



# Lake Star Notes

City of Norfolk  
Department of Utilities

Spring 2018

## Dear Lake Star Resident:

Spring is finally here after a cold winter and we are all ready to get the yard ready for a fun summer. This is a great time to plan what your yard will look like for the next 6 to 8 months. Did you plant a rain garden last Fall? Have you selected native plants that will benefit the pollinators, like bees and butterflies?

There are great resources that can assist you with your garden, yard, and shoreline. See page 2 for several references.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (757) 441-5678 or by email at [david.rosenthal@norfolk.gov](mailto:david.rosenthal@norfolk.gov).

Sincerely,

David S. Rosenthal, CLM  
Reservoir Manager



## For More Information

**Become a Lake Star**  
[www.norfolk.gov/LSH](http://www.norfolk.gov/LSH)

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[www.Norfolk.gov/LSH](http://www.Norfolk.gov/LSH)



Scan with your mobile device  
for more information

## Have it tested....

Virginia is a “transition zone” for turf grass, meaning there is no perfect grass for our cold winters and hot, dry summers.

While Tall Fescue, a cool season grass, is the most common in the area, it may need more water in the summer. Warm season grasses, like zoysia, Bermuda and St. Augustine, are slower to green-up in the Spring but will tolerate the summer. A mix of cool and warm season grasses may be the best choice year round.

However, before you decide to fertilize your lawn, you should have your soil tested. Not all grasses are fertilized at the same time of year. A soil test will tell you how much, if any, fertilizer is needed to maintain your grass. You can pick up test kits at local garden stores, or a local [Virginia Cooperative Extension office](#).



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## Water Facts

If you live around one of Norfolk’s Reservoirs in Norfolk or Virginia Beach, you also live in the *Lynnhaven River—Lower Chesapeake Bay Watershed*. Not only do you have a chance to improve your drinking water, but also the Chesapeake Bay. Use the [Interactive Map](#) to see where you live.

**PROTECT IT!**



## Garden and Yard Resources....

There are numerous resources online as well as local experts to make your yard beautiful and environmentally friendly. Below is a partial list of some of the local resources that can assist you.

- **Norfolk Master Gardeners** [www.nmgv.org](http://www.nmgv.org)
- **Virginia Beach Master Gardeners** [www.vbmg.org](http://www.vbmg.org)
  - [Garden Talks and Workshops](#)—Including the Spring Plant Sale, Rain Barrel Workshops and Garden Talks
- **askHRGreen** A region-wide initiative to educate and motivate citizens to make good environmental choices [www.askHRGreen.org](http://www.askHRGreen.org)
- **Virginia Cooperative Extension**—[Lawn and Garden](#)



## Community Involvement

Clean the Bay Day, June 2, 2018, is a great time to organize a cleanup of your neighborhood. All of the storm drains in your neighborhood drain to the reservoir, which then drains to the Chesapeake Bay. By participating in a clean up in your neighborhood, you are helping clean your drinking water and the Chesapeake Bay.

For more information on events nearby, go to <http://www.cbf.org/events/clean-the-bay-day/>.

### Upcoming Events

#### Keep Norfolk Beautiful

Through education outreach, interactive programs and community service KNB is growing environmental awareness. [KeepNorfolkBeautiful](#)

#### Norfolk Botanical Garden

The Norfolk Botanical Garden offers a wide variety of programs and events—<http://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org/>

#### Ask HRGreen

Find local activities that will help improve water quality and your neighborhood—<http://askhrgreen.org/calendar/>.

#### Chesapeake Bay Foundation

For more information on regional events, visit the CBF Calendar at <http://www.cbf.org/events/calendar>.

### Lynnhaven River NOW

Group committed to restoring the Lynnhaven River calendar of events—<http://www.lynnhavenrivernow.org/events-calendar/>.

### Keep Virginia Beach Beautiful

Working together to provide volunteer opportunities for Virginia Beach residents—[VBCleanCommunity](#)

