

The City FOCUS

A Report to the Citizens of the City of Colonial Heights



THE CITY BUDGET IS LOWER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011



The City's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget for the second straight year was lower than the prior year. Continuing recessionary trends in consumer-based revenues both locally and throughout the State reduced the City's revenue capacity. Local consumer spending continued to under-perform and continues to trend under expectations, with State revenue shortfalls continued to be passed onto local governments. The City operating departments further reduced operating expenses after a 10.5% reduction in Fiscal Year 2010. City Council for the second year authorized the use of 7% of the City's cash reserves to reduce the number of positions eliminated. The approved budget had a single goal of "maintain our services for another year" and we believe we accomplished that goal. Personnel and operating expense reductions should not be very visible to our citizens in our delivery of daily services. Until economic recovery occurs, it will be harder for the City to address increasing demands for service. Preserving what and who we are is our priority.

All tax rates and service fees remain at their current levels. The 2011 budget does initiate a stormwater utility charge that is based on a \$2.00 per month charge for a residential dwelling unit beginning October 1, 2010. Non-residential properties will be some multiple of this \$2.00 charge based on the size of their impervious area and applicability of stormwater management credits. These fees will be used to perform mandated stormwater management services as required under a Consent Order from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Copies of the budget are available for review at the Library or the City Clerk's Office in City Hall. The City Manager's Recommended Budget Message to City Council is available on the City's website at www.colonial-heights.com.



CHPD RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR EFFORTS COMBATING DRUNK DRIVING



Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), along with our local CADRE (substance abuse prevention coalition) and the Office on Youth, celebrated the efforts of our Police Department in keeping our community safe through their work as reflected in DUI arrests. The Colonial Heights Police Department has surpassed the surrounding communities in its efforts. Mayor Scott Davis and Acting City Manager Bill Johnson presented a City proclamation to Chief Jeffrey W. Faries on behalf of all the men and women of the Colonial Heights Police Department. Arrests for DUI over the past four years include:

2006 – 265 DUI arrests
 2007 – 284 DUI arrests
 2008 – 407 DUI arrests
 2009 – 333 DUI arrests



CITIZENS ACTION CENTER *online*



The City wants to remind citizens to use our Citizens Action Center *online*. This is an interactive citizens request management system to enhance customer service capability through the City's website.

Colonial Heights' Citizens Action Center enables increased citizen access to information while improving communication. Citizens have access to a growing knowledge base and the option to complete a service request. Online features include:

- ☆ Find Answers
- ☆ Ask a Question
- ☆ Make a Request
- ☆ My Colonial Heights, VA

The City encourages citizens to explore the features of our **Citizens Action Center *online*** by visiting the City's website at www.colonial-heights.com.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION HONOR PUBLIC SAFETY

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 284 and Southern Virginia Legion Riders recently hosted their 2nd Annual Dinner honoring local public safety workers. Those in attendance included several members of the Colonial Heights Police Department, Colonial Heights Fire and EMS and the Colonial Heights Sheriff's Department. The Sons of the American Legion recognized each department's 2009 Employee of the Year with a plaque. Award winners included *Officer of the Year* Thad Johnson of the Police Department; *Firefighter of the Year* Chris Pond of the Fire and EMS Department; and *Deputy of the Year* Captain Janice Pattison of the Sheriff's Department. All of those in attendance were truly appreciative of a great meal and the recognition bestowed upon them.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM



The Colonial Heights Public Library will have a summer reading program entitled "Hook a Book" for children ages 3 through 12 from June 29 through August 6. Highlights will include a juggling show, sign language classes, read-to-dog program, visits by the Richmond Flying Squirrels and the Red Knights Motorcycle Club, and a performance by the Fort Lee Army Band. Registration will be held from June 14 – 25 at the Library. An average of 230 - 250 children have participated in the past summer reading programs and have read an average of nearly four thousand books each summer.

FINANCIAL RECORDS LOOK GOOD

The City has received its 30th straight Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of financial reporting. The Award confirms that the CAFR or audit report clearly communicates the financial story of the City. Citizens interested in reviewing the City's Financial Statements should contact Bill Johnson, Director of Finance, at 520-9332 or johnsonw@colonial-heights.com.



CHFD INSTALL THREE NEW OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS



In order to provide our citizens with the most effective outdoor warning system possible, the Fire, EMS & Emergency Management Department installed 3 new outdoor warning sirens for National Weather Service severe thunderstorm or tornado warnings. Funds to purchase the sirens were obtained through a grant from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

The sirens are located on Conduit Road at the Colonial Heights High School, at the Flora Hill Park at Norfolk & Suffolk Avenues and at the City Garage located on Lake Avenue off Lakeview Avenue. The sirens are primarily used to warn our community of severe weather conditions such as thunderstorms and tornados.



KEEP INFORMED OF ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND ACTIVITIES IN COLONIAL HEIGHTS!



Sign up today for **e-News** - a service offered by the City of Colonial Heights that allows you to receive information from the City by email. Residents and businesses can receive current events, news stories, public notices and more - over 4,500 customers have already subscribed!

You may choose the type of information you want to receive. Current choices include: *General News, Employment Information, Library, Recreation & Parks Activities, and Economic Development.*

Subscribing to **e-News** is easy!!! Simply:

1. Visit the City's website at www.colonial-heights.com.
2. Click on the e-news icon on the right hand side of the webpage.
3. Enter your email address in the box provided and click the search button.
4. Select one or more of the categories of information listed.
5. Click the Save button and you're finished!

ROSLYN LANDING PARK- MAJOR CHANGES

What a difference a year makes! One year ago, the City officially broke ground for the construction of the first phase of the Appomattox River Greenway Trail and small boat launch. Today, the first 2,000 lineal feet of the trail has been completed and the boat launch is also in place and actively serving the community.

These actions led to the City Council officially designating 33 acres as the official boundary of Roslyn Landing Park. A new entry road is now also being constructed to the boat launch and the park is now actively used for fishing as well.

Phase II of the trail is 100% designed and federal and local funding is in place for its construction. As soon as easements for the trail are approved by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and Roslyn Farm Corporation, the project will be bid out. The construction will be about 2,700 lineal feet of trail which will extend the project all the way to I-95. The engineer's estimated construction cost for Phase II is \$244,000.

Phase III, which will extend the trail from I-95 to Rt. 1/301 or the Boulevard, is also under design. Federal funds are also approved for this section and local fundraising is actively underway by CHARTS. Environmental reviews are now being carried out by VDOT. A 2011 construction date is now targeted.

Please contact George Schanzenbacher, Director of Planning and Community Development, at 520-9275 or schanzenbacherg@colonial-heights.com for more information.



CURBSIDE RECYCLING



The City and CVWMA makes curbside recycling easy to do. Call the Recycling Hotline at 340-0900 to get your green bin or you can use your own container. Recycling makes such a difference in our community by keeping usable materials from becoming trapped in a landfill. It also saves natural resources, energy, water and creates much less pollution with making things from recyclables versus from scratch.



The City Focus is a newsletter mailed to residents of the City of Colonial Heights, published by the Office of the City Manager, to inform residents of government actions and events of interest in the City. This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.



RECREATION & PARKS



- ☆ **American Legion Post #284 & Colonial Heights Recreation & Parks Department 21st Annual Baseball Camp** - June 28, 2010 - July 2, 2010

Camp Features:

- Quality coaching staff
- Baseball games each day—also incrediball, Indian baseball, kickball & fungoball
- Specialty segments - bunting, base running, sliding, cutoffs, relays & more...
- Written camp evaluation
- Concession stand
- Stressing "Fun"amentals

Camp Directors:

- Scott Rash - 18 years of coaching experience to the camp, including nine as a collegiate head coach
- John Fletcher - head baseball coach at J.R. Tucker High School

Ages: 6 - 12 years old

Schedule: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Location: Shepherd Stadium & Surrounding Fields

Camp Fee: \$90.00; Receive a \$15 discount if \$50 deposit or payment is made in full & received by June 11th.

- ☆ **Youth Football & Cheerleading Registration**

Registration will be taken on the following Saturdays at Shepherd Stadium from 9:00 a.m. to Noon:

June 12th, June 19th & June 26th

Registration will also be accepted Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., June 14th thru July 12th, at Shepherd Stadium.

Ages: Boys and Girls 6 - 13 (age as of August 1, 2010)

Age Divisions:

Instructional (6-7*) In-House League

Minor (7*-8) Local Travel League

Junior (9-10) Local Travel League

Senior (11-13**) Local Travel League

Fee: \$20.00 per child

The fee for anyone registering after July 13th is \$40.00. Players registering after July 13th are also subject to being placed on a waiting list. Must have returned baseball/softball, basketball, or previous years football/cheerleading equipment to register.

Child(ren) must be Colonial Heights Residents and eligible for enrollment in the Colonial Heights School.

* 7 year olds have the option of playing Instructional or Minor

** 13 year olds must weigh under 115 lbs & may not advance the ball.

4th of July Fireworks **4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS** **4th of July Fireworks**

The City will hold its Annual 4th of July Celebration on Sunday, **July 4, 2010**. Fireworks will be displayed at 9:15 p.m. in the vicinity of Charles Dimmock Parkway in Colonial Heights. Rain date is Monday, July 5, 2010.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

As of July 1, 2010, the Library will have new hours. The new hours will be:

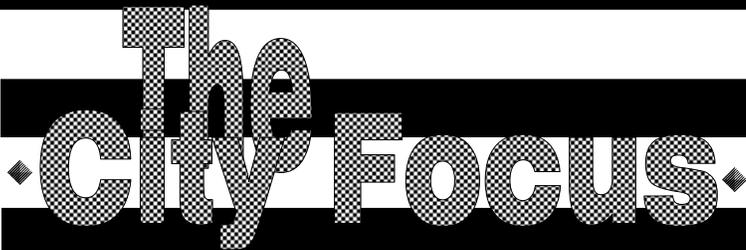
Monday - Tuesday will change from
10 a.m. - 8 p.m. to 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday will be from
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday will be from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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2009 Water Quality Report

Colonial Heights Department of Public Works



This report is designed to inform you about your drinking water quality. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand the efforts we make to protect your water supply. The quality of your drinking water must meet state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

Where does my water come from?

The Appomattox River Water Authority provides water to the Cities of Colonial Heights and Petersburg and the Counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie and Prince George. The Authority obtains its water from Lake Chesdin, a surface water impoundment of the Appomattox River. There are no significant sources of contamination for Lake Chesdin. The Farmville wastewater treatment plant is forty miles upstream and there are numerous animal feed lots and farms in the drainage area.

Source water assessment and its availability:

The Virginia Department of Health conducted a source water assessment of our system during 2002. Lake Chesdin (Appomattox River) was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination using criteria developed by the state in its approved Source Water Assessment Program. The assessment consists of maps showing the source water assessment area, an inventory of known land use activities of concern, and documentation of any known contamination within the last 5 years. The report is available by contacting Appomattox River Water Authority's Executive Director at (804) 590-1145.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

- organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Additional Information on Lead:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Colonial Heights is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water: Our most important resource...

Water is one of the most valuable resources for sustaining life. The human body is about 65% water, and only about 20% of our body water comes from our food. Less than 3% of the world's water is fresh water; the rest is contained in the world's oceans. In other words, as a population, we need to harness a lot of water from a relatively small source.

We don't always understand how much water we consume for daily activities, either. For example, it takes 11 gallons of water to produce the fruit in one half-gallon container of orange juice, and 37 gallons of water to supply the beans in your morning cup of coffee. An amazing 264 gallons of water are needed to produce one quart of milk, and an astonishing 4,200 gallons of water are required to produce just two pounds of beef.

The average person uses anywhere from 70 to 100 gallons of water per day; per year that amounts to roughly 100,000 gallons for the average family of four. Simple water conservation practices, like checking your home for leaky toilets and faucets, are simple and effective. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day and dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year. Making sure your garden hoses are fitted with shut-off nozzles is another easy way to conserve water. Visit www.h2oconserve.org/?page_id=5 to learn more.

Water Quality Data Table

The tables below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

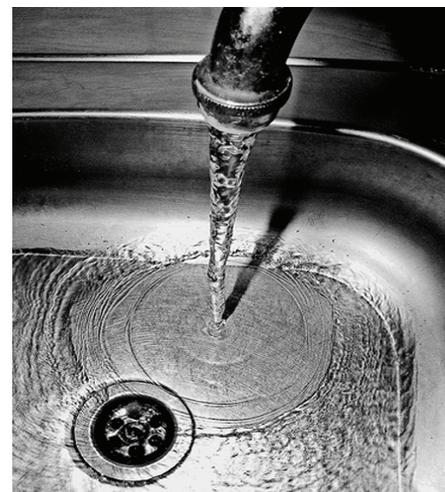
Regulated in the Colonial Heights Distribution System

Primary Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	# of samples	0	MCL = 1 positive monthly sample	None Positive	n/a	No	2009	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform & <i>E. coli</i>		0	routine & repeat sample are total coliform positive and 1 is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	None Positive	n/a	No	2009	Human and animal fecal waste
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ppb	n/a	80	29	12.8 - 43.1	No	2009	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	n/a	60	39	17.3 - 46.1	No	2009	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Copper - action level at consumer taps *	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.21*	n/a	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps *	ppm	0	AL = 15	2.0 *	n/a	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (as Cl ₂)	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	2.43	ND - 3.3	No	2009	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite	ppm	0.8	1.0	0.30	.01 - 0.32	No	2009	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated at the ARWA Treatment Plant

Primary Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorine Dioxide	ppb	MRDLG = 800	MRDL = 800	190	ND - 190	No	2009	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.61	ND - 1.40	No	2009	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.17	n/a	No	2009	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radium	pCi/L	0	5	0.9	n/a	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Primary Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Violation	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters	pCi/L	0	15	0.1	n/a	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon**	pCi/L	0	50**	4	n/a	No	2008	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	n/a	n/a	TT, minimum running annual average removal ratio = 1.0	1.23	1.08 - 1.43	No	2009	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity - filtered water	NTU	n/a n/a	TT=1 NTU max TT<=0.3 NTU 95% of time	0.196 100%	n/a n/a	No No	Every 15 Minutes	Soil runoff

For more local information, contact the Colonial Heights Director of Public Works at (804) 520-9334 or the Appomattox River Water Authority at (804) 748-8627. Public comment forums are available at all City Council meetings which are held on the second Tuesday night of each month at 7:00 pm.



Other Contaminants of Interest

Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range	Violation	Date of Sample
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> ±	oocysts/L	<0.075	n/a	0.012	ND - 0.1	No	Bi-Monthly

Unregulated Contaminants	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest	Average	Date of Sample	Comment
Sulfate	ppm	none	none	27	n/a	2009	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform	ppb	none	none	8.1	n/a	2009	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	none	none	3.5	n/a	2009	By-product of drinking water disinfection
MTBE - finished water	ppb	none	none	<5.0	n/a	2009	Gasoline additive
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	none	none	0.7	n/a	2009	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Pharmaceuticals	Units	MCLG	MCL	Analyte Detected	Level	Date of Sample	Comment
P.A.C positive	ppm	none	none	Cotinine	0.002	2008	By-product of nicotine metabolized by the body
P.A.C negative	ppb	none	none	none	n/a	2008	
Estrogens & Hormones	ppb	none	none	none	n/a	2008	
Fragrances	ppb	none	none	none	n/a	2008	
Phenolic E.D.C.	ppb	none	none	none	n/a	2008	

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be
NTU	NTU: nephelometric turbidity units, the measure of turbidity in water
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

NOTES

* Thirty (30) samples for lead and copper were tested in 2008. Zero (0) of the thirty (30) samples tested reached or exceeded the recommended action level.

** The MCL for beta particles is 4 millirem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern.

± *Cryptosporidium* is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly-used filtration methods can not guarantee 100% removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are all at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.