



## Newport News Waterworks Quality - Reliability - Community

Caring for the environment helps Waterworks produce safe, high-quality drinking water. Keeping reservoirs and watersheds free from pollution allows us to meet strict public health standards. But environmental stewardship is also important because we care about our future generations.

Over the years our environmental practices have expanded. Our Watershed Protection Ordinance, Water Conservation Management Plan, recycling of organic materials back to the land, recycling water used in the water treatment process back to the reservoirs, and the safe use and disposal of chemicals are central to our focus.

In 2005, Newport News Waterworks established, along with other City departments, an Environmental Management System Team. The team identifies ways to increase environmental sensitivity and decrease environmental impacts. The team's efforts have, among other things helped earn the "Extraordinary Environmental Enterprise" Award from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. Indeed, Waterworks was the first water utility in Virginia to earn this achievement.



### Newport News Waterworks Department

is a regional public water utility serving Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, York County and parts of James City County.

#### Customer Services:

*Many of our convenient services  
can be found online at  
[www.nngov.com/waterworks](http://www.nngov.com/waterworks)*

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#### Contact us by Phone:

|                       |                |
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| Customer Service TDD  | (757) 926-1100 |
| Emergency (after hrs) | (757) 234-4800 |
| Emergency TDD         | (757) 234-4933 |

#### Contact us by E-mail:

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Lee Hall Reservoir in Newport News Park  
Photo by Michael Poplawski, Newport News  
Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

## ***Environmental Stewardship***

### Newport News Waterworks

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## Energy & Fuel Conservation

Using energy efficiently at Waterworks runs the gamut from implementing a no-idling policy to encouraging carpooling to save gasoline. It means finding opportunities to conduct business through conference calls and webinars to reduce the need for driving to meetings.

Hybrid vehicles have recently been purchased to replace aging motor pool cars.

Other energy reducing strategies have ranged from installing motion sensors in facilities so lights are turned off when not needed, to running pumps strategically to use less electricity from Dominion Virginia Power for distributing water throughout the Peninsula.

Efforts also include reducing turf at facilities to cut back on the time and fuel needed to cut grass and replacing larger engines with smaller engines to increase fuel economy.

## Recycling

Waterworks has recycled paper and cardboard since 1997 and thus far this has recycled over 1 million pounds of material! This has also resulted in saving nearly 10,000 trees and almost 4 million gallons of water.

Today we recycle a lot more than just paper and cardboard. We recycle aluminum cans, bottles, batteries and aerosol cans at all our facilities. In our vehicle shop, the Environmental Management System Team has expanded recycling to include ferrous metals, aluminum and steel, motor oil, tires, antifreeze, and auto batteries.

We've even reduced the amount of lead used in tire balancing, taking more of this metal out of our environment.

Waterworks also recycles organics and water. Since 1994 Waterworks has recycled organic materials wrung out during the water treatment process. This material is applied to the land rather than taken to a landfill. Each day, during removal of the organics, we recycle about 2 – 3 million gallons of water to the reservoirs.

## Resource Conservation

We actively manage 12,000 acres of watershed properties throughout the Peninsula to increase protection of our reservoirs. Our Natural Resources Division manages tree stock, monitors the watershed for encroachment and activities that could cause environmental harm, such as spills or illegal dumping, and monitors water resources and collects samples for testing. They also build and manage stormwater facilities to treat runoff from development.

Conservation also means leak prevention maintenance to the network of 41,500 valves and 1,700 miles of pipes that serve the Peninsula.

Finally, Waterworks conducts outreach to its customers about the need for using water wisely. This is done on a local as well as a region-wide basis through various forms of media.

