

UTILITY *Talk*

NATURAL GAS

WATER

WASTEWATER

STREET LIGHTING

STORMWATER



www.RichmondGov.com

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www.cordpu.blogspot.com, and be a fan of Utility Buddy on Facebook!

Para una copia de este boletín en español, visite la página www.richmondgov.com/publicutilities/utilitytalk.aspx o llame a la Oficina de Enlace Hispano de la Ciudad de Richmond al 646-0145.

May 2-8 is National Drinking Water Week

A safe, reliable water supply is critical to every community. We often take our water supply for granted until it is threatened by drought, water main breaks, or other events. Celebrate National Drinking Water Week, May 2-8, and learn more about how clean water arrives at your home, ready for drinking, cooking or cleaning. This year's slogan is "Only Tap Water Delivers."



You can follow the American Water Works Association (AWWA) on Facebook or its YouTube channel at AmericanWaterWorks.

Want to win \$1,000 from the AWWA Bookstore? To enter, post a creative video to YouTube on how you plan to celebrate Drinking Water Week and send the link to dmueller@awwa.org before May 30.

Visit www.awwa.org for conservation tips and activity pages for children that you can download.

Locally, visit the Department of Public Utilities' displays in the lobbies of City Hall, 900 E. Broad Street downtown or the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad Street, during business hours May 2-8 and take home materials on the vital role water plays in our daily lives. And while you're there, register to win a prize!



Create New Web Bookmarks

The city's website at www.richmondgov.com has been redesigned and reorganized for a new, fresh, easier to navigate look. As a result, the bookmarks or favorite pages saved on your Internet browser may no longer go to the correct pages. Find the pages again on the new site by navigating from www.richmondgov.com's home page and create new bookmarks.

Be Safe - Call Miss Utility Before You Dig

Spring means outdoor projects — a garden or maybe a new fence. If you plan any outdoor activities that involve digging in your yard, play it safe and call Miss Utility at 811 first to prevent cutting an underground utility line. Don't risk a life-threatening injury or disruption of service. It's also Virginia law!

Miss Utility crews will clearly mark the locations of all your utility lines such as gas, water, sewer, electric, telephone and cable. Once they're marked, you'll be able to start your project with safety and confidence.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Customer Service: 644-3000 TDD: 1-800-855-1155
Streetlight Outages & Gas, Water & Sewer Emergencies: 644-3000 TDD: 1-800-855-1155
Miss Utility: (Before You Dig): 811 or 1-800-552-7001



CITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES



Fundraiser MetroCare Golf Classic is May 14

The city of Richmond Department of Public Utilities' (DPU) annual MetroCare Golf Classic benefit tournament is Friday, May 14.

The MetroCare program, created by DPU and administered by the United Way, assists eligible families and individuals residing in the DPU service area with paying their heating bills during the winter months. Last year, the MetroCare Golf Classic raised more than \$21,000. So join us May 14 at the Providence Golf Course, 1160 S. Providence Road, at 12 noon for the shotgun tee-off and prepare for fun! The \$80 entry fee includes green fees, cart, prizes and a picnic and awards ceremony afterward.

Also back by popular demand is the \$10,000 hole-in-one prize.



A portion of the entry fee goes directly to MetroCare to help eligible families. In addition to donations from sponsors and players, individuals and businesses are welcome to make tax-deductible contributions that will go directly to the MetroCare program. Your generosity will help warm the lives of those less fortunate in our community.

To register for this year's event, or for donation information, call Al Scott at 646-8307 or e-mail alfred.scott@richmondgov.com.

DID YOU KNOW...

FACTS ABOUT STORMWATER RUN-OFF

- ▲ Some of the main sources of stormwater pollution are herbicides and pesticides, urban runoff, sediment from construction sites, phosphorus, nitrogen, and E.coli.
- ▲ A sewer system and a storm drain are not the same. Water from a sink or toilet flows to the wastewater treatment plant where it is treated and filtered. Most of the water that flows down driveways and streets and into the gutter goes into a storm drain, which flows directly to the river, picking up pollutants along the way that are never treated.
- ▲ One of the most common pollutants found in storm drains and creeks is phosphorus from detergent used to wash cars. Another is E.coli from the waste of domestic and wild animals.
- ▲ Landscaping helps to reduce stormwater runoff by holding the water in the ground, preventing both erosion and pollution.
- ▲ There are approximately 400 stormwater utilities nationwide. The city of Richmond Stormwater Utility regularly cleans and clears 180 miles of city-managed drainage pipes, 22,000 catch basins, and 600 miles of ditches.
- ▲ For more information, visit <http://www.richmondgov.com/PublicUtilities/StormwaterUtility.aspx>



Win a \$25 Credit on Your Utility Bill



The Department of Public Utilities would like to see photos of *you* using natural gas products to share with the readers of *Utility Talk* and on our blog at www.cordpu.blogspot.com Do you cook with natural gas, have a natural gas hot water heater or outdoor grill? Does your clothes dryer use natural gas? Send a digital photo (1-3 MB) to dpuc@richmondgov.com. If your photo is selected for the next *Utility Talk*, you'll win a \$25 credit on your gas bill!

Miss America's Hamburgers with Mushroom Gravy

Miss America 2010 is Miss Virginia Caressa Cameron, a Virginia Commonwealth University student. She, along with the other contestants, submitted their favorite recipes to the TLC website before the pageant. To see all 50 recipes, visit <http://recipes.howstuffworks.com/miss-america-recipes.htm>.



Miss America
Caressa Cameron

Ingredients:

- 1 - 1.25 lbs. ground beef
- 1/4 t. ground pepper
- 1/2 t salt
- 1/4 t. seasoned salt
- 3 T. fine dry bread crumbs
- 2 T. milk
- 1 large egg, slightly beaten
- 2 T. grated onion
- 2 T. vegetable oil
- 3/4 - 1 cup thinly sliced mushrooms
- 2 T. flour
- 1 cup beef broth
- 1 T. dry red wine (optional)

Combine ground beef, pepper, salt, seasoned salt, and bread crumbs. Shape into four patties. Heat oil in skillet over medium heat; fry the patties for 5 minutes on each side, or until cooked through.

Remove patties to warm plate. Pour off all but 2 tablespoons of drippings. Add mushrooms to the drippings and cook until tender. Add flour to skillet; stir until hot and bubbly. Add the beef broth and wine (if using). Cook, stirring, until the sauce thickens. Pour over hamburgers and serve with rice and a vegetable. Serves 4.

