

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Krista Jones ❖ (804) 966-9683 ❖ kmjones@co.newkent.state.va.us

New Kent County encourages water conservation efforts

NEW KENT –With the recent announcement of mandatory water restrictions being enforced in the Richmond Metropolitan Area, the Department of Public Utilities is reminding their citizens that the County continues with voluntary water conservation measures, which will remain in effect until further notice.

New Kent County is entirely dependant on groundwater, whether on public water or private wells, and remains a precious commodity. Therefore, the County is asking for your help in conserving water in a number of ways:

- Limit lawn watering for odd addresses on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and even addresses to Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. No watering lawns at all on Mondays.
- Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.
- Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff and allow for better absorption every time you water.
- Install rain sensors on automatic lawn sprinkler systems.
- Limit car washing to once a week using an automatic shut off nozzle.
- Reduce non-essential usages.
- Operate only fully loaded dishwashers and clothes washing machines.
- Repair leaks in faucets and toilets.
- Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes. You'll save up to 1,000 gallons a month and save money on your water bill.
- Install water-saving devices such as faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.
- Place food in the refrigerator overnight for defrosting or in the microwave instead of running water over packages.
- Clean vegetables using water in a pan and vegetable brush rather than letting tap run.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost instead and save gallons every time.
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in refrigerator instead of running water for each glass of water.
- Use two basins when washing dishes by hand, one for washing and one for rinsing, rather than letting the tap run.
- Check your water meter and bill to track your water usage. Not only could you save water, but you can lower your water bill, thus saving money.

The New Kent County Public Utilities Department provides public water and/or public sewer services to various subdivisions and businesses in the County. If drought conditions persist, a mandatory restriction may be placed on water customers.

Anyone with questions or concerns may call the Public Utilities Department at 804-966-9678.