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Greater Lynchburg Area Water Utilities Kicks Off Drinking Water Week Highlighting Tap Water Being "There When You Need It"

Lynchburg, VA – Lynchburg Water Resources, Bedford Regional Water Authority, Amherst County Service Authority, and Campbell County Utilities and Service Authority along with partners throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia today kicked off <u>Drinking Water Week</u>, by highlighting the different ways consumers' tap water is "There When You Need It." Drinking Water Week is May 2-8 this year.

The organizations are observing Drinking Water Week by recognizing the vital role tap water plays in daily life, the infrastructure that is required to carry it to and from homes and businesses, and the critical work that water professionals accomplish around the clock.

"During this Drinking Water Week, let's keep in mind that we continue to serve an integral role in meeting our daily hygiene needs during the coronavirus pandemic", says Virginia Section AWWA Chair, Russ Navratil. "We touch people's lives every day by providing them with safe potable drinking water at an affordable cost. We accomplish this by working with all water professionals to design, construct, operate, and maintain our infrastructure to ensure that we deliver safe potable drinking water to our customers while also meeting the regulatory requirements that we operate under."

"By partnering with all the water utilities in the region, we are demonstrating a key principle in water management and conservation, it takes a whole community working together to protect our water resources, which is definitely something to celebrate", says Timothy Mitchell, Director of Lynchburg Water Resources.

During Drinking Water Week the utilities encourage community members to "stop for a moment and remember how important clean water is to every aspect of our lives and how blessed we are to have the sources, the technology, and the dedicated water and wastewater professional operators and utility workers needed to provide it," stated Robert Hopkins, Executive Director of Amherst County Service Authority.

"Water is a common need for people all over the world. Traveling through a constant cycle of use and reuse in watersheds everywhere, the presence of water is essential for a healthy community. The Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) takes great pride in managing this precious resource in order to provide our customers with high-quality water. None of this would be possible without the team of dedicated professionals at the Authority. Through the combination of robust water sources and dedicated staff, the BRWA is proud to be the water provider for the Bedford community and we will continue to be 'there when you need it'", said Brian Key, BRWA Executive Director.

To commemorate the week, water utilities, water organizations, government entities, environmental advocates, schools and others throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and



beyond are encouraging consumers to learn more about the importance of water and water infrastructure, especially in times of crisis.

About Drinking Water Week

For several decades, the Virginia Section AWWA and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week, a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together in recognizing the vital role water plays in daily lives. Free materials for download and additional information about Drinking Water Week are available on the <u>Drinking Water</u> <u>Week webpage</u>.

VA AWWA First Annual Drinking Water Week Children's Coloring Contest

VA AWWA also encourages children to enter their first annual Children's Coloring Contest. Kids are encouraged to color themselves enjoying drinking water on this <u>coloring page</u>. All artwork submitted using the #DrinkH2OVA hashtag automatically gives permission for VA AWWA to share the child's artwork, first name, and age on media platforms including but not limited to, print, social media, and web platforms. Submissions can also be entered using this <u>online</u> form with parental/guardian consent. The best ones will win a prize from VA AWWA along with having their photo highlighted on VA AWWA's social media channels. Submissions are due by May 8th.

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About Amherst County Service Authority:

Amherst County Service Authority's mission is to provide safe, reliable water and wastewater services to our community, to protect the natural environment in the most economical and efficient means, and to promote public health and local economic growth. For more information visit: <u>www.countyofamherst.com</u>

About the Bedford Regional Water Authority:

The Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) provides water and wastewater services to the residents and businesses in Bedford County and the Town of Bedford; additionally, the BRWA partners with the Western Virginia Water Authority to serve customers surrounding Smith Mountain Lake in both Bedford and Franklin County. Visit <u>www.brwa.com</u> for further information.

About Campbell County Utilities and Service Authority

Campbell County Utilities and Service Authority's vision is to provide world class water, sewer, and customer service to the residents of Campbell County. Our mission is that we are working as one, to provide superior water utility services, today, tomorrow, and into the future. Please visit https://www.ccusa-water.com for more information.

About Lynchburg Water Resources:



Lynchburg Water Resources (LWR) ensures that Lynchburg residents enjoy an uninterrupted supply of quality drinking water, reliable sewer service, and proper stormwater management. The mission of Lynchburg Water Resources is to promote the life, health and prosperity of our community. Visit <u>www.lynchburgva.gov/waterresources</u> for more information.

For more information, contact:

Jerry Griffin Jr Public Relations Specialist Lynchburg Water Resources <u>gerald.griffin@lynchburgva.gov</u> 434-455-4226 Megan Pittman Director of Administration Bedford Regional Water Authority <u>mpittman@brwa.com</u> 540-586-7679 extension 121

Robert Hopkins Director of Public Utilities Amherst County Service Authority <u>rhopkins@ascava.com</u> 434-845-1605 Tim Wagner Interim Administrator Campbell County Utilities and Service Authority <u>twagner@ccusa-water.com</u> 434-239-8654 extension 107