






695 Moores Creek Lane | Charlottesville, Virginia 22902-9016

434.977.2970 

434.293.8858 

www.rivanna.org 

##PRESS RELEASE##

## Ragged Mountain Reservoir Water Supply Increase

For Immediate Release

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Charlottesville, VA – March 11, 2024

The Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority (RWSA) is pleased to report that we have received approval to begin a project which will increase the water storage capacity of the Ragged Mountain Reservoir by 700 million gallons and raise the normal reservoir water level by 12 feet.

In December 2023, the Charlottesville City Council, the Albemarle County Service Authority Board of Directors, and the RWSA Board of Directors approved an amendment to the “Ragged Mountain Dam Project Agreement” of 2012 that will allow RWSA to increase the water storage capacity of the Ragged Mountain Reservoir as soon as possible. The additional water storage will increase the Ragged Mountain Reservoir’s water capacity to 2.1 billion gallons. This project is a part of the 2012 Community Water Supply Plan and will improve the long-term reliability of our drinking water system during periods of uncertain and changing climate conditions and extended droughts. More information on the Community Water Supply Plan can be found on our website at <https://www.rivanna.org/community-water-supply-plan/>.

RWSA expects to begin construction on this project in the summer of 2025. The work will require tree and vegetation clearing around the reservoir, as well as modifications to the water intake tower in the reservoir. While the trails around the reservoir were originally constructed in a location that would not be affected by the higher water level, there may be times during construction when the trails will not be available to the public. The project will be closely coordinated with the Charlottesville Department of Parks and Recreation to complete the work and restore public access to the trails as quickly as possible.

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**CONTACT:** Betsy Nemeth  
Director of Administration & Communications  
Rivanna Water & Sewer Authority  
434-977-2970 ext. 111  
[bnemeth@rivanna.org](mailto:bnemeth@rivanna.org)