

Public Comment by J4C – May 23, 2009
Environmental and Public Facilities

RECOMMENDED TEXT FOR WATER CONSERVATION

With the concerns over availability of ground water from the Chickahominy-Piney Point aquifers, identifying new resources of water will become more important as the current permit will expire in 2012. Water conservation must be encouraged and programs built or extended that will continue to decrease water consumption over the long-term. Incentives such as JCSA's rebate program have helped in this effort. Additional incentive and mandatory measures will be needed to ensure adequate supplies through the current contract with Newport News Waterworks and beyond.

GSA'S FOR WATER CONSERVATION

Develop policies for water supply concurrency to ensure water supply sources match the pace of approved or projected development.

Continue and expand rebates for water conservation.

Institute additional mandatory conservation measures.

Define additional methods for water conservation; execute educational programs on water conservation for the general public.

RECOMMENDED TEXT FOR WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE (include in Environment Chapter and Public Facilities)

As has been proven in many other countries and areas of the US, water reuse offers an **invaluable** approach to solving water supply problems. With the recent State regulations on reuse, it is clear that the State Department of Environment Quality and Department of Health will be reviewing potential systems that will benefit not only the residents of today but also those of future generations. Therefore, new development proposals should be required to examine the potential for a reuse system before any proposal is approved. Early installation of the local infrastructure for such systems will facilitate later incorporation into a master system. These efforts will reduce the demand for potable water and reduce the cost to citizens and business/industrial/commercial establishments.

A commitment to the identification of suitable reclaimed water opportunities will give the County a step up in implementing such a system over time. Regional planning and commitment could result in a possible long term facility despite the large initial costs.

GSA'S FOR WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE

Promote and support alternative water projects such as using reclaimed water and stormwater that accommodate growth while reducing the use of ground and surface water supplies.

Identify suitable applications of reclaimed water, for example, residential and golf course irrigation, commercial and industrial properties.

Work with local jurisdictions to develop a master plan for reuse system. Determine costs and financial means for supporting a reuse system.

Begin the installation of reclamation and reuse technologies in new residential and commercial developments, leading to incorporation into a regional major facility