



From the Tap...

Water Supply Stakeholder Outreach Program

As part of its Water Supply Stakeholder Outreach Program, Fairfax Water has awarded four grants to support watershed education and source-water protection projects.

The Earth Force organization received \$4,475 to provide teachers with additional curriculum and supplies to facilitate their students' water-monitoring projects. The teachers participate in the Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN) to expand their understanding of watershed issues. As part of its grant, Earth Force will receive analytical services from Fairfax Water's water-quality laboratory. Participating classes will compare their water-monitoring results with those of Fairfax Water. Such comparative analysis will provide more detailed water-quality information.



Stream bank stabilization and riparian buffers help maintain water quality.

The Friends of Little Rocky Run was awarded \$1,192 to support watershed clean-up and educational activities. The group conducts trash clean-ups and plants trees and shrubs in riparian areas of the watershed.

Friends of the Occoquan received \$5,000 to support events to remove litter and debris along the Occoquan

Reservoir. The group began bi-annual cleanups in the spring of 2001, and has conducted a total of nine cleanups utilizing more than 1,000 volunteers.

Occoquan Forest Owners Association received \$5,000 to support the installation of rain gardens on its common ground adjacent to the Occoquan Reservoir. The pro-

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ject seeks to protect the Reservoir's water quality through bioretention and construction of riparian buffers and strategically located rain gardens. The Association will purchase soil, sand, gravel, stone, mulch and plantings for its projects and will utilize volunteer labor.

Proposed Revision of Rates, Fees and Charges



Fairfax Water is proposing revisions of its Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, to be effective with meter readings taken on or after April 1, 2006. Even with these revisions, Fairfax Water rates will remain the lowest in the region.

The proposed revisions include increases in the Water Usage (Commodity) Charge from \$1.45 to \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons. Also proposed are increases in the availability and local facilities charges for new connections to the distribution system, turn on/off

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Announcement

A public hearing on the proposed revision of the Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 15, 2005, at Fairfax Water's offices located at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, Virginia.

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charges, late payments and the account charge. A description of these charges can be found on the back of your water bill or at www.fairfaxwater.org.

A public hearing on the proposed revisions is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2005, at Fairfax Water's offices located at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, Virginia. Directions can be found on our website. To speak at the hearing or obtain a copy of the proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges, please call (703)698-5600, or visit our website at www.fairfaxwater.org.

The proposed increase in the Water Usage (Commodity) Charge (from \$ 1.45 to \$ 1.50 per 1,000 gallons) will mean an increase of \$1.20 per quarter, or \$4.80 per year, for an average customer's water bill.



Reminder

Fairfax Water account numbers changed as a result of system upgrades to our Customer Information System in 2004.

Many customers using third-party bill payment services to pay their Fairfax Water bill notified their payment service of the new account number. However, some of you have not yet made the change. If you use a third-party bill payment service to pay your bill, please check to make sure the account number the service is using matches the current account number found on your bill.

Failure to update your account number will result in delays in processing the payment and crediting your account.

Thank you.



Did You Know?

On average, Fairfax Water treats and distributes water at a rate of:

- 50 billion gallons a year
- 135 million gallons per day
- 390 tons of water a minute

What are "Peak Use Charges"?

Like other utilities, Fairfax Water has periods of high demand commonly referred to as peak use. For water, peak use is a time of year as opposed to a time of day. Peak use charges apply to water use in the warmest months - June through November.

Peak use charges are applied to water consumption over an amount which is 1.3 times the Winter Quarter consumption or 6,000 gallons above the Winter Quarter consumption, whichever is greater.

Peak use charges are used to recover the costs of constructing the facilities required to meet peak capacity demands. Only those customers whose quarterly water usage patterns place peak capacity demands on the water system are subject to the peak use charges.



Editor's Note

If you have comments or suggestions about this publication, let us hear from you.

E-mail us at jbailey@fairfaxwater.org or write us at the address below. If you have questions regarding water service, please call Customer Service at (703) 698-5800.

For all other departments, call (703) 698-5600; After-hours emergency, call (703) 698-5613, TTY (703) 698-7025.

Fairfax Water

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