




**County Administration**  
101-D Mounts Bay Road  
P.O. Box 8784  
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8784  
P: 757-253-6728  
[jamescitycountyva.gov](http://jamescitycountyva.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Supervisors  
James City County

FROM: Bryan J. Hill   
County Administrator

DATE: July 8, 2015

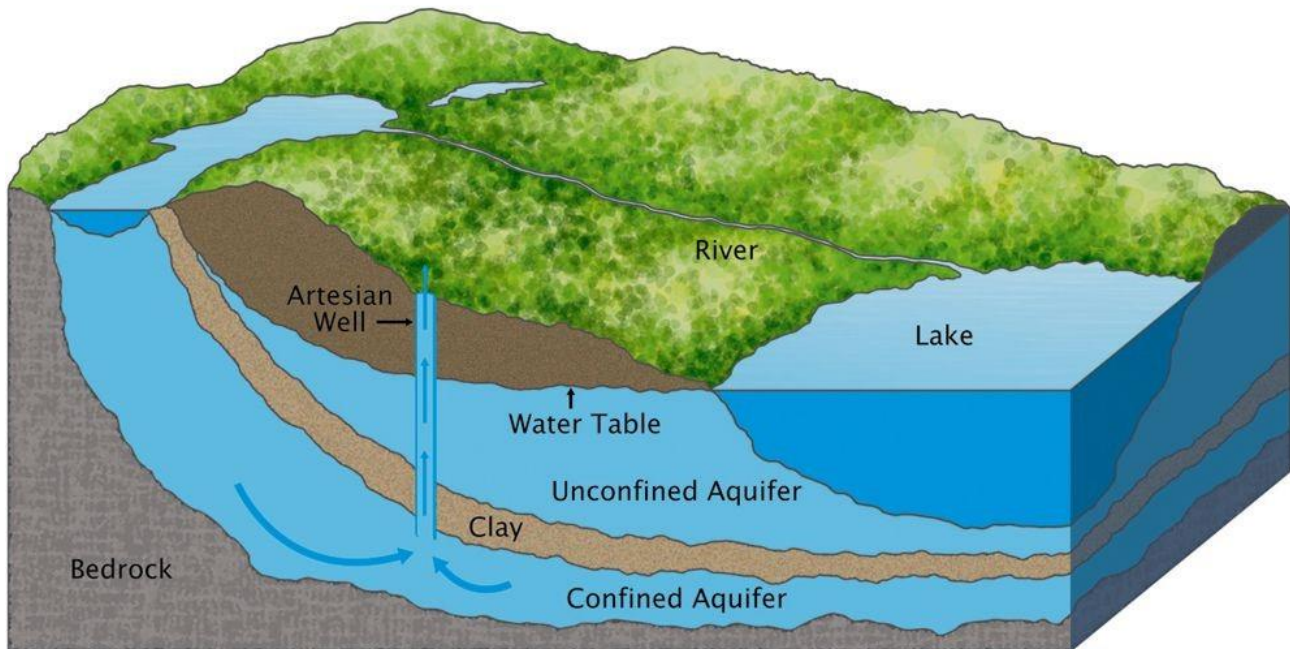
RE: Implementation Plan – Water Section

I am in the process of detailing our steps moving forward. I will be providing our team's insight on moving our initiatives forward. Below is a detailed approach for our first strategic initiative. If the Board has any comments regarding our thoughts, please let me know. Water in James City County is the key to our future. Water will dictate how our team approaches the 4 remaining strategic initiatives. Please note this document will be posted to the web in the upcoming weeks as it will be used as our guide for staff and the residents of James City County to review and as well as update our progress as we move forward.

### **Water:**

The viability of James City County is squarely dependent on our ability to maintain our current permitted level of 8.8 million gallons per day (mgd). Our current population of ~72,000, coupled with the current average consumption ~5.6 mgd, allows for strategic growth (Please note Kingsmill, Busch Gardens and the Brewery use Newport News Water Works). It is time to seek the support of our state legislature to facilitate a plan to convert waste into useable water and allow for James City County to begin the waste water recycling process or again explore our options for a reservoir. There are examples in the state of California that may help with our current situation. The goal of the JCSA is to ensure a sustainable source of water produced in James City County. DEQ states we are impairing two (2) aquifers, on which we are dependent. The following graphic is a closer look at an aquifer and how it may relate to our current situation.

# Aquifer



I have been appointed to a Committee that will focus largely on policy matters and will be structured with work groups of other individuals to provide technical input. Although we understand that members of this body may articulate their organizations' interests during the process, as a member of the Committee, I will be asked to actively participate in the process and to consider the best interests of the Commonwealth in order to reach consensus solutions. A report must be completed by July 2017. Our first meeting is August 18<sup>th</sup>, I will provide updates of the groups' progress. Here is our proposed work plan:

## July - December 2015

- Meet with DEQ staff (meetings scheduled for July 6 and July 9) - hope to get feedback on the Water Source Study
- Meet with the Director of DEQ (still hoping to confirm a date in July)
- County Administrator serves on Groundwater Advisory Committee
- Begin the study on converting from chloramines to chlorine
- Begin additional studies depending on DEQ feedback on Water Source Study
- Develop negotiating points and strategy (see below for further discussion)
- Continue to work with Mission H2O
- Work with our State legislators as necessary to prepare them for potential actions during the 2016 General Assembly

**January - March 2016**

Work closely with our lobbyist and General Assembly to monitor legislation/actions related to withdrawal of groundwater.

Continue to work with DEQ

Continue with engineering/feasibility studies for a source of surface water

**April 2016 – August 2017**

Continue to work with DEQ on permit negotiations

Continue with engineering/feasibility studies

DEQ wrap up negotiations and issue permits.

Please understand, this can change depending on the results of discussions with DEQ.

As it relates to negotiating points and strategy, I suggest we approach the topic only if we find another source of water thus reducing our reliance on groundwater. Our lobbyist, JSCA General Manager and I firmly believe we have the law on our side - the law states preference should be given to drinking water and we are unique in that 95% of our customers are residential. At the same time, DEQ will probably be very interested in our customers' outdoor water use, and this may be a key discussion point. As we continue to promote reduction in water our FY 16 campaign has begun with water consumption options to our residents.