

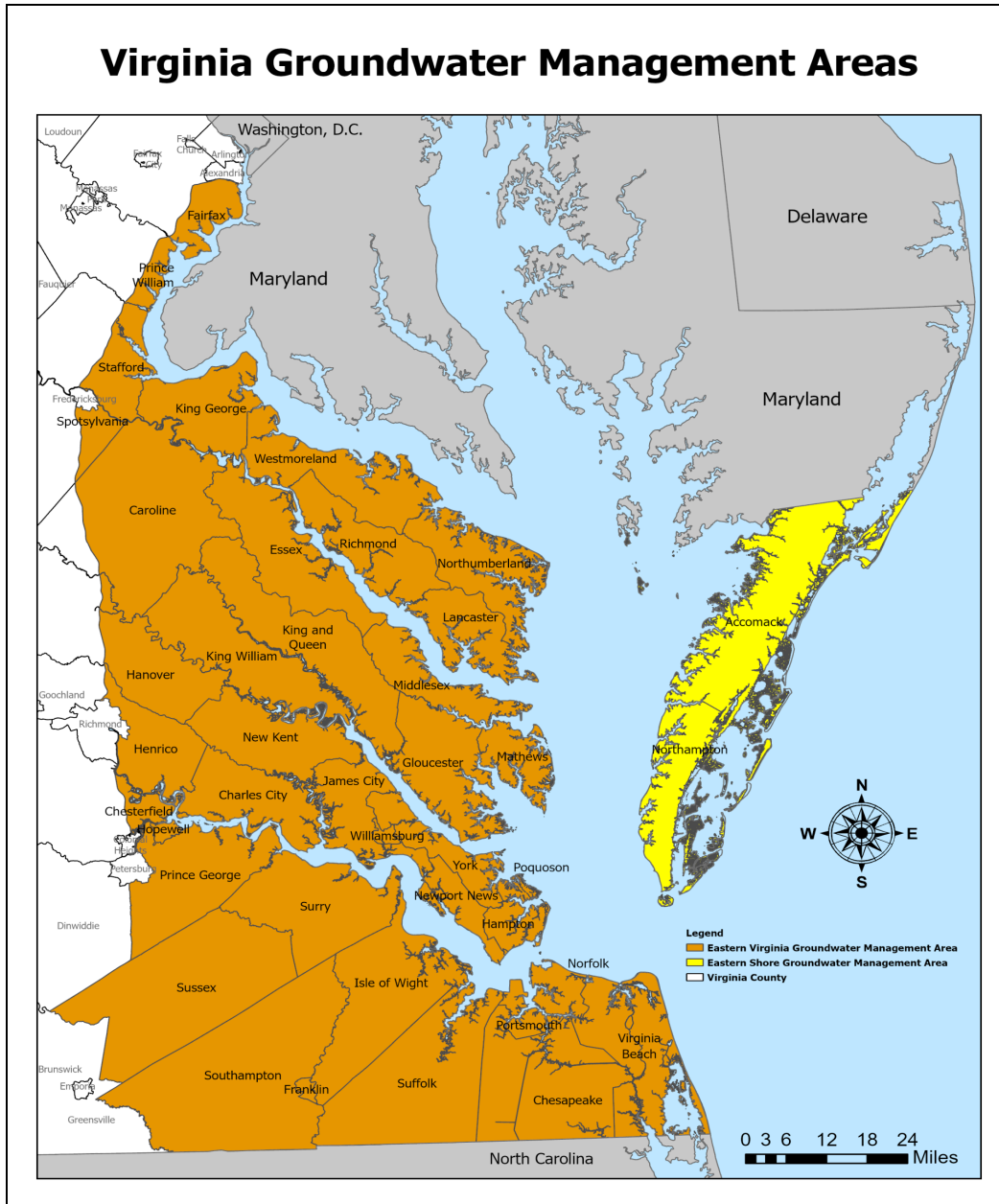


Ground Water

Program Overview

DEQ issues Groundwater Withdrawal Permits according to the **Ground Water Management Act of 1992** and the **Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations** in the designated **Groundwater Management Areas (GWMA)**. There are two designated Groundwater Management Areas known as the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area and the Eastern Shore Groundwater Management Area. These permits regulate:

- Groundwater withdrawals greater than or equal to 300,000 gallons per month for any use other than the exclusions under **9VAC25-610-50**.
- Impacts to the health and preservation of the groundwater supply in the aquifers of Eastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore of Virginia.



VAHydro to myDEQ Database Migration

As of April 1, 2024, the VAHydro database has been replaced by the new myDEQ database. All VAHydro data has migrated to the new myDEQ database. The myDEQ database can be used for data submissions related to a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit (GWP).

Users will need to access or create an account in the myDEQ platform in order to access facility data previously reported to VAHydro, or to submit new data. DEQ has provided resources to assist you in the creation of these accounts.

Please navigate to the [myDEQ Portal](#) and access your account using the following credentials.

Username – Your email address.

Password – Please use the reset password option to create your password.

For more information, view this [GWP Training Video](#) on how to create and/or access an account for GWP facility users.

After logging in, you will be able to view and request reporting access for any Annual Water Withdrawal or GWP facilities associated with your account.

If you have questions regarding this notification or account setup, please contact Brendan Brogan at brendan.brogan@deq.virginia.gov, or 804-584-6344.

Activities That Require a Permit -

Projects proposing a groundwater withdrawal greater than 300,000 gallons per month in a GWMA for any beneficial use other than those excluded under [9VAC25-610-50](#).

Activities That Do Not Require a Permit -

Certain groundwater withdrawal activities are excluded from the requirements for a GWW permit ([9VAC25-610-50](#)). These exclusions are listed below:

- Withdrawals due to temporary construction dewatering that does not exceed 24 months in duration
- Withdrawals from state-approved groundwater remediation projects that do not exceed 60 months in duration
- Withdrawals for a groundwater source heat pump where the discharge is reinjected into the same aquifer
- Withdrawals from ponds recharged by groundwater without mechanical assistance
- Withdrawals used for geophysical investigations (pump tests)
- Withdrawals coincident with exploration for and extraction of coal or activities associated with coal mining regulated by the Department of Energy
- Withdrawals in any area not declared to be a GWMA
- Withdrawals authorized due to a special exception issued by DEQ
- Withdrawals of groundwater discharged from a free-flowing spring where the natural flow has not been increased by any method

Groundwater Withdrawal Permits -

GWW Permits can be authorized up to 15 years. In order to continue permitted withdrawal activities or complete any permit requirement that has not been completed, including compensation provisions, a new permit will be required. In accordance with **9VAC25-610-96**, a new and complete permit application must be submitted at least 270 calendar days prior to the expiration of the current permit.

GWW Permit Application Process

All applications to withdraw groundwater within a groundwater management area must meet the requirements provided by **9VAC25-610**. Individual groundwater withdrawal applications should be submitted as early as possible in the development of a project. Applications shall be submitted to the Groundwater Withdrawal Permitting Program at:

Office of Water Withdrawal Permitting
Attn: **Caitlin Kelly** and/or **Eric Seavey**

Mailing:

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Office of Water Withdrawal Permitting
P.O. Box 1105
Richmond, VA 23218

Note: A pre-application meeting is required before submittal of a permit application. The pre-application meeting will include a discussion of the permitting process, requested withdrawal amount, withdrawal location including what aquifer will be used, and the type of permitted use. To schedule a pre-application meeting please contact Caitlin Kelly at **caitlin.kelly@deq.virginia.gov** or (804) 774-0828 or Eric Seavey at **eric.seavey@deq.virginia.gov** or (804) 754-6250.

Target Schedule for GWW Permits

The target schedule for a GWW Permit is 255 days. It is important to note that these targets are based on a typical process and rely on all parties in the application review process providing complete and timely information. Pending and recently completed permit actions for groundwater withdrawals in the **Permitting Enhancement and Evaluation Platform** will become available soon.

Related Permits

Virginia Department of Health

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH)'s **Office of Drinking Water** ensures that all people in Virginia have access to an adequate supply of affordable, safe, drinking water that meets federal and state drinking water standards. VDH enforces drinking water regulations and standards of the Virginia Public Water Supply Law and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. VDH also issues **waterworks permits**, monitors drinking water quality, supports voluntary source water protection efforts, provides technical assistance and training with respect to all drinking water issues, and provides financial assistance to improve drinking water systems.