Learn how your water utility is serving you and your community.

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The Service Authority recently completed a water main loop closure project behind the Sentara Northern Medical Center on Opitz Boulevard in Woodbridge that further improves water service reliability to the hospital.

The Service Authority added approximately 800 feet of water main to connect two pressure zones and installed an underground vault that contains a two-way pressure reducing valve (PRV).

If water pressure in either zone drops below the PRV’s programmed thresholds due to an interruption in service, like a water main break, the PRV automatically switches between zones to enhance the continuity of the water supply to the medical center and surrounding residential communities. Since it works automatically, the PRV reduces the need for Service Authority crews to manually adjust nearby valves in the distribution system to maintain pressurized water service.

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**Mixing It Up**

The Service Authority has added a new category for the 2020 Water Art Invitational, the utility’s annual high school art competition.

This year, students may submit Mixed Media artwork in addition to the traditional categories of Painting and Drawing, Photography and Computer Graphics. To qualify for Mixed Media, students can combine any of the media from the previously mentioned categories in their artwork and can use techniques such as paper quilling, collage and embroidery.

“Several students asked for a Mixed Media category last year,” said Education & Outreach Assistant Michelle Bouchard. “We hope this addition will make the Water Art Invitational even more appealing to students in Prince William County. In 2019, student artists submitted nearly 200 entries, and we would love to receive more this year.” All entries for the 2020 Water Art Invitational must depict the theme “Water Connects Us All.” Students have until Friday, February 7, 2020, to submit their artwork. Entry forms and rules are available at bit.ly/WAI2020.
You Ask, We Answer

Q: Can I tour the Service Authority’s wastewater treatment plant?

A: Yes, guided tours of the H.L. Mooney Advanced Water Reclamation Facility are available Monday through Friday for groups of four or more. Visitors to the Durward E. Grubbs Jr. Environmental Center may take a self-guided tour of the educational exhibit. To schedule a group tour, email outreach@pwcsa.org.
The Adventures of **Otis** and **Bubbles**

*by Lauren Keil*

Good thing ospreys have such excellent eyesight. I can spot a water main break **IMMEDIATELY!**

Tiny bubbles! Tiny bubbles!

**Bubbles! You aren’t supposed to play in water main breaks! You are supposed to REPORT them.**

**703-335-7982.**

Ill claw, um, CALL right away!
When did you join the Service Authority?
I started in March 2011 as a Wastewater Operator Trainee. I used to do maintenance and construction for a variety of different places before I came here.

What do you like best about working for the Service Authority?

I would say job security and having a good team behind you.

**What is the most challenging part of your job?**
Staying on top of all the machinery and equipment you have to use on the job.

**What do you do for fun?**
I have twin daughters, so that keeps me busy on my days off. While they are at school, I like to fish.

**Did you know?**
Jayson is a history buff who once found a Civil War-era bullet next to his Spotsylvania home while metal detecting.