MEETING SUMMARY
askHRgreen.org Environmental Education Committees

The askHRgreen.org Environmental Education Committees met virtually in March and April to discuss the following ongoing programs and initiatives.

askHRgreen.org Recycling & Beautification Committee – March 8; April 12

➢ The Committee hosted the Great American Cleanup regional events on March 25-26, 2022. Over 1,400 volunteers cleared about 33 tons of litter during the two-day event.

➢ The Committee approved a Start Smart Recycle Right media plan for FY23 and will begin working on campaign creative with funds from the FY22 budget. The campaign will encourage recycling basics and address contamination.

➢ The Committee will prepare an application for the FY23 DEQ Competitive Litter

askHRgreen.org Fats, Oils, & Grease Education Committee – March 15; April 19

➢ The Committee continues to work through technical requirements needed to modernize the regional HRFOG training and certification program website.

➢ Localities are working through local adoption of the GCD Enforcement MOA with HRSD. Virginia Beach is the most recent locality to officially adopt the MOA.

➢ The Committee ran a media campaign for What Not to Flush in February.

askHRgreen.org Stormwater Education Committee – March 18; April 15

➢ The Committee continues to work on implementing the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund Grant. Low-cost rain barrel workshops are planned for April-May 2022.

➢ The Committee ran a new media campaign targeting proper storage and disposal of household hazardous waste to prevent discharges to storm drains and flood waters.

➢ The Committee approved and ran a new pet waste campaign.

askHRgreen.org Water Awareness Committee – March 24; April 28

➢ The Committee continues to have regional discussions about collaboration on community outreach and education strategies for the revised Lead & Copper Rule Revisions.

➢ The Committee ran a media campaign for Fix a Leak Week to encourage residents to find and fix wasteful household leaks.
MEETING SUMMARY
COASTAL RESILIENCY COMMITTEE

The Coastal Resiliency Committee met on March 25, 2022. The following items were discussed.

➢ Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on revised regional sea level rise planning scenarios based on a new NOAA report issued in February 2022. The Committee concurred with the HRPDC staff’s recommendations to update the HRPDC’s regional sea level rise planning policy document and to recommend that state agencies also revised their regulations, policies, and plans to reflect the new scenarios.

➢ Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, updated the Committee on relevant legislative developments from the 2022 General Assembly session.

➢ Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the effort to develop resilient design guidelines for stormwater management. The Committee concurred with the HRPDC staff’s recommendation to request that the state discuss revising the contract for the Atlas 14 update with FHWA and NOAA to incorporate non-stationarity.

➢ Ms. Katchmark updated the Committee on the status of the regional roadway flooding sensors project.

➢ Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the status of the Community Flood Preparedness Fund and a proposal for regional studies and capacity building.

➢ Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the Get Flood Fluent regional flood insurance outreach campaign.

➢ Several localities and stakeholders provided updates on local and other resiliency efforts.
MEETING SUMMARY
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met via WebEx on March 2, 2022. The following items were discussed:

➢ Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, reviewed the utility rates data call. Additional information about water use data will be included in the summary report.

➢ The Committee had a roundtable discussion about water disconnections, HRSD’s Consent Decree, Groundwater MOA, and the Potomac Aquifer Recharge Oversight Committee.
MEETING SUMMARY
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met via WebEx on April 6, 2022. The following items were discussed:

➢ Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, discussed the March 18th meeting of the Potomac Aquifer Recharge Oversight Committee. She was named the new chair of the committee and HRPDC will manage the committee.

➢ The Directors were asked to review their Capacity Team representatives and revise them as needed. HRSD would like to work with the Capacity Team on a capacity-related overflow framework in the coming months.

➢ The Committee discussed grants and loans available from ARPA, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and the Drinking Water Revolving Fund. Ms. Katchmark asked whether the localities were going after the funds or if they are not a good fit.

➢ The Committee had a roundtable discussion about SSORS distribution lists, the next Regional Construction Standards, the new DEQ director introduction, lead service line inventories, and the USGS contract for groundwater modeling support.
The Directors of Utilities Committee met via WebEx on May 4, 2022. The following items were discussed:

➢ Jay Bernas, General Manager of HRSD, provided an overview of HRSD’s FY23 budget, CIP planning for FY23-32, and also how they determine their rates.

➢ Ryan Radspinner, Business Process Engineer at HRSD, presented their framework for consistent application of the MOA elements considering the Consent Decree/Integrated Plan requirements. The 5th modification of the Consent Decree enshrines the obligations of HRSD as it pertains to regional wet-weather capacity.

➢ The Committee discussed whether vac truck water should be discharged to the sewer system and offered to work with VDH on its efforts to locate septic tanks.

➢ Staff provided updates on the utility rates data call, final Groundwater MOA signature, and fifth grade SOL that requires children to learn the source of their drinking water.
MEETING SUMMARY
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Environmental Committee met on April 7, 2022. The following items were discussed.

➢ Ms. Carol Considine, Old Dominion University, gave a presentation to the Committee on the Coastal Resilience and Adaptation Economy Consortium, a Go VA-funded project working in Go VA Regions 5 and 6.

➢ Mr. Jon Nelson, HRSD, gave a presentation to the Committee on a recent project to design and construct a trash collector to control floatables at the Boat Harbor Treatment Plant.

➢ Mr. Joe Rieger, Elizabeth River Project, briefed the Committee on the organization’s new Watershed Action Plan.

➢ Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on items of interest related to the Coastal Zone Management Program.

➢ Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the status of the Community Flood Preparedness Fund and a proposal for regional studies and capacity building.

➢ The HRPDC staff updated the Committee on developments from the 2022 General Assembly session.
MEETING SUMMARY
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Environmental Committee met on May 5, 2022. The following items were discussed.

➢ Mr. Michael Rolband, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, discussed initial initiatives he is undertaking at the department.

➢ Mr. Jeff Flood, Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, and Ms. Elizabeth Andrews, Virginia Coastal Policy Center, gave a presentation to the Committee on efforts to address the impacts of abandoned and derelict vessels in coastal waters.

➢ Ms. Jill Sunderland, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on draft guidance developed by DEQ, VIMS, and VCPC to help localities implement the recently adopted resilience components of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations.

➢ Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on items of interest related to the Coastal Zone Management Program.

➢ Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the status of the Community Flood Preparedness Fund and a proposal for regional studies and capacity building.

➢ The HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on highlights from the 2022 Environment Virginia Symposium held at the Virginia Military Institute in March 2022.