

PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2008**

RIVANNA WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY SOUTH FORK TASK FORCE ANNOUNCED AUGUST 4, 2008

Charlottesville, VA (Monday, August 4, 2008) – The joint chairmen of four local boards announced this morning that the South Fork Reservoir Stewardship Task Force membership has been established, and the first Task Force meeting has been set. The initial meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Room 241 of the Albemarle County Executive Office Building on McIntire Road. The meeting will be open to the public.

The Task Force membership will include the following individuals, listed along with the organization or group from which each was nominated:

- Ms. Sally Thomas, Chair – League of Women Voters
- Ms. Holly Edwards - Charlottesville City Council
- Mr. Mark Fletcher - citizen from University of Virginia with “recreational” interests
- Mr. Mike Gaffney - Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority Board of Directors
- Mr. Tom Jones - citizen representing adjoining property owners to reservoir
- Ms. Karen Joyner - Ivy Creek Foundation
- Mr. Chris Lee - Charlottesville/Albemarle Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. John Martin - Rivanna River Basin Commission
- Ms. Wren Olivier – Piedmont Group of the Sierra Club
- Ms. Liz Palmer - Albemarle County Service Authority Board of Directors
- Mr. Dennis Rooker – Albemarle County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Ridge Schuyler - The Nature Conservancy
- Ms. Dede Smith – “Citizens for Sustainable Water Supply”

The joint chairmen have also agreed to appoint Ms. Sally Thomas as the Chair of the Task Force. According to Ms. Thomas, the initial meeting will provide data and information summarizing current knowledge and data on the reservoir, and will include at least one guest speaker, Mr. David Hirschman, who is a former Albemarle County employee and the author of several planning studies on the South Fork Reservoir. Ms. Thomas stated that she wants the Task Force to be “helpful, useful, community-involved, fact-based, and an efficient entity”.

Another member of the Task Force, Ms. Liz Palmer from the ACSA Board of Directors, stated “for many years citizens have asked local government to develop a comprehensive management plan for the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir, and recent debate over dredging has brought the need for a plan to the forefront.”

Over the next several weeks the Task Force will assess the reservoir's current conditions, its potential future conditions, the potential threats on its resources to the community, and the maintenance steps that should be taken to address those threats. Maintenance dredging is one of several maintenance alternatives that will likely be considered.

The Task Force's mission will reflect resolutions adopted by the Charlottesville City Council and Albemarle County Board of Supervisors in June 2008. By unanimous vote, those resolutions also confirmed the continued support for the expansion of the Ragged Mountain Reservoir as the community's long-term water supply.

PRESS RELEASE CONTACT:

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