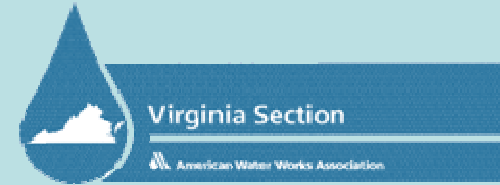




HAMPTON ROADS WATER SUPPLY PLANNING PROCESS



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WHAT IS THE HRPDC

- 1 of 21 Regional Planning Agencies
- State enabled; locally created
- Commission – 44 members
 - 28 Elected Officials
 - 16 Chief Administrative Officers
- Executive Director & 42 staff
- Organization – Administration, Economics, Physical Planning, Transportation
- Budget – \$11,000,000 +/-
- Functions – Policy, Technical Assistance, Coordination, Planning and Engineering Studies



HAMPTON ROADS REGION

- Population – 1.6 million
- Size – 3,000 + square miles
- Land use ranges from dense urban development to rural farmland.
- Community water resources include large municipal systems and areas served solely by private, individual wells.
- Several reservoirs and wells are located in localities other than the localities that own and manage those water resources.
- Water utilities have many agreements between each other to buy and sell water.



HAMPTON ROADS PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

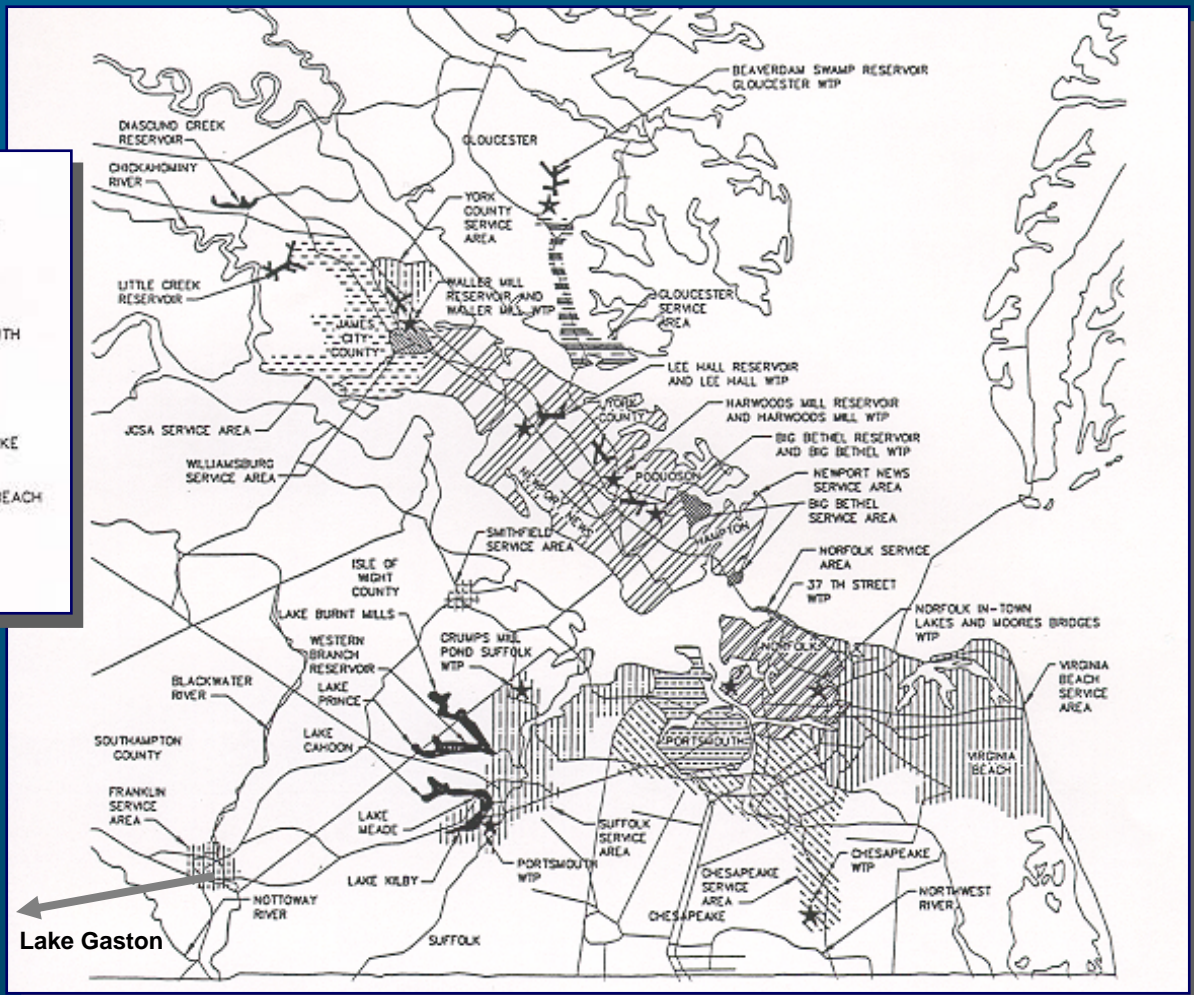
SERVICE AREA LEGEND

	GLOUCESTER		FRANKLIN
	JCSA		SUFFOLK
	YORK COUNTY		PORTSMOUTH
	WILLIAMSBURG		NORFOLK
	NEWPORT NEWS		CHESAPEAKE
	BIG BETHEL		VIRGINIA BEACH
	SMITHFIELD		

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SCALE:
1" = 8 MILES APPROX



REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- 16 cities and counties; 8 towns
- Directors of Utilities Committee Process
- Policy and Regulatory
- Ground Water Management
- Watershed Management
- Wastewater Programs
- Service Programs
- Regional Education Program



REGIONAL RISKS AND BENEFITS

- Risks
 - *Failure to reach consensus on regional plan.*
 - *State uses consolidated information in way that adversely impacts local water supply capacity of individual locality.*
- Benefits
 - *Cost savings*
 - *Common data collection and data base*
 - *Common understanding and approach to water demand management and alternative sources/technologies.*
 - *Identify resource conflicts and develop Hampton Roads specific resolution.*



MULTI-PHASE PROGRAM

- Framework for Regional Cooperation – Water Supply Planning MOA
- Data Collection Effort
 - *Characterization of Existing Public Supply Systems*
 - *Characterization of Non-Public Systems*
 - *Inventory of Environmental Resources*
- Analytical
 - *Identify & Evaluate Water Conservation Options*
 - *Develop Drought Response Plan*
 - *Determine Future Needs*
 - *Identify & Evaluate Alternatives including new technology*
- Preparation of Plan



FIRST STEP - MOA

- Develop a Memorandum of Agreement
- Challenges:
 - Each locality typically strives for water independence.
 - Uncertainty about how the plan would impact current and future permits.
 - Political considerations such as changing ordinances and impacts on water revenues.
 - Deadline if the regional plan fell apart after the deadline for local plans.



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

- Basic Premises
 - *Complete Regional Plan by Nov. 2008*
- Responsibilities of HRPDC & Local Governments
- Role of Directors of Utilities Committee
- Financing
 - *Local Funding of Regional Program*
 - *Grants when available*
- Duration – 2011 with Evaluation
- Limitation of Liability
- Other Conditions



DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

- Lessons Learned:
 - Identify the audience for this plan. It is a blend of comprehensive planning and the technical water supply reports developed for utilities.
 - Define terms in DEQ tables before you ask localities for data. Ex. “average/max daily design capacity” led to lots of questions.
 - Tables don't handle complex systems very well. Examples: Systems that mix water from multiple sources, multiple wells under single permits, separating raw and finished water purchases and storage.



DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

- Lessons Learned:
 - Completely filling in DEQ supplied tables is an ambitious goal. There will probably be many blanks.
 - Regulation's flexibility creates uncertainty about what level of detail is necessary.
 - DEQ workshop participants have called all the golf courses in the yellow pages for water use data, flown areas to develop aerial photos as a method of identifying water users, converted livestock counts to water use, etc.



DATA COLLECTION: WATER SOURCES AND USE

- DEQ's database for ground water use in the Ground Water Resource Management Area is very helpful.
- DEQ's surface water database has a lot of holes. Rarely did agricultural users report the amount of water used.
- VDH records do not consistently provide the water use data needed to do a water supply plan. Ex. confusing capacity analysis, unclear descriptions of the permitted amounts.
- Regional VDH office does not have electronic records and was not expecting our data request.



DATA COLLECTION: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

- 9 VAC 25-780-90 Natural and Cultural resource section goals are unclear.
- Should resources be identified for entire region or limited to areas where a water resource is used or could be developed?
- How will this section be used in the future?
- Lots of data available electronically.
- Over 40 Rare and Endangered Species in Southern Watershed of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach alone.



DATA COLLECTION: WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT RESPONSE

- Good opportunity to evaluate and expand regional conservation and education programs.
- Drought response policies depend on the type and ownership of water sources.
- Single drought response policy may not be practical for the Region.
- Process might begin evaluation of local ordinances and policies for regional consistency.



PLAN'S BENEFITS

- Standardizing data and maps for the Region.
- Consolidate information about publicly and privately owned water resources in one report.
- State agencies can evaluate the availability of water resource data.
- Start dialogue about developing more regional, water-related policies and projects.



CONCLUSIONS

- Effective water resource planning and management requires:
 - *Educated Public*
 - *Sound Technical Information*
 - *Informed Decision-Making*
- Hampton Roads Regional Water Program is a continuing, cooperative, comprehensive and cost-effective approach.
- Hampton Roads Regional Water Supply Plan will enable the region's 24 cities, counties and towns to meet the regulatory requirements.

