

ANNUAL UPDATE

Regional Wet Weather Management Plan



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HRSD BEGINS REPLENISHING POTOMAC AQUIFER, CELEBRATES OPENING OF SWIFT RESEARCH CENTER IN SUFFOLK

Leila Rice, APR

HRSD Director of Communications, **HRSD**



HRSD celebrated the 6th Annual National Infrastructure Week with the official ribbon cutting and opening celebration for the \$25 million SWIFT (Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow) Research Center located on the grounds of the Nansemond Treatment Plant in Suffolk.

The SWIFT Research Center is capable of producing up to one million gallons of drinking water quality SWIFT Water per day using advanced treatment processes. This SWIFT Water is then treated to match existing groundwater and used to recharge the Potomac Aquifer.

During opening remarks, HRSD General Manager Ted Henifin explained, "We will gather and ana-

lyze data for the next year here at the SWIFT Research Center to get a better understanding of the response of the aquifer and be able to optimize the advanced treatment processes. This data will help us inform the design of our full-scale facilities throughout the region as we move towards our goal of more than 100 million gallons of SWIFT Water recharging the Potomac aquifer daily by 2030."

The Research Center also features interpretive elements and educational displays and will serve as an environmental learning center for students and all who wish to learn more about SWIFT.

Visit the RWWMP Web page at www.HRSD.com for:

- Background information
- Related news articles
- Public presentations and
- Other related information

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Affiliate Information:

Visit askhrgreen.org for information on everything green in Hampton Roads.

Visit elizabethriver.org to learn how to make restoration a reality.



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Imagine A Day Without Water

THE ONE THING YOU CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT

Lacie Wever

Community Education and Outreach Specialist, **HRSD**

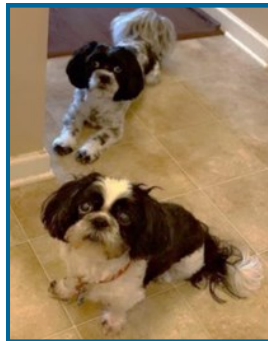
Can you imagine a day without water? Water is essential to our lives – 50-65% of our bodies are composed of it. We not only consume water, we need it for so many important functions in our life. In truth, water is so readily available we don't always appreciate how valuable it is or how much we use on a daily basis.



To bring light to this fact, I decided to track the amount of water I use in a day. In the morning, my day starts with water. I wash my face and brush my teeth before heading downstairs for breakfast. In the kitchen, I feed the dogs and fill up their water bowls before starting the coffee pot. I throw

fruit, water, and ice in a blender for a morning smoothie and I am out the door for the day.

After work, I hit the gym with my reusable water bottle and take another shower. I cook dinner, feed the dogs and fill up their water bowls before watering my plants and loading the dishwasher. I often throw on a load of laundry and hand wash dishes that cannot fit in the dishwasher before brushing my teeth and heading to bed.

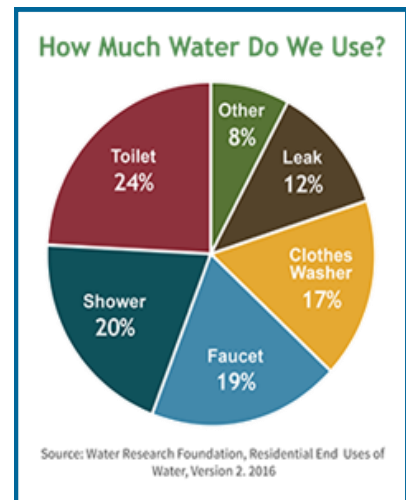


I consider myself a conservative water user. I try to take efficient showers and turn the faucet off when not in use. Imagine my surprise when I received my daily water calculation! According to the [Water Footprint Calculator](#), I use 135 gallons of water a day! This number does not include the amount of virtual water it takes to travel in my car, power my home, or support my diet. Thinking about this, I can see how easy it is to calculate [the average American uses over 64,000 gallons of water in a year](#). As Americans, we often don't realize what it takes to ensure clean water. We turn on the faucet and clean water is right at our fingertips and the used, dirty water goes "away," traveling down our drains and pipes without a second thought. In reality, it takes millions of dollars, hundreds of jobs, and reliable infrastructure to get that clean water to your home and take that dirty water away from your home,

clean it and release it safely back into the environment.

What would my day look like without the ability to use 135 gallons of clean water? To raise awareness about the importance of water, the Value of Water Campaign is celebrating the fourth annual [Imagine a Day Without Water](#) event.

Here at [HRSD](#), water is our work! Every day, nearly 200 million gallons of wastewater enters our [13 plants](#) from homes, businesses and industries across 18 cities and counties. That water is cleaned and highly treated, then discharged into the Elizabeth, James or York rivers, eventually ending up in the Chesapeake Bay.



As a new employee at HRSD, I am beginning to see how important it is to recognize and appreciate water. We cannot live without it. HRSD works to protect public health and the waters of Hampton Roads by treating wastewater effectively. We work to ensure that future generations inherit clean waterways – and be able to keep them clean. Over 800 employees work every day to clean the water that leaves your home.

Water in our toilets, water from our tap, water in our nearest rivers – we not only need it, we expect it. Now, I'll ask again. Can you imagine a day without water? Today, take a moment to appreciate the value of clean water and understand why it's everyone's job to keep it that way.

HRSD RECEIVES 2018 U.S. WATER PRIZE FOR SWIFT

Leila Rice, APR

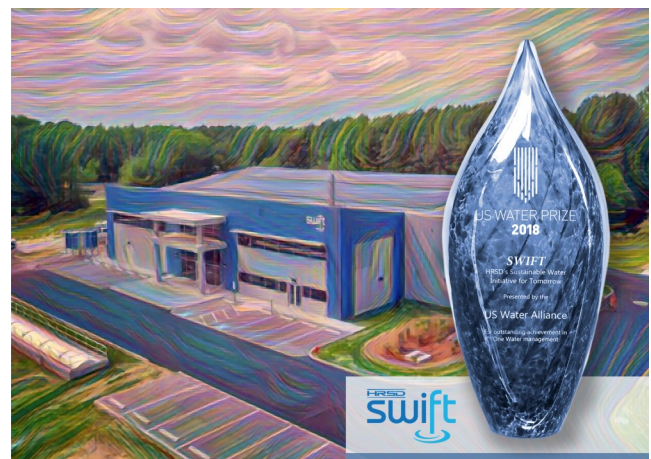
HRSD Director of Communications, **HRSD**

[HRSD](#) has been recognized by the U. S. Water Alliance, earning the prestigious U.S. Water Prize in the public sector for [SWIFT](#), HRSD's Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow. Awarded annually, the [US Water Prize](#) celebrates outstanding achievement in the advancement of sustainable, integrated, and inclusive solutions to water challenges and is the pre-eminent national recognition program for exemplary efforts to secure a sustainable water future for all.

SWIFT is an innovative water treatment project designed to ensure a sustainable source of groundwater to meet current and future needs in the region. The project takes HRSD's already highly treated water that would otherwise be discharged into the Elizabeth, James or York rivers and puts it through additional rounds of advanced water treatment to produce drinking quality water. The SWIFT Water is then treated to match the existing groundwater chemistry and added to the Potomac Aquifer, the primary source of groundwater throughout eastern Virginia, ensuring a sustainable source of groundwater while addressing environmental challenges such as Chesapeake Bay restoration, sea level rise and saltwater intrusion.



"We are humbled by the recognition. HRSD has been the one wastewater solution for our 18 independent cities and counties for more than 85 years. With SWIFT, we look forward to becoming the model of one-water regional solutions for the nation. As an appointed leader, my fellow commissioners and I have an obligation to promote, advance and deliver greater solutions for our region and the water sector," said HRSD Commission Chair Rick Elofson as he and several HRSD staff accepted the award on July 10 at the U.S. Water Alliance's One Water Summit 2018 held in Minneapolis, MN.



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Participating Localities

- Chesapeake
- Gloucester
- Hampton
- Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
- HRSD
- Isle of Wight
- James City Service Authority
- Newport News
- Norfolk
- Poquoson
- Portsmouth
- Smithfield
- Suffolk
- Surry
- Virginia Beach
- Williamsburg
- York County

Help Protect Our Waterways by Reporting Suspected Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)

Please call the number listed for your locality if you observe an SSO

Locality	During Business Hours	After Business Hours
Chesapeake Public Utilities	757-382-6352	757-382-3550
Gloucester Public Utilities	804-693-4044	804-693-3890
Hampton Public Works	757-727-8311	757-727-8311
Isle of Wight Public Utilities	757-365-6284	757-357-2151
James City Service Authority	757-229-7421	757-566-0112
Newport News Public Works	757-933-2311	757-926-8195
Norfolk Public Utilities	757-823-1000	757-823-1000
Poquoson Public Works	757-868-3590	757-868-3501
Portsmouth Public Utilities	757-393-8561	757-393-8561
Suffolk Public Utilities	757-514-7000	757-514-7000
Town of Smithfield	757-365-4200	757-357-2151
Virginia Beach Public Utilities	757-385-1400	757-385-3111
Williamsburg Public Works	757-220-6140	757-220-6196
York County Public Works	757-890-3752	757-890-3773

