



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARWA Encourages Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures Starting July 17

Besides providing suggestions for customers to reduce their water consumption and conserve water this year, we also want to remind customers to do their part to slow and stop the Covid-19 pandemic. Suggested methods to reduce the spread of Covid-19 include social distancing, wearing face coverings when social distancing cannot be maintained and washing your hands. The Appomattox River Water Authority (ARWA) and its five member jurisdictions: Chesterfield County, Dinwiddie County, Prince George County, City of Colonial Heights, and City of Petersburg; provide potable water for consumption, cleaning, and hand washing. Providing potable water and maintaining distribution systems (each member jurisdiction maintains their own system) is a twenty-four hour per day, seven day a week, three hundred and sixty-five day a year operation. ARWA and its five member jurisdictions continue to provide the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), social distancing, masks when necessary, and training for our staffs. We want to assure you that your drinking water supply continues to meet the Virginia Department of Health standards and we are doing everything in our power to maintain service.

As we do each year, ARWA is issuing a reminder for *Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures*. ARWA encourages its customers to embrace *voluntary* water conservation measures to promote sustainability of the Lake Chesdin Reservoir and its aquatic attributes.

“The preservation of this essential natural resource is an effort that requires support from all ARWA customers,” said City Manager and ARWA Board Chairman Doug Smith. “It is important that we all remain mindful that our water supply is not unlimited; and we ask all citizens to do what they can to limit nonessential water use.”

Under the *Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures*, customers in each member jurisdiction are encouraged to reduce and conserve water by following these Water Wise

- Limit filling of decorative fountains and swimming pools to only when necessary
- Limit washing of paved areas to two days per week unless for health or safety concerns
- Limit lawn and plant irrigation to three (3) days per week
- Irrigate with hand-held bucket, hand-held hose, soaker hose and drip irrigation systems so that irrigation is targeted where needed.
- Wash vehicles using a hand-held bucket, or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff device.
- Run dishwasher and washing machine when fully loaded.

All businesses are encouraged to limit their water consumption wherever possible under the *Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures*. Water conservation by any other means is highly encouraged and we thank you for your efforts.

ARWA is the owner and manager of the Lake Chesdin Reservoir (a 3,100 acre public water supply reservoir located on the Appomattox River between Chesterfield County and Dinwiddie County) that provides drinking water on a wholesale basis to five member jurisdictions: the cities of Colonial Heights and Petersburg, and the Counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie and Prince George.

ARWA is committed to the effective management of the Lake Chesdin Reservoir through the preservation and enhancement of a reliable source of high-quality treated water to meet the needs of its members; and the protection of the environmental health of the Lake Chesdin Reservoir. The *Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures* clearly support these objectives.

ARWA is mindful that a successful water conservation campaign is the best way to avoid or delay the implementation of mandatory water use restrictions in the future. Meeting long-term human and environmental water needs can be accomplished most effectively by all ARWA water users working together, particularly during the warmer months of the year when rainfall may be scarce.

ARWA customers who would like more information or have any questions about the *Seasonal Chesdin Water Wise Conservation Measures* are encouraged to visit the ARWA website at www.arwava.org or contact their local water service provider directly.

Thank you in advance for implementing seasonal conservation measures and assisting us with managing our precious resource.

