## **Quarterly Report**

# Emergency Services and Risk Management

Town Council Meeting Date: August 13th, 2024

Fourth Quarter 2024: April, May, June



Please accept this as the quarterly report for the Emergency Services and Risk Management department.

#### **Department introduction:**

Emergency Services is responsible for all aspects of the Town's comprehensive emergency preparedness program. It involves planning, developing, reviewing, and revising emergency management program elements. It focuses on a collaborative partnership between local, state, and Federal partners in addition to community stakeholders pursuing a whole community approach to preparedness.

Risk Management is responsible for all aspects of workplace safety. It includes building and sustaining a Risk & Safety Program. In addition to planning, developing, and implementing occupational safety programs to ensure the health, safety, and security of Town staff and citizens. Risk management also focuses on the process of identifying potential hazards and mitigating their potential impact on the Town.

#### 2024 Drought:

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in partnership with the interagency Virginia Drought Monitoring Task Force issued a *Drought Warning Advisory Declaration* for the Northern Virginia region which includes the Town of Warrenton. In accordance with the current Virginia Drought Assessment and Response Plan, Town Staff have reviewed our existing local ordinances that would require mandatory non-essential water restrictions if enacted. The plan affords the flexibility for local governments to impose water use restrictions consistent with local water supply conditions at any time.

The Town has advocated for voluntary water conservation measures while taking actions on its own part to conserve water. The bulk automated water fill station was temporarily closed for approximately 3 weeks; however, it was reopened on July  $31^{\rm st}$ , 2024 in an effort to maintain water quality throughout the southern service district.

Identical to the actions taken during last year's drought, Public Utilities staff have maintained a consistent watch on our reservoir water levels. This approach will afford the Town the ability to enact conservation efforts accordingly to minimize any negative impact restrictions would have on the community and Town services.

#### **Training and Professional Development:**

Training has a direct impact on an organization's productivity and performance. Training gives employees a better understanding of their responsibilities and the knowledge and skills needed to complete the job. Training will improve employee confidence which can positively impact performance.

- Fauguier County Full Scale Exercise
  - The Town of Warrenton was invited to participate in the 2024 Fauquier County Full Scale Exercise on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The Emergency Services Coordinator and Risk Manager participated in the planning process and observed the overall exercise. And the Warrenton Police Department were invited to act as participants and roleplay the scenario. The scenario tested reunification processes and procedures following an active attack incident.
  - The Full Scale Exercise fostered a collaborative training environment and brought together various local, state, and federal agencies and organizations to include in this exercise include Fauquier County Public Schools, the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office, the Fauquier County Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management, the Virginia State Police, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Administration, various social welfare and health organizations, and numerous volunteer role players.
  - The Full Scale Exercise focused on strengthening and improving our collective preparedness to respond to and resiliency to recover from disasters and emergencies that may pose a threat to our community.

#### **Special Event EOC Activations:**

- 2024 Juneteenth Celebration
  - A Special Event EOC was activated for the 2024 Juneteenth Celebration that occurred on Main Street on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There were no issues to note with this event. Any issues that were identified were promptly resolved by either the Warrenton Police Department or event staff.
- 2024 Warrenton Town Limits Festival
  - O A Special Event EOC was activated for the 2024 Warrenton Town Limits Festival that occurred on the WARF property on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There were no issues to note with this event. This was the first time the Warrenton Town Limits Festival was offered in its full capacity since the pandemic. Any issues that were identified were promptly resolved by either the Warrenton Police Department or event staff.

### **Insurance Charts and Information:**







