

Virginia's Local and Regional Water Supply Planning  
Regulation  
and the  
Northern Virginia Regional Water Supply Plan

Town of Clifton  
November 7, 2006

Normand Goulet  
Northern Virginia Regional Commission



- PDC 8 -

# “Northern Virginia Regional Commission”



The *Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)* is a regional council of local governments in Northern Virginia.

**NVRC's** programs and policies:

- represents 14 cities, towns and counties on regional issues including the environment, human services, regional planning and emergency preparedness.

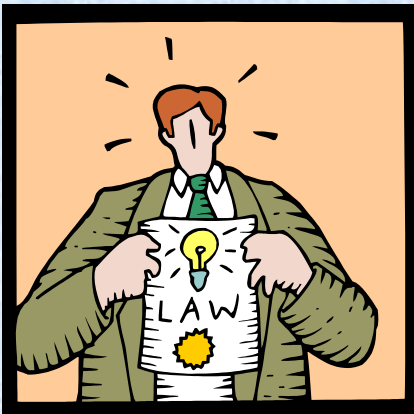
**NVRC** serves as a:

- neutral forum for decision-making;
- provide information and analyses necessary to make sound local and regionally beneficially decisions;
- provide professional and technical services to enable member governments to plan for their future, both individually and as a region.



# Local and Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation, 9 VAC 25-780

- Effective November 2, 2005
- Establishes comprehensive water supply planning process
- Outlines criteria for water supply plan development

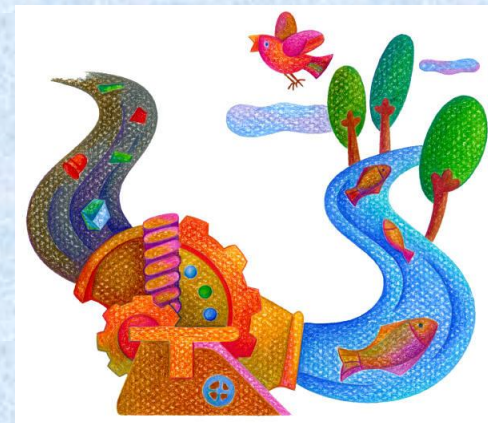




# Water Supply Planning Regulation: State Wide Goals

Development of a comprehensive statewide water supply planning process

- Ensures availability of drinking water
- Protects all beneficial uses
- Encourages alternative water sources
- Promotes conservation



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Local Goals

- Create water planning partnerships
- Increase public involvement, & support, in resource decisions
- Improve understanding of:
  - Our long-term water needs,
  - Our water resources, andTheir sustainability.



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: **Implementation Role - Local**

ALL Localities (counties, cities and towns) -- or the regional groups they form -- are expected to take the lead role in planning for their future water needs -- for a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 50 years.





# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Requirements

- Local governments and community water systems will **coordinate and cooperate** with each other in the **development** of the plan.
- Local, regional & state-wide plans address **all** beneficial water uses and **all** users, including:
  - those who are **self-supplied**, plus those who are **served by a community water system**, and
  - those who **rely on groundwater, surface water or alternative sources**.



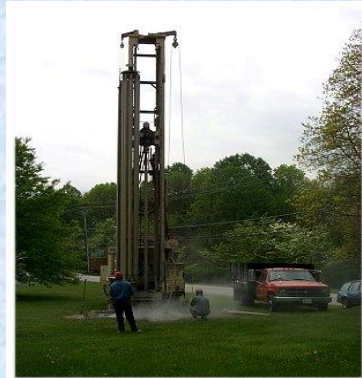


# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Requirements

- A water supply plan with 7 elements (§70 - §130), plus,
- A copy of the adopted documents, e.g. plans, ordinances, etc.
- A resolution approving the plan from each local government that is party to the plan; and
- A record of the local public hearing, a copy of all written comments and the submitter's response to all written comments received.



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Required Elements



- A description of **existing water sources**;

- A description of **existing water use** for the most recent complete calendar year that is available on date of submittal;



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: **Required Elements**

- An assessment of **projected water demand**, for a min. of 30 to a max. of 50 years
- A statement of **future need** i.e. comparison of projected demand vs. available supply;
- An analysis that identifies **potential alternatives to address projected deficits** in water supplies;



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Required Elements

- A description of **existing water resource conditions** (including **environmental**);
- A description of potential **water management actions**





# Water Supply Planning Regulation: **Plan Deadlines**

- Localities with populations  $> 35,000$ 
  - November 2, 2008
- Localities with populations of 35,000 - 15,000
  - November 2, 2009
- Localities with populations  $< 15,000$ 
  - November 2, 2010
- Regional water plans
  - November 2, 2011



# Water Supply Planning Regulation: Requirements

- **DEQ will review all local and regional plans to determine compliance** with this regulation and consistency with the State Water Resources Plan.
- Localities will review their plans within **five years** of compliance to assess adequacy. Plan resubmission required every 10 years.
- Significant changes require DEQ review.



# Northern Virginia Regional Plan

- Commission Requested to investigate Regional Plan
- Northern Virginia Water Supply Workgroup established June, 2006
- Workgroup affirmed the recommendation that NVRC take the lead for the region to develop a regional WSP for those participating jurisdictions; and had requested an affirmation from each jurisdiction in their willingness to participate



# Northern Virginia Regional Plan Oversight

- Executive Committee comprised of the CAO's and Water Utility CEO's
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) comprised of staff from the appropriate jurisdictional agencies and Water Utilities
  - facilitate the exchange of required information, review the regional WSP, and to shepherd the WSP through the public hearing process.





# Northern Virginia Regional Plan Participation

- Participation is being extended to ALL independent Towns, Cities and Counties in Northern Virginia
- Verbal commitment received from all Commission Members for end of December
- Resolutions
  - Loudoun County
  - Prince William County
  - Town of Vienna
  - Town of Leesburg



# Northern Virginia Regional Plan Benefits

- Compliance with State Regulations;
- Economy of Scale;
- Examining planning issue overlooked;
- Integrated into regional water supply response plan;
- Document Clifton's
  - Current water uses
  - Future needs and trends



# Northern Virginia Regional Plan Benefits

“When the well is dry, we  
[will] learn the worth of  
water [and good water  
supply planning].”

Ben Franklin, Poor Richards Almanac, 1746

