



**CITY OF RICHMOND**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES



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**Dwight C. Jones, Mayor**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Date: September 14, 2010**

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## **Localities Announce Voluntary Conservation Measures**

*(Richmond to hold Press Conference 11 a.m. TODAY– 730 E. Broad St.)*

RICHMOND, VA – Effective today, the city of Richmond, and counties of Henrico, Hanover and Goochland announce voluntary water conservation measures. Chesterfield County will begin mandatory restrictions on September 15 based on the the water levels in Lake Chesdin. Brought on by low water levels in the James River, voluntary compliance will assist local governments in providing water to all customers in the region, while also meeting the requirements of the James River Regional Flow Management Plan. This plan calls for the implementation of voluntary conservation measures once water levels in the James River reach Natural River Flow (NRF) 14-day rolling average of 1,200 cfs (cubic feet per second) or approximately 3.4 feet of depth at the Richmond-Westham Gauge.

Depending on individual usage amounts during voluntary conservation measures, city of Richmond DPU customers may also see a conservation rate surcharge on their utility bills. DPU's water conservation rate went into effect July 1, 2008. During designated conservation periods customers who make the decision to use more than 140 percent of their normal winter water usage will pay a higher commodity rate on their excess usage. This is to encourage conservation-friendly behavior.

Significant rainfall may eliminate the current low water level conditions, allowing these voluntary water conservation measures to be lifted. Henrico County DPU customers will be allowed to water their lawns refurbished through motorized means for 30 days if the refurbishment occurs between September 1 and October 31.

The chart below outlines the categories included in the Voluntary Water Conservation Measures:

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>CONSERVATION MEASURE</b>
Established Landscape, Lawns and Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monday – no watering</li> <li>▪ Odd property addresses water Tue, Thur and Sat</li> <li>▪ Even property addresses water Wed, Fri and Sun (Odd/Even designation is determined by last digit of address number)</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, Lawns 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>

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<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>CONSERVATION MEASURE</b>
Vehicle Washing (Commercial Businesses Exempt)	▪ Limited to two days per week using a hand-held hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle
Golf Courses (Greens Exempt)	▪ Limited to 8 p.m. thru 10 a.m. on any day
Swimming Pools	▪ Limited to filling required to maintain health and safety
Fountains ( <i>not included in Chesterfield County ordinance</i> )	▪ Limited to any two days per week and between 8 p.m. and 10 a.m. on any day
Businesses	▪ Limited to essential uses
Restaurants	▪ No restrictions
All Other Consumption Uses	▪ Encourage conservation by any means

For additional information, specific to localities, contact:

County of Chesterfield	Courtney Battista, Customer Relations Officer	748-1876
County of Goochland	Public Utilities	556-5835
County of Hanover	Customer Service	365-6024
County of Henrico	Customer Service	501-4275
City of Richmond	Customer Care Center	644-3000

Richmond residents may visit Richmond's DPU blog at <http://cordpu.blogspot.com/2010/09/voluntary-water-conservation-frequently.html> for Frequently Asked Questions concerning the city's Voluntary water conservation designation.

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