

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) will hold a series of meetings to gather public input on the issues of water supply and recreational water to assess the impact of uranium mining and milling in Virginia. More specifically, VDH will collect public comments related to the following questions:

1. What are the public’s concerns related to the impact of uranium mining and milling on water quality and quantity of private wells?
2. What are the public’s concerns related to the impact of uranium mining and milling on recreational use of surface water?
3. What role should VDH play in assuring that public health is protected in regard to private wells and recreational water use in regard to uranium mining and milling?
4. What safeguards should be in place to protect private wells and recreational water?

Evening meetings will be large meetings and VDH will receive comments from as many participants as time allows. Registration is not required to attend the public meetings that will be held in the evenings. Individuals who are unable to attend but want to submit comments or issues for consideration may do so at <http://www.uwg.vi.virginia.gov/>.

In addition to accepting comments in the public forum, VDH and other agencies will staff tables to provide information and collect questions and comments from the public. Staff will be available at these tables for one hour before the public meetings begin. Questions may be asked and comments made in the public forum, at the tables or both.

Schedule of VDH Large Group Meetings on Uranium Mining and Water			
Date	Time	Area	Location
August 7, 2012	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Chatham	Circuit Court Building 3 North Main St. Chatham
August 15, 2012	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Warrenton	The Barn, Lord Fairfax Community College 6480 College St. Warrenton
August 29, 2012	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Virginia Beach	Meyera Oberndorff Library Auditorium 4100 Virginia Beach Boulevard Virginia Beach

Day-long issue discussion sessions will allow a small group of participants to engage in more focused and in-depth discussion of public concerns, health risks, and potential regulatory changes. These meetings will require participants to devote a full day to participation, and participants will be identified prior to the meetings. Although we expect that a large number of persons will be interested in serving on the discussion groups, because VDH would like to conduct a very in-depth discussion, only a small number of persons will be selected.

Members of the public who are interested in participating are invited to submit their name for participation in one of the discussion sessions listed in the schedule. A total of 15 to 20 persons will be randomly selected from the names submitted and VDH is suggesting that individuals indicate their interest or expertise in the following areas, in order to assure a robust discussion: the agricultural community, water service provider, general business community, business associated with recreational water, academic with a special knowledge of geology or groundwater, local government, or private homeowner. The only requirements for your participation are that you commit to attending the entire meeting, that you indicate your area of interest from one of the groups listed above, and that you are willing to join in an open discussion of the issues. These are public meetings and a summary of the discussion, along with a list of participants, will be made available to the public after the meetings. Please note that if you volunteer your name will be listed as a participant in the public summary of the meeting.

If you are interested please submit your name, your area of interest, address and telephone number, e-mail address and other contact information, and preferred meeting location to <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/ODW/publicmeeting>. You must submit your information no later than July 31, 2012. Persons selected for participation will be notified by August 2.

Schedule of VDH Small Group Discussion Meetings on Uranium Mining and Water			
Date	Time	Area	Location
August 8, 2012	8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Chatham	County Administration Building 1 Center St. Chatham
August 16, 2012	8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Warrenton	Warrenton Rescue Squad Building 210 Hospital Drive Warrenton, VA
August 30, 2012	8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Virginia Beach	Virginia Beach Health Department Glass Conference Room (second floor) 4452 Corporation Lane Virginia Beach