

# **Dredging the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir NOW is all we need!**

## **Make Your Voice Heard by City Council**

**SPEAK UP** at the public hearing on **Monday**, Sept 20, City Council Chambers, 7:00 pm

**EMAIL** your opinion to: [council@charlottesville.org](mailto:council@charlottesville.org)

### **1) The RWSA Plan is oversized**

The plan to build a new dam and pipeline is based on obsolete data. In the last decade, water usage has DROPPED DRAMATICALLY due to changes in plumbing fixtures, best management practices and conservation. The RWSA plan is AT LEAST 25% OVERSIZED, possibly MUCH MORE.

### **2) The RWSA Plan is overpriced – water bills will skyrocket**

In the next 10 years, annual debt payments will increase from \$3 million to \$12 million -- doubling the water authority's water charges to the urban community. And that's just for water. It does not even begin to address the serious sewer issues facing our community.

### **3) RWSA told us dredging would cost 223 Million – but it's not true**

Thanks to a study funded by city council we now know that dredging the Rivanna Reservoir will cost \$35 million and probably far less.

### **4) The RWSA Plan DESTROYS all three city-owned reservoirs.**

The city of Charlottesville OWNS three reservoirs that hold nearly 2 billion gallons of water. The RWSA Water Plan calls for the abandonment of two of them -- Sugar Hollow and South Fork Rivanna Reservoir and the replacement of the Ragged Mountain Reservoir. With NO water storage resources left, city residents will be FORCED to pay for new infrastructure estimated to cost over 150 MILLION DOLLARS.

### **5) The RWSA Plan DESTROYS valuable city natural resources**

The Ragged Mountain Reservoir sits in a beautiful park OWNED BY THE CITY. Its expansion will require clear cutting 180 ACRES OF A MATURE OAK-HICKORY FOREST within the Ragged Mountain Natural Area. Habitat destruction, loss of unique wetlands, and forest fragmentation will seriously imperil the survival of some of our most threatened wildlife.

### **6) The RWSA Plan is unsustainable**

Ragged Mountain Reservoir – even today – CANNOT FILL ITSELF, due to very low inflow – yet the plan calls to quadruple its capacity. In order to fill it, RWSA must install a 9-mile uphill pipeline from the Rivanna River with high-power pumps, multiple pump stations and a new pre-treatment facility needed to get the silt out. Cut off from Sugar Hollow, the quality of city water will SUFFER.

### **7) The RWSA Plan puts public safety at risk**

The expanded Ragged Mountain Reservoir will flow DIRECTLY UNDER I-64 – rising up the embankment to within 40 yards of the highway -- exposing the ONLY REMAINING urban reservoir to accidental or intentional hazardous spills.

*Find out more in “How to Have 50 Years of Water at the Lowest Cost” in this week’s Hook  
.... and at [www.cvillewater.info](http://www.cvillewater.info)*