochland County issue a Voluntary Water Conservation measure?**

Goochland County and surrounding localities operate on a 14 day rolling average and in accordance with the requirements of our permit, whenever levels in the James River get down below 1200 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 3 ½ to 3 ¾ feet depth of water in the James River we must issue a voluntary water conservation measure.

**3. What is the current James River level?**

Currently our 14-day rolling average is 923 cfs. (as of Oct. 9, 2017)

**4. What happens if someone doesn't comply with the water restrictions?**

At the point of voluntary conservations, unless we see a blatant, excessive waste of water, we can only request that residents comply.

**5. How much longer will the restrictions last?**

Until sufficient rainfall raises the 14 day rolling average in the James River above 1200 cfs for 14 consecutive days.

**6. Which localities does this voluntary restriction affect?**

It affects Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Powhatan and the City of Richmond.

**7. Do all of the counties and the city of Richmond get water from the same source?**

Henrico County and the City of Richmond obtain their water from the James River. The City of Richmond has Henrico, Chesterfield, and Hanover Counties as direct customers. Goochland and Powhatan receive water from Henrico and Chesterfield, respectively.

Portions of Chesterfield County obtain their water from Lake Chesdin, which is governed by the Appomattox Water Authority

**8. If we don't get any rain, what is the next step?**

Mandatory water restrictions may become necessary, and the appropriate notices will be issued by the Richmond localities

The chart below outlines the categories included in the Voluntary Water Conservation Measure

CATEGORY	CONSERVATION MEASURE
Established Landscape & Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monday – no watering</li> <li>▪ Tuesday, Thursday &amp; Saturday - Odd property addresses water</li> <li>▪ Wednesday, Friday &amp; Sunday - Even property addresses water (Odd/Even designation is determined by last digit of address #)</li> <li>▪ Bucket watering (five gallon max. permitted anytime)</li> </ul>
New Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Unrestricted for first 10 days after planting, then limited to the “Established Landscape and Gardens” measures</li> </ul>
Vegetable Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to any two days per week and between 8 p.m. and 10 a.m. on any day. Bucket watering is unrestricted</li> </ul>
Paved Areas Washing (Streets, Drives, Patios, Walks, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to two days per week. Unrestricted for immediate health and safety concerns</li> </ul>
Vehicle Washing (Commercial Businesses Exempt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to two days per week using a hand-held hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle</li> </ul>
Golf Courses (Greens Exempt)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to 8 p.m. thru 10 a.m. on any day</li> </ul>
Swimming Pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to filling required to maintain health and safety</li> </ul>
Fountains ( <i>not included in Chesterfield County ordinance</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to any two days per week and between 8 p.m. and 10 a.m. on any day</li> </ul>
Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited to essential uses</li> </ul>
Restaurants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No restrictions</li> </ul>
All Other Consumption Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage conservation by any means</li> </ul>