

June 2009

Virginia Water Withdrawal Reporting Regulation

The Virginia Water Withdrawal Regulation (9 VAC 25-200-10, et seq.) requires reporting for any withdrawal whose daily average withdrawal exceeds 10,000 gallons per day, with the exception of crop irrigation.

Reporting of crop irrigation applies to withdrawals exceeding one million gallons in any single month. Crop irrigators need not report withdrawals from ponds collecting diffuse surface water unless the ponds are dug ponds which intercept the ground water table.

Water users exempted from the regulation are encouraged to report their water withdrawals voluntarily. Water Withdrawal Reports are collected by the Agency in January of each year for the preceding calendar year. Electronic reporting is now available.

Successful water resource management integrates the interests of users, local and regional planners, and state managers tasked with meeting the growing future water needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth while preserving the integrity of our diverse water resources.

Why reporting your water withdrawal is important:

Knowledge of your withdrawal history is important as the use type or pattern of use changes. Your reported withdrawals serve as the basis for understanding what beneficial uses have been sustained from a particular source and what may be supported in the future.

Calculating and reporting your annual water withdrawals may help you plan for future need in terms of growth or expansion.

Analysis of withdrawals in previous years can provide insight into the efficiency of your water use.

Reporting your water withdrawal provides the State with a more accurate understanding of the full water budget (an accounting of the inflow, outflow, and storage changes of water in a system) in our watersheds. Water budgets are an important tool for local planners evaluating and balancing current demand versus future need.

Reporting your water withdrawal establishes use trends that aid in response planning for drought. Part of your local government's mandated water supply plan will establish indicators and responses in dry pe-

REPORT YOUR WATER WITHDRAWAL AS REQUIRED IN 9 VAC 25-200-10, ET SEQ.

OR PARTICIPATE VOLUNTARILY IF YOU DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING - BE PART OF THE PLANNING PROCESS. INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE.

YOUR WATER WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION IS VALUABLE — IT IS SHARED WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL PLANNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CREATING WATER SUPPLY PLANS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY. IT IS ANALYZED BY STATE LEADERS TO BETTER UTILIZE YOUR TAX DOLLARS IN MANAGING WATER RESOURCES.

YOUR WATER WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION IS COMPILED INTO AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. UNDERSTANDING CURRENT WATER DEMAND AS IT RELATES TO FUTURE NEED ENABLES VIRGINIA LEGISLATORS TO CRAFT PERTINENT AND APPLICABLE LAWS THAT PROTECT ALL BENEFICIAL USES OF OUR LIMITED WATER RESOURCES.

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TO READ THE RECENT STATUS OF VIRGINIA'S WATER RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

riods. Their knowledge of your water withdrawal improves consideration of how indicators affect your business and ensures your needs are understood.

Reporting your water withdrawal increases local, regional, and State planners' understanding of the impacts of cumulative withdrawals for the region and the Commonwealth. Competition for this finite resource is increasing. While reporting does not guarantee your withdrawal rights for a specific volume, it enables planners to consider your established need while managing future growth, i.e. competing withdrawals.

Data pertaining to the type, size and frequency of water withdrawals is used by the state in evaluating the value and importance of water resources in the Commonwealth. This evaluation is critical to sustaining programs created to protect water resources for all beneficial uses. Historic information available in our databases is utilized by staff tasked with managing water resources. Our interests are the same – sustainable use of water resources for the benefit of all citizens in the Commonwealth.