



News Release

Media Contact:

Nancy Munnikhuysen – 757.460.7058 (Office)
757.642.1321 (Cell)

nmunnikhuysen@hrsd.com
www.hrsd.com

Embargoed until 6:00 a.m.
March 22, 2016

White House Water Summit calls attention to HRSD's sustainable water recycling initiative

—Initiative would solve several significant environmental issues with a single program —

HRSD's sustainable water recycling initiative was among the water issue solutions featured during the March 22, 2016, White House Water Summit in Washington, D.C. The event was held in conjunction with the United Nations World Water Day to catalyze ideas and actions to help build a sustainable and secure water future through innovative science and technology.

"We are proud that our initiative, which is a unique opportunity to solve several significant environmental issues with a single program, was among those recognized during the White House Water Summit," said HRSD General Manager Ted Henifin. Representatives of HRSD and its project partner CH2M attended the summit, which included panel discussions and invited speakers from the public and private sectors.

HRSD has committed to begin pilot tests in the summer of 2016 as part of a \$1 billion sustainable water recycling initiative that would pump up to 120 million gallons of clean water that exceeds drinking water standards into a coastal plain aquifer. This would provide a sustainable source of groundwater, inhibit salt water intrusion, slow the rate of land subsidence in Eastern Virginia and significantly reduce surface water discharges from HRSD facilities into Chesapeake Bay tributaries.

"The treated water HRSD produces today is very clean and with the addition of advanced treatment processes, HRSD can produce water that exceeds drinking water standards," Henifin said. HRSD will test two types of advanced treatment processes at its York River Treatment in Seaford, Virginia, during its pilot studies.

Before final decisions are made regarding the sustainable water recycling initiative, all processes must be proven reliable, dependable and affordable; all local, state and federal regulatory requirements must be met; and a comprehensive public input process will be conducted with all comments thoroughly addressed.

More information about HRSD's sustainable water recycling initiative can be found at www.hrsd.com/SWR.

###

*HRSD, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was created by public referendum in 1940 and currently serves 17 cities and counties in southeast Virginia, an area with a population of 1.6 million.
Our Mission: We protect public health and the waters of Hampton Roads by treating wastewater effectively.*