

A close-up photograph of a hand pouring clear water from a glass pitcher into a glass. The pitcher is covered in condensation droplets, and the water is captured in mid-pour, creating a dynamic, flowing shape. The background is a soft, light blue.

LOUDOUN  WATER

2011 ANNUAL  
**Drinking Water  
Quality Report**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2010

Loudoun Water is pleased to present your annual water quality report. The information in this report represents data collected and reported in 2010, unless otherwise noted. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (SDWA) sets the limits for contaminants in drinking water. These limits are represented in this report as MCLs, or Maximum Contaminant Levels. The SDWA was amended most significantly in 1986 and 1996.

The tables you see in this report provide the actual data collected on your water throughout the year. Table One, on page 12, shows the quality of the water as it flows within the Loudoun Water distribution system. Table Two, on page 13–14, shows the quality of the water as it leaves the two treatment plants that supply us water.

Please contact us at any time to obtain our latest data. If your question or concern is not answered here, please let us know so we can get the answer for you. You may find your answers at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org) or you may call Customer Relations during business hours Monday through Friday at 571.291.7880. For after hours emergencies, call 571.291.7878.

You are always welcome to attend our monthly Loudoun Water Board Meetings, usually held the second Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Boardroom of our Administration Building at 44865 Loudoun Water Way, Ashburn, VA 20147.



## How to Contact Us

**Customer Relations**  
571.291.7880

**After Hours Emergencies**  
571.291.7878

**Website**  
[www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org)

## Dear Loudoun Water Customers:



As Chairman of the Loudoun Water Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, intended to provide information to you about the quality of your drinking water. I encourage you to read this report carefully to learn more about the water delivered to your home, including details about sources for drinking water and how your water is treated and tested before delivery to you.

I hope you find the report useful and informative. It provides a detailed list of what we test for in your water and information on specific treatment used to ensure its safety and maintain compliance with EPA and Virginia Department of Health Standards.

As we support current operations and respond to future needs, please remain assured the people of Loudoun Water will continue to deliver on our mission to provide you with sustainable water resources to protect and maintain health, the environment and our quality of life.

Thank you for taking the time to read the Loudoun Water 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. For additional information about Loudoun Water and how we deliver high quality drinking water to your home, I encourage you to visit our website at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org).

Sincerely,

Fred E. Jennings  
Chairman  
Loudoun Water Board of Directors

## Dear Loudoun Water Customers:



Every day, Loudoun Water delivers drinking water to nearly 200,000 people in our Central Service area. Fulfilling this important health and safety role for you, our customer and neighbor, is extremely important to the dedicated staff of Loudoun Water. As you will read in this report, the drinking water delivered to your homes and businesses is of high quality. I can assure you that we will continue to deliver this level of service while addressing long-term demand and environmental issues.

This report was prepared in accordance with the requirement of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The information in this report contains data collected and reported in 2010, unless otherwise noted. The quality of your drinking water must meet stringent state and federal standards developed by the EPA and administered by the Virginia Department of Health. I am pleased to report that your drinking water has, once again, met all federal and state drinking water quality standards.

I, too, hope you will find the Loudoun Water 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report useful and informative. As always, we are interested in your opinions and encourage you to relay your comments by phone, through the mail, via email or by way of our website, [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org). Our website also provides you with an opportunity to learn more about our rate structure and how you can conserve water to the benefit of both you and your community.

Sincerely,

Dale C. Hammes  
General Manager

## A Brief History of Loudoun Water

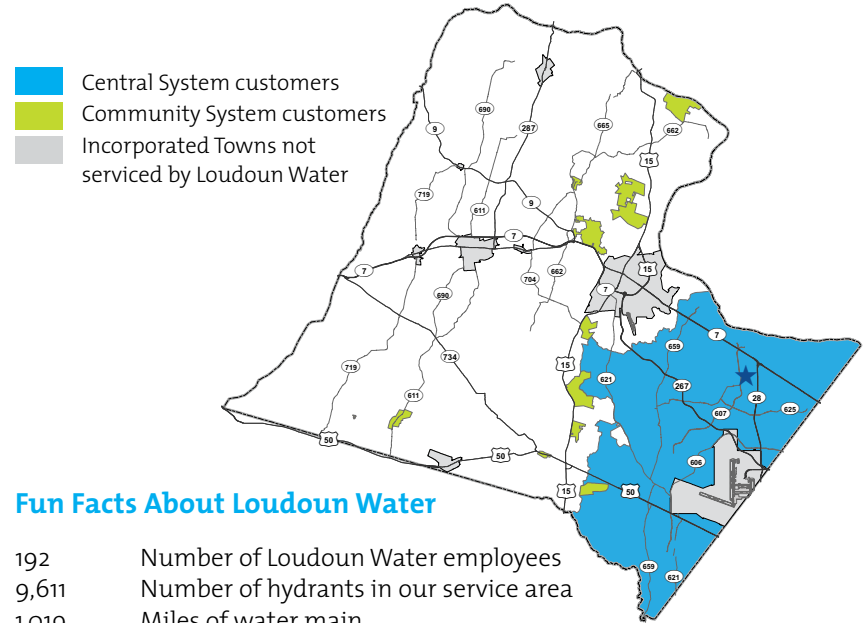
The Loudoun County Sanitation Authority, doing business as Loudoun Water, is a state-chartered authority, formed in 1959 by resolution by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors under the Virginia Water and Waste Authorities Act.

Headquartered in Ashburn, Virginia, Loudoun Water provides water and wastewater service to residents and businesses in the unincorporated areas of Loudoun County, which includes nearly all residents and businesses east of Route 15. At last count, Loudoun Water serves more than 186,000 people in our Central Service Area.

As an authority, Loudoun Water makes no profit and its operations and finances are independent of the County's tax-supported services. We operate on the income collected from you in the form of water and wastewater user fees. New water and wastewater infrastructure needed to serve new developments in Loudoun County are paid for by the developers themselves, so that current customers do not fund new water and sewer infrastructure.

## Your Water Sources

Your drinking water comes from two surface water sources: the Potomac River and Goose Creek Reservoir. The Potomac River is augmented by reservoirs in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia through a shared supply agreement we have with neighboring water providers.



## Fun Facts About Loudoun Water

- 192 Number of Loudoun Water employees
- 9,611 Number of hydrants in our service area
- 1,019 Miles of water main
- 786 Miles of wastewater main
- 50 mgd Amount of water provided by Fairfax Water
- 3 mgd Amount of water provided by the City of Fairfax
- 2016 Expected year for our new water treatment plant to become operational
- 4 billion Amount of raw water (in gallons) to be stored in retired quarries used as reservoirs
- 1961 Year we began service in Sterling Park

Beaverdam Creek Reservoir fills Goose Creek Reservoir when it gets low and vice versa. Loudoun Water does not treat this water. We purchase your drinking water from Fairfax Water and the City of Fairfax through contractual agreements, and they provide it to us fully treated.

## Potomac River Water Supply Program

Loudoun Water's Potomac River Water Supply Plan secures the water needs for Loudoun Water's suburban customers for the next 30 years. The program generally entails constructing our own intake in the Potomac River, a new pumping station on riverfront property near Leesburg that was acquired in 1993, approximately 6.5 miles of piping, new quarry storage reservoirs, and a new water treatment plant. The Potomac River water will be pumped to several retired rock quarries for storage. Ultimately, to a new water treatment facility to be built on Loudoun Water property, located where the Dulles Greenway crosses Goose Creek. The first quarry to become available will provide up to one billion gallons of storage. Over the 30-year planning period, another quarry will provide our customers with an additional four billion gallons of raw water storage.

Planned growth in Loudoun County will require an estimated 90 million gallons per day (mgd) by 2040. Loudoun Water currently has the ability to provide 53 mgd through contractual agreements with Fairfax Water (50 mgd) and the City of Fairfax (3 mgd). Loudoun Water performed engineering investigations of several options for securing this additional capacity, including purchasing all of our water from Fairfax

Water. It was determined after a lengthy study that the Potomac Water Supply Program is the most cost-effective and environmentally responsible option.

The program will be implemented in two phases: the first phase secures 20 mgd by 2016 and the second phase secures an additional 20 mgd when demands require it.

Loudoun Water successfully completed the public process with respect to the local land use applications by gaining unanimous approval by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors in early January 2011. A joint permit application was submitted, in December 2010, to federal and state agencies to allow for the withdrawal of water and for construction of the required facilities. It is anticipated that ground will be broken on these facilities in 2013, and be operational by 2016.

## Source Water Assessment

Since the Loudoun Water system has two sources of water (Potomac River and Goose Creek), two source water assessment reports have been conducted by the Virginia Department of Health. These reports consist of maps showing the source water assessment areas, an inventory of known land-use activities of concern and documentation of any known contamination. Based on state criteria, both sources are considered to be highly susceptible to contamination. Additional information about these reports can be obtained by contacting us at 571.291.7880.

## What's In Your 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the 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 radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in the water include:

- Microbes (viruses or bacteria) from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, wildlife and wastewater treatment plants
- Inorganics, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming
- Pesticides and herbicides from agriculture, urban runoff and residential uses
- Organics, like synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production; and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems

- Radioactive contaminants, either naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production or mining activities



## What Do We Test For?

- Bacteriological analysis is performed daily. It is reported based on the presence or absence of total and *Escherichia coliform*. Their presence indicates potential health risks for individuals exposed to this water. Loudoun Water tests for coliform bacteria at approximately 121 locations. Total coliform bacteria must not be present in more than five percent of monthly samples.
- Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) analysis is a quarterly monitoring requirement. Both of these can form in the water supply as chlorine reacts with organic matter. When ingested in large quantities, these chemicals are suspected human carcinogens, so we monitor for them closely. The legal limit for TTHMs is a system running annual average of 80 parts per billion (ppb). For HAA5, the limit is a system running annual average of 60 ppb. Loudoun Water tests for TTHMs and HAA5 at 10 locations.

- Corrosion control parameters (orthophosphate and pH) are a semiannual monitoring requirement. By dosing a minimum of 0.50 parts per million (ppm) orthophosphate and maintaining a minimum pH of 6.5, we reduce the potential for corrosion of lead, copper and other metals. Loudoun Water tests for these at 10 locations.

## Lead in Drinking Water

### What is the EPA standard for lead in drinking water?

The EPA has established an Action Level for lead in water of 15 parts per billion. When lead testing is performed as required by EPA, 90 percent of the samples must contain less than 15 ppb. This is usually referred to as the 90th percentile results being less than 15 ppb. The Action Level was not designed to measure health risks from water represented by individual samples. Rather, it is a statistical trigger value that, if exceeded, may require more treatment, public education, and possibly lead service-line replacement where such lines exist. (Loudoun Water does not have any lead service lines in its system.)

Loudoun Water has been testing for lead in accordance with EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) since 1992. In 2008, the 90th percentile value for lead was 0.85 ppb compared to the EPA action level of 15 ppb. The Virginia Department of Health requires Loudoun Water to monitor for lead at 50 locations every three years, with the next monitoring event to occur in 2011.

### Where does lead in drinking water come from?

Although some utilities use raw source waters that contain lead, Loudoun Water's sources do not contain lead. In 1986, lead was banned from being used in pipe and solder in home construction. In older homes, where lead is present in pipe and solder connections, it may dissolve into the water after the water sits for long periods of time. Some household plumbing components may contain a small amount of lead and can contribute to lead concentrations at the tap. Our water suppliers add a corrosion inhibitor to slow this dissolution process.

### What can I do in my home to reduce exposure to lead in the drinking water?

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. Loudoun Water is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot





control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in home construction. 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 the water for drinking or cooking. Use only cold water for cooking and making baby formula.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information about lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead) or by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791, TTY 711.

Some people choose to install filters in their homes. If you choose to use a water filter, follow these three rules:

1. Choose one designed for the specific filtration desired (chlorine, lead, *Cryptosporidium*, etc.).
2. Make sure the filter is approved by the National Sanitation Foundation ([www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org)).
3. Maintain the filter as directed.

#### **How can Loudoun Water assist in having the water in my house tested?**

For information on having a lead-level test conducted, call our Customer Relations Department at 571.291.7880. The charge for lead-level testing of your home's water is \$33 per faucet.

## **Information About *Cryptosporidium* in the Potomac River**

*The following information was provided by our primary water provider, Fairfax Water.*

*Cryptosporidium* is a microbial pathogen sometimes found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Fairfax Water consistently maintains its filtration process in accordance with regulatory guidelines to maximize removal efficiency. Our monitoring indicates the occasional presence of these organisms in the source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine whether 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, small children and the elderly are 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. It may be spread through means other than drinking water, such as other people, animals, water, swimming pools, fresh food, soils and any surface that has not been sanitized after exposure to feces.

Fairfax Water has completed monitoring of the Potomac River for compliance with the EPA Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR). The EPA created this rule to provide for increased protection against microbial pathogens, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in public water systems that use surface water sources. Fairfax Water’s monitoring program began in 2004, and involved the collection of two samples from water treatment plant sources each month for a period of two years. Once monitoring for compliance with the LT2ESWTR was complete, Fairfax Water continued to monitor for *Cryptosporidium* at water treatment plant sources.

Under the LT2ESWTR, the average *Cryptosporidium* concentration determined whether additional treatment measures were needed. A *Cryptosporidium* concentration of 0.075 oocysts/Liter would have triggered additional water treatment measures. Fairfax Water’s raw water *Cryptosporidium* concentrations consistently remain below this threshold.

The results for Potomac River 2010 are as follows:

Source (Before Treatment)	Average <i>Cryptosporidium</i> Concentration (oocysts/Liter)
Potomac River	0

## Are You Vulnerable to Contaminants?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, per-

sons 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. The EPA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infections by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

## How is Your Water Treated?

The treatment process includes chemical coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Coagulation and flocculation help condition the raw water so that contaminants combine with particulate matter to form floc (large particles), which will settle out in the sedimentation process. Filtration removes the smaller, lighter particles. Disinfection with chlorine is the last step, which kills bacteria, viruses and other microbial contaminants.



Sufficient chlorine is added to deter growth of bacteria while water flows through the pipes to your home. Chlorine can be dangerous to human health at high amounts. EPA sets the safe limit for chlorine in your water at a running annual average of 4 ppm. We maintain the chlorine amount to be extremely effective at killing bacteria.

Fairfax Water also uses ozone as a disinfectant, which reduces the amount of chlorine needed to treat the water, offers additional barriers against water-borne pathogens and produces a better tasting water. They also use chloramines as a disinfectant. Chloramines are created by adding ammonia to chlorine. They break down much slower than free chlorine, minimizing the creation of TTHMs and maximizing the length of time the disinfectant remains in the water. Fairfax Water adds orthophosphate to the water to help coat the pipes and reduce the ability of the lead to leach out. One downside of the chloramines is they may cause certain types of gaskets or toilet flappers to deteriorate faster, potentially causing leaks.

## Turbidity

Turbidity is the clarity of the water. It is measured in Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU). Turbidity higher than 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity has no health effects; however, it can interfere with the disinfection process and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity is measured during the treatment process after the water has been filtered, but before disinfection. The turbidity level of filtered water must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least 95 percent of the measurements taken each month and no single measurement can exceed 1 NTU.

Turbidity	Average Detected	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest % Of Samples Meeting the Limit	MCL	Major Source
Fairfax Water	0.05	0.26	100%	=< 0.3 NTU in 95% of samples; no single measurement over 1 NTU	Soil runoff
City of Fairfax	0.11	0.233	99.83%		

## Tables

Our suppliers test the water for a large array of contaminants. You'll find data on what they detected in table two. Loudoun Water tests the water, too, once it's in our possession. We test for the presence of bacteria, TTHMS, HAA5, lead and copper and submit the results to VDH on a regular basis. This data is found in table one. The tables on pages 12–14 show the results of monitoring for the period of January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2010.

Table One: Water Quality in the Distribution System					
Microbial Component	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL (Max Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	Typical Source	Violation
Total Coliform Bacteria	0%	Cannot exceed 5% of monthly samples	0	Naturally present in the environment	No
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	0%	A routine sample and repeat sample are Total Coliform positive, and one is also Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste	No
Component	Highest Quarterly System Running Annual Average	MRDL (Max Allowed, Compliance Based on System Running Annual Average)	MRDLG (Goal)	Typical Source	Violation
Total Chlorine (ppm)	2.7	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	No
	Range (individual test results)				
	0.70-4.3				
Disinfection By-products	Highest Quarterly System Running Annual Average	MCL (Max Allowed, Compliance Based on System Running Annual Average)	MCLG (Goal)	Typical Source	Violation
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	27	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No
	Range (individual test results)				
	3.36-80.6				
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	Highest Quarterly System Running Annual Average	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No
	20				
	Range (individual test results)				
	1.98-52.9				

Metal Components*	90th Percentile Level	Action Level	Goal	No. Of Sites Above Action Level	Typical Source	Violation
Copper (ppm)	0.122	1.3	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits	No
Lead (ppb)	0.85	15	0	1	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits	No

\*Samples taken in 2008. Next required testing is 2011.

**Table Two: Water Quality From Loudoun Water Suppliers**

Components	Average Amount Detected		MCL (Max Allowed)	MCLG (Goal)	Typical Source
	Range				
	City of Fairfax	Fairfax Water			
Chloroform (ppb)		21.6	NRL	NRL	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		<b>Range</b>			
		21.0-22.1			
Bromoform (ppb)		0.3	NRL	NRL	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		<b>Range</b>			
		ND-0.6			
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)		12.6	NRL	NRL	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		<b>Range</b>			
		12.4-12.7			
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)		5.3	NRL	NRL	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		<b>Range</b>			
		5.1-5.4			
Alpha Emitters <sup>1</sup> (pCi/L)	<1.6		15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters <sup>1,2,3</sup> (pCi/L)	5.0	ND	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
		<b>Range</b>			
		ND-4.04			
Radium 226/228 <sup>1</sup> (pCi/L)	0.3		5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppb)	0.92	0.9	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
	<b>Range</b>				
	0.77-1.08	0.8-1.1			
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	0.06	1.0	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
		<b>Range</b>			
		ND-1.6			
Nitrite [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	<0.005	ND	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
		<b>Range</b>			
		ND-0.02			

<sup>1</sup>City of Fairfax testing performed in 2009.

<sup>2</sup>Fairfax Water testing performed in 2008.

<sup>3</sup>The MCL for Beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.



## Helpful Definitions

**Action Level** | The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** | The highest level of a contaminant that EPA allows in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as possible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** | 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** | The maximum permissible level of disinfectant residual in drinking water, based on a running annual average.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** | 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.

**mrems/year** | Millirems per year. A measurement of radiation absorbed by the body.

**ND** | Non-detect, below the detection level.

**Ninetieth (90th) Percentile** | Represents the highest value found out of 90 percent of the samples taken in a representative group. If the 90th percentile is greater than the action level, it will trigger a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

**NRL** | No regulatory limit.

**NTU** | Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

**PCi/L** | Picocuries per liter.

**ppb** | Parts per billion. One ppb is equal to one microgram per liter. (ug/L)

**ppm** | Parts per million. One ppm is equal to one milligram per liter. (mg/L)

**Total Coliform** | Bacteria that indicate whether other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

**TT** | Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

# Water You Thinking?®

Irrigation and landscape experts recommend watering every three days for healthy green plants and grass (under dry conditions). We support the following recommended watering schedule to promote healthy plants and turf and spread out the water demand in our system.

- **odd home addresses: Wednesday and Saturday**
- **even home addresses: Thursday and Sunday**
- **commercial and multifamily customers: Tuesday and Friday**
- **avoid watering from 10:00 am–4:00 pm**

For more information, visit [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org) and click on Conservation under Residential Customers.

New to Loudoun County? Visit our website to learn about the variety of services we provide to our customers, our conservation-based rates, and more.

LOUDOUN  WATER

[www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org)





## Have You Visited the Aquary® Yet?

Grab the kids and learn about water. The Loudoun Water Aquary is an interactive indoor educational center and outdoor interpretive trail. Walk through 3,500 sq. feet of exhibits as you learn the story of drinking water treatment and delivery; source water protection; water conservation and water reclamation. Then enjoy the outdoor trails as you walk along a wetland area and learn more about its features.

**Normal Aquary hours:** Self-guided visits: M–F, 8:00am–5:00pm;  
outdoor trails are open from dawn to dusk.

Schools and civic groups can schedule optional tours online at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org), click on Talks and Tours.

Visit [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org) for directions.



## Let Loudoun Water Talk To Your Group or HOA Meeting

Loudoun Water is always looking for ways to participate in our community and talk to our customers. We offer presentations to schools, civic groups, HOA/Condo Association Board meetings, and you can usually find our booth at HOA community events. If you are interested in arranging for our staff to talk to your group about water-related issues such as water conservation, our conservation-based rate structure, current projects and more, please contact us using our online form at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org) and click on Contact Us on the homepage. Or, send an email to [lyoung@loudounwater.org](mailto:lyoung@loudounwater.org).

We hope to hear from you soon.

## Can the Grease

Sewer overflows and backups are commonly found to be caused by fats, oil and grease (FOG). Grease gets into the sewer from household drains and neglected grease interceptors at businesses such as restaurants. The grease blocks sewer pipes, causing health hazards and leading to expensive fixes. It also damages the environment.

FOG includes cooking oils, butter, margarine, lard, shortening, food scraps, baking goods, gravy, sauces, mayonnaise, salad dressings and dairy products.

Here are some tips to help keep your drains FOG-free:

- Don't pour grease down your sink or toilet.
- Pour used grease into a container and take it out with the trash.
- Scrape food particles on dishes and cooking utensils into the trash or compost bin before placing them in the sink or dishwasher.
- Place strainers in your drains and empty the catch in the trash. Garbage disposals only shred discards into smaller pieces.

## 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 website 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

## EPA Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR)

In April of 2010, Loudoun Water was notified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that it had not fully met all the requirements related to the Stage 2 DBPR Initial Distribution System Evaluation's (IDSE) Hydraulic Model option. After discussions with EPA and the Virginia Department of Health in May and June of 2010, Loudoun Water's Hydraulic Model was subsequently approved. There are no health effects to any of the population from this alleged violation as this was only a hydraulic modeling study and Loudoun Water met all applicable water quality standards during the time of the study. There is nothing you need to do at this time. Loudoun Water has maintained that the hydraulic model was complete as of January 1, 2009 and all IDSE requirements were met. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Loudoun Water's regulatory agency, after their review, agreed that the IDSE hydraulic model was complete at the time of submission. VDH has stated that if there is no violation – as Loudoun Water contends – then there is a basis for it to be rescinded. Dialogue with EPA is ongoing to rescind this alleged violation. Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not receive this notice (people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or by distributing copies by hand or mail. Copies can also be downloaded as part of our 2011 Annual Drinking Water Report at [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org). For more information, please contact Tom Bonacquisti at 571.291.7987 or Beate Wright at 571.291.7931.





PO Box 4000 | 44865 LOUDOUN WATER WAY | ASHBURN, VA 20146  
[WWW.LOUDOUNWATER.ORG](http://WWW.LOUDOUNWATER.ORG)

## Si Usted No Puede Leer Ingles

Este reporte contiene información importante acerca de la calidad de su agua del grifo. Este reporte indica que su agua del grifo cumple con todos los requisitos Federales para salud y seguridad. Para una copia de este reporte en español, llame Loudoun Water al teléfono 571.291.7880 o al correo electrónico de [lyoung@loudounwater.org](mailto:lyoung@loudounwater.org), o visite [www.loudounwater.org](http://www.loudounwater.org).



50% recycled content with 25% post-consumer fiber