

BBHCA eNews

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012

Turn and Signal Changes to Telegraph, South Kings Hwy, and S Van Dorn

By Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay



Many of us have spent far too much time stuck in traffic in the Telegraph/Van Dorn/South Kings Highway corridor. These intersections are among the worst in South County and until now, nothing VDOT tried could get traffic moving. The good news is that next year, a major road project will redo these intersections so that they can handle the volume of traffic. However, until then we still need to be able to move and so beginning this Monday—before the Labor Day rush—we are putting several measures in place that the police, VDOT, and I believe will help.

Don't get me wrong—these won't magically turn the Telegraph Road corridor into a smoothly flowing highway. However, these small tweaks will ease the congestion problems while waiting for the big road construction project that will begin next spring. They'll support longer green time on Telegraph Road and South Kings Highway and that, in turn, will get more cars through quicker.

Here's what you'll see [starting] on Monday (July 30):

- Signs restricting left turns from southbound Telegraph Road to South Kings Highway during rush hours (6 am-9 am and 3 pm to 7 pm)
- A longer turn lane from Telegraph Road to South Van Dorn Street
- Retimed signals at the Telegraph Road intersections with South Van Dorn Street and South Kings Highway

These are temporary changes made in close consultation with the police and VDOT. They are not what you'll see once the road project is completed. (You've probably noticed some work taking place in the area now—that's primarily utility relocation.) The \$10 million County project that I obtained will make significant traffic and safety improvements to these intersections.

For questions, please contact Jeff McKay's office at 703-971-6262 or email leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Consumer Complaints Available at the Federal Level

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/enewsletter/summer_2012.pdf

"June 19 marked a major step forward in a federal effort to protect consumers. In a first by a federal financial regulator, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) will share with the public individual level consumer complaint data received by the CFPB." For the full article, click on the link above.

>> **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**, <http://www.consumerfinance.gov/>

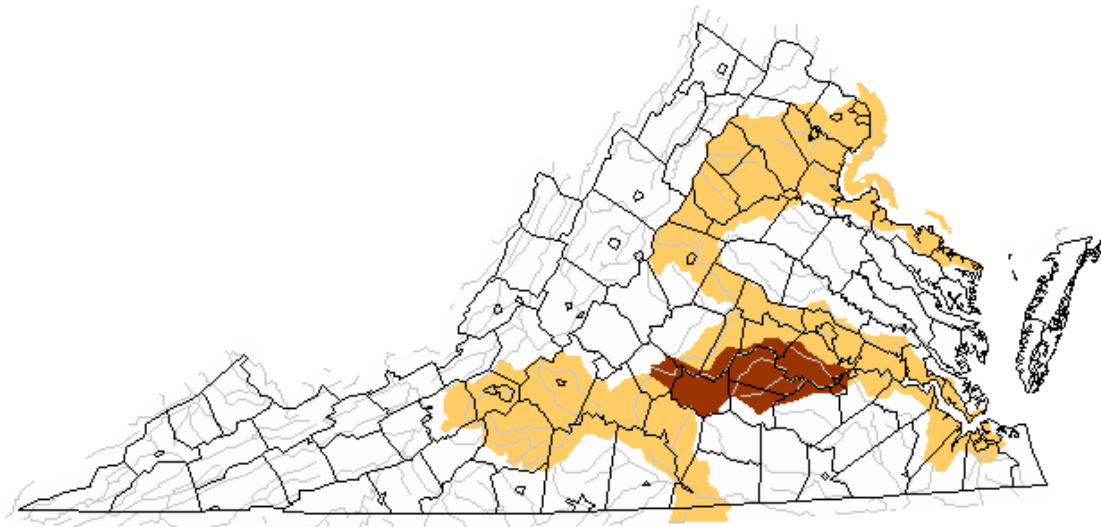
Northern Virginia in Moderate Drought

According to the US Drought Monitor's latest report on July 24, Northern Virginia is in a moderate drought. Although isolated areas in the state are under a drought "watch", no water restrictions have been issued to date for our area.



"Drought Watch responses are generally responses that are intended to increase awareness in the public and private sector to climatic conditions that are likely to precede the occurrence of a significant drought event. During this drought stage, the primary activities that are suggested are to prepare for the onset of a drought event. It is unlikely that significant water use reductions will occur at this stage, although it is possible that the increased public awareness of water conservation activities may reduce water use up to 5%." (<http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/Water/WaterSupplyWaterQuantity/Drought.aspx>)

Monday, July 30, 2012



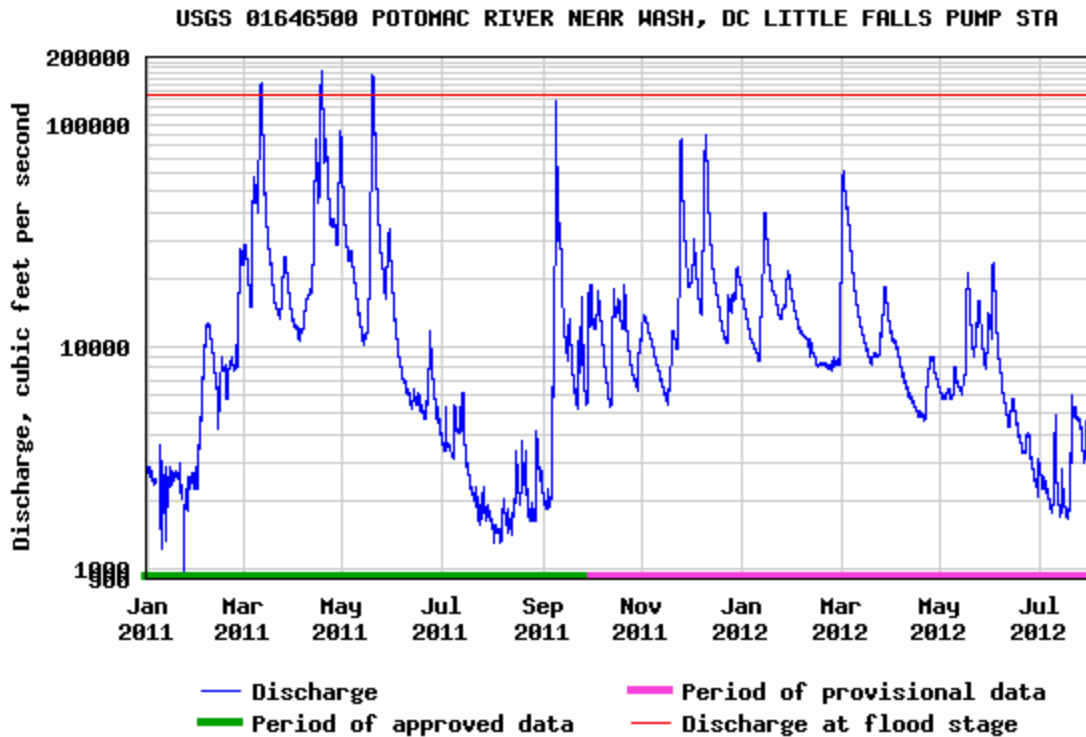
Explanation - Percentile classes				
Low	≤5	6-9	10-24	Insufficient data for a hydrologic region
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	

Source: <http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/?m=dryw&r=va&w=dryw%2Cmap>

"On Thursday [July 27], the DEQ [Department of Environmental Quality] announced a drought watch advisory in the Appomattox River Basin because of below-average rainfall and high temperatures. The advisory is intended to make people aware of the situation and encourage water conservation..." (<http://www2.timesdispatch.com>)

The water levels for the Potomac River, as recorded at Little Falls at the beginning of July, are at a low of approximately 2,000 cu ft per sec. which is below the level of 4,000 cu ft per sec this time last year.

Potomac River Water Levels, Jan 2011 – July 2012



Data is supplied by the US Geological Survey. waterdata.usgs.gov/md/nwis/uv?01646500



EVENTS



August 2–5 Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Farm Show

Come join the old-fashioned, country fun at the 4-H Fair scheduled for the weekend of August 4 and August 5, 2012. There are plenty of carnival games, rides, and fair exhibits for you and your family to enjoy. In addition, watch the 4-H exhibitors get their farm animals ready for the show, visit exhibit booths, try farm chores, enjoy fair food, and watch dog and horse shows! An antique tractor pull begins at 5 p.m. on Saturday. The fair runs from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The carnival rides open from 11 a.m. until 10 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Sunday. There is a \$7 parking fee per car per day.

Love the fair but hate the crowds? Come during the week (August 2 and 3) when it's less crowded to enjoy free, kid-friendly shows from 10 until 11 a.m. Additionally, there are traditional fair rides, amusements, and treats available. Tickets cost \$15 per person in advance for an unlimited one-day ride pass (must be purchased by July 31 for this special rate; \$25 if purchased day of). The fair is perfect for playgroups, day camps, and families.

On Friday, August 3, carnival games and rides are open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Children of all ages will enjoy riding in big trucks and tractors from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Come watch *Cars II* screened at dark on a large, outdoor movie screen. Bring blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the movie! Also, bring your crafts and baked goods in for judging in the 4-H building. This is the only night with free parking.

The Fairfax County 4-H fair is sponsored, in part, by the Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon, Va. For more information, call 703-437-9101.

Source: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/html/pr063-12.htm>

Saturday, August 4

Public Open House: Robert E. Lee Camp Hall Museum

10 am - 2 pm

806 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA

Visit and explore the museum dedicated to the Alexandria companies of the 17th Virginia Infantry that defended Virginia during the Civil War. Learn about Alexandria's unique situation as an occupied city during the Civil War, and find out why the statue "Appomattox" sits in the middle of the intersection of Prince and Washington streets. Confederate and Union artifacts, prisoner-of-war art, Lee family items, and more are all in this beautiful Victorian townhouse that served as a Civil War hospital.

Local Civil War era authors Don Hakenson, Barb Winter, and William Connery (Westchester Street) will be present, as well as artist Henry Kidd and Jack Maples, who interprets as Montgomery Dent Corse, regimental commander of the 17th Virginia.

Admission is free, but donations are welcome. For more information, e-mail relcamphall@hotmail.com or call 703-519-2123. The museum is open only on the first Saturday of the month.



July 25-August 26

2nd Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition

Workhouse Arts Center

This exhibition represents the depth and breadth of contemporary functional and sculptural ceramic artworks being created throughout the country. Peter Held of Arizona State University Art Museum's Ceramics Research Center juried over 380 applicants to select 49 pieces of art which incorporate a contemporary spirit as well as a technical mastery of the material. The show is a rare opportunity to see a variety of styles and techniques which encompass the field of contemporary ceramic arts.

For more information, go to <http://www.workhousearts.org/>

Saturdays and Sundays through August

C&O Canal Historic Park

Williamsport, MD

"Take an electric boat ride and see canal history. During the late 19th and early 20th century, 30 foot battery and steam powered launch boats traveled the canal for leisure and business. They contrasted with the 90 foot mule-drawn canal cargo boats that dominated the canal. Today, visitors can enjoy life on the canal during a replica canal launch boat program at Williamsport. Programs include a short walk, boat ride, tour of Lock House 44, and a lock demonstration each weekend day at 10:30, 12:15, 1:30, and 3:00 until mid-August. Sign up in person at the Williamsport Visitor Center on the day of the program. For more information call the Williamsport Visitor Center at 301-582-0813.

After the boat ride, there is much to do in Williamsport. Situated at the confluence of the Conococheague Creek and the Potomac River, Williamsport was first settled in 1740. In 1790 George Washington considered it for the capital city of the United States. Williamsport is the only place on the canal where examples of major canal structures can be viewed within a half-mile stretch. A half mile re-watered section of canal leads through the turning basin, under the only Railroad Lift Bridge as well as the only Bollman Iron Truss Bridge over the canal to Lockhouse 44 and the adjacent lock. The Conococheague aqueduct is located across from the turning basin."

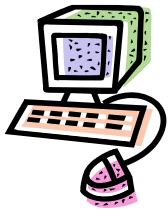
Source: http://riverexplorer.com/riverwatch_07_27_2012.html

Tuesday, September 18
BBHCA Community Meeting
Bush Hill Elementary School
7:30 pm

Topic: TBA
Speaker: TBA

Saturday, September 29
Annual Craft Fair
Kingstowne Center for Active Adults
6488 Landsdowne Center
9:30 am – 3 pm

All items are new and handcrafted. Silent auction and baked goods. To rent a table at the fair, contact Kate Wildman, 703-339-7676 or email mmcgr3@fairfaxcounty.gov.



LINKS TO KEEP

Find FREE Stuff Online

Looking for an item, want to take a class, or get advice? You can find it all for free online by searching for “free” and the word of the free item you are looking for, for example “free and yoga class.”

Ahhh, Water! Pools in Fairfax County

<http://www.northernvirginiamag.com/guides/public-pools/fairfax/>

Longing for the beach, but can't take the traffic? Try out one of Fairfax County's many swimming venues, both indoors and out. In addition to the pool, most aquatic facilities also have saunas, a spa and an outdoor sundeck for visitors to enjoy. For a quick summary, click on the link above.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter.htm for detailed information on each RECenter.

Water Conservation Tips

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/freshwater/water-conservation-tips/>

- Energy Star dishwashers use about 4 gallons of water per load, and even standard machines use only about 6 gallons. Hand washing generally uses about 20 gallons of water each time.
- Nearly 60% of a person's household water footprint can go toward lawn and garden maintenance.
- A cup of coffee takes 55 gallons of water to make, with most of that H₂O used to grow the coffee beans.
- Recycling a pound of paper—less than the weight of your average newspaper—saves about 3.5 gallons of water. Buying recycled paper products saves water too, as it takes about six gallons of water to produce a dollars worth of paper.

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

<http://www.deq.state.va.us/>

Get the latest information on the drought in Virginia, water quality, air pollution, recycling, and much more.

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This electronic newsletter is sent to current members of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association (BBHCA). If you do not wish to receive any e-mails from BBHCA, respond to membership@bbhca.org and enter "unsubscribe" in the subject line. The views expressed in eNews do not necessarily reflect the views of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association or its Board of Directors.

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Alexandria, VA 22310

www.bbhca.org

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