

Quarterly Update

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Regional Technical Standards Training: Cooperation Continues

By Julia Hillegass, HRPDC

Approximately 150 attendees participated in the Regional Technical Standards Trainings offered by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) through the Regional Wastewater Program. The trainings were offered as a part of a series of regional training sessions to assist localities, their project engineers, and engineers working for local developers in meeting the requirements of the State Special Order by Consent with the Department of Environmental Quality. Thirteen Hampton Roads localities and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) are parties to the Consent Order and meet regularly to address technical issues of regional importance.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) national enforcement priorities target Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). Their SSO national enforcement strategy aims to achieve maximum compliance with environmental regulations in order to protect human health and the environment. SSOs have a variety of causes, including severe weather, equipment failures, management, operation and maintenance issues, and vandalism.

Properly designed, operated, and maintained sewer systems are meant to collect and transport sewage to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). However, releases of raw sewage from municipal sanitary sewers can occur. When this occurs, SSOs can pose a risk to public health and the environment. The main pollutants in raw sewage from SSOs are bacteria, pathogens, nutrients, untreated industrial wastes, pollutants such as oil and pesticides, and wastewater solids and debris. Hampton Roads localities and HRSD pride themselves on quick response, containment, and clean-up, thus minimizing the threat to human health and safety.

The Consent Order provides a timeline and milestones for studying, improving, and repairing the system. The associated tasks are costly and ratepayers should anticipate wastewater rate increases in the years ahead. By approaching these issues regionally, solutions can be found that best serve the citizens of Hampton Roads to maintain water quality and public health and safety in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Regional Wet Weather Management Plan

Quarterly Update

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

www.HRSD.COM/RWWMP.HTM

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

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-CITY	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	757-269-2750	757-247-2500
Norfolk Public Utilities	757-823-1000	757-823-1000
Poquoson Public Works	757-868-3590	757-868-3501
Portsmouth Public Utilities	757-393-8524	757-393-8561
Suffolk Public Utilities	757-514-7000	757-514-7034
Town of Smithfield	757-365-4272	757-357-2151
Virginia Beach Public Utilities	757-385-1400	757-385-3111
Williamsburg Public Works	757-220-6140	757-220-6196
York Environmental & Development Services	757-890-3773	757-890-3773

Capacity Team Members

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