

## CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP AT WORK FOR YOU

The Citizen Advisory Group is a forum to address issues related to all Community Systems. Comprising members from Beacon Hill, Lenah Run, Raspberry Falls, Selma and Village Green, the group meets monthly to discuss water use and conservation issues. There are still three open seats at the table if anyone from The Reserve at Rokeby is interested in joining us.

The inaugural June meeting defined the charter for Community Systems and explained the differences between Community Systems and Central Service. Guest speaker Pat Giglio of Loudoun County Planning Department presented the reasons why Community Systems are independent from the Central Water System, citing that the Comprehensive Plan controls population density in the western part of the county by restricting the expansion of central water utilities.

Citizen Advisory Group Discussions	
Past Topics	Upcoming Topics
Community Systems Charter	Community Systems Budgets
Rate Methodology	Septic Fields
Sustainable Yield	Demand Management
	Landscape & Irrigation
	Rate Structure

In July, Loudoun Water addressed the members' question whether it was possible to combine Community and Central System rates. Loudoun Water has a policy requiring Community Systems to be financially self-sustaining. The group is considering asking the Loudoun Water Board of Directors to re-evaluate this policy.

In September, the group examined how sustainable yield is determined. Guest speaker Jamie Emery, President of Emery & Garrett Groundwater, explained the difference between groundwater and surface water, examined the Karst and bedrock geology within Loudoun County and revealed the different aquifers from which the Community Systems wells draw water. Topics discussed included sustainable yield versus safe yield, methodology for establishing sustainable yield, hydrologic cycle and other factors impacting groundwater recharge, recharge impact on availability and groundwater monitoring programs performed during pumping tests.

Upcoming meeting topics include how Community Systems budgets are created and Demand Management ideas.

## PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

Here are some quick tips for the winter season. Visit our website, [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org), for more information.

- Shut off and drain the pipes leading to your outside faucets so no water is left to freeze, expand and cause a leak in these lines.
- Open the cabinets beneath any place with a water supply, such as the kitchen and bathroom sinks. This will allow warm air to circulate. (Remove any toxic substances first if there are small children in the home.)
- Never thaw a pipe with an open flame. You can use a hair dryer on low or a portable heater, but avoid using electrical appliances if there is standing water. Use warm water to soak towels, then wrap the towels around the frozen pipes.



# NEWS Leak

## Water You Thinking?®

As you're cooking up your holiday feasts this season, we'd like to remind you that fats, oils and grease can clog more than arteries, they can damage your sewer line, too. A clogged pipe can cause a sewer backup in your home – not good while the in-laws are visiting. So toss the fat in the trash and keep it away from your drains.

For more tips on disposing fats, oils and grease, visit [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org).



### Every little bit helps!

## Every Drop Counts!

**DID YOU KNOW...**you can reduce your water use by 20 to 30 percent by installing more water-efficient fixtures in your home?

Through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense® program, you can identify a range of water-saving fixtures that are certified for efficiency and performance! Just look for the WaterSense label.

Want to learn more? Visit the WaterSense Web site at [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for a list of water-efficient products that have earned the label or visit Loudoun Water at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org) for more information.



LOUDOUN WATER