



## Agenda

Jefferson County Water Advisory Committee

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 3:00 PM

**By order of the President of the Jefferson County Water Advisory Committee  
Public Participation is available in-person only.**

**The meeting will be broadcast live via ZOOM for viewing purposes only.**

**In-Person Meeting Location:** County Commission Meeting Room located in the main level of the Jefferson County Government Complex (entrance on East side of the building) 393 North Lawrence Street, Charles Town, WV 25414

**ZOOM Broadcast Information\*:** Meeting ID: 892 8173 9099  
Meeting Link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89281739099?pwd=o6t8ojGeifcL8H3eaaHfzbDUfaGhAo.1>  
Passcode: 177850

*\*If watching live broadcast, please ensure your microphone is muted and be mindful that your video is streaming to others.*

I. Call to Order

II. Determination of Members Present and Existence of a Quorum

III. Public Comment Period

IV. Review/Approve Minutes: November 19, 2025; December 17, 2025

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

- Election of Officers
- Technical Questions regarding Water Usage and Monitoring

VII. Member Comment

VIII. Adjournment

**Jefferson County Water Advisory Committee**  
2026 Meeting Dates – 3<sup>RD</sup> Wednesday of the month – 3 pm  
393 North Lawrence Street, Charles Town, WV 25414

Public Notice Publication Date – 3 *Business Days* in advance of meeting date  
Agenda Requests – 7 *Calendar Days* in advance of meeting date

**JANUARY - Wednesday January 21**

- Thursday, January 15 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday January 14 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**FEBRUARY - Wednesday February 18**

- Thursday, February 17 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday February 11--Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**MARCH - Wednesday March 18**

- Friday March 13 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday February 11 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**APRIL – Wednesday April 15**

- Friday April 10 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday April 8 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**MAY – Wednesday May 20**

- Thursday, May 14 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday May 13 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**JUNE – Wednesday June 17**

- Friday June 12 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday June 10 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**JULY – Wednesday July 15**

- Friday July 10 - Public notice publication date (3 business days)
- Wednesday July 8 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members date

**AUGUST – Wednesday August 19**

- Friday August 14 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday August 12 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members

**SEPTEMBER – Wednesday September 16**

- Thursday, September 10 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday September 9 - Agenda requests from JCWAC Members

**OCTOBER- Wednesday October 21**

- Friday October 16 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday October 14 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members

**NOVEMBER – Wednesday November 18**

- Friday November 13 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday November 11 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members

**DECEMBER – Wednesday December 16**

- Friday December 11 - Public notice publication date
- Wednesday December 9 - Agenda requests due from JCWAC Members

[letterhead]

August 21, 2025

Dear Chairwoman Sell,

Please review the questions below and provide technical assistance to the Jefferson County Commission in the form of written responses.

**Technical Questions for Water Advisory Committee**

**I. Testing and studies**

The Jefferson County Commission is considering requiring hydrogeological studies in limited contexts in accordance with state law and without duplicating the work of state agencies. The Commission is most interested in studies regarding proposed uses that could draw large enough quantities of water to affect water use by neighbors.

**1. Hydrogeological Studies**

- a. Does West Virginia have a threshold for large quantity users? What is it and how is it applied? Is there differentiation between types of uses?
- b. What are the generally accepted professional hydrogeologic practices and standards for a hydrogeologic report for different levels of water usage and/or different types of wells?
  - i. Subdivisions (e.g. < 15 lots);
  - ii. High Density Individual Wells;
  - iii. Non-Residential Wells,;
  - iv. Community Wells;
  - v. Large Quantity Withdrawals,
  - vi. >300gpm (Large Quantity User); and
  - vii. High Production Non-Residential Wells;
- c. For monitoring affects on water quantity of neighboring properties, is it best practice to differentiate by use, for example residential vs. commercial, or is best practice to consider only quantity of withdrawals without consideration of use?

**2. Pumping Tests**

- a. What types of pumping tests are best for karst topography (e.g. constant rate tests, step-drawdown tests, recovery tests)?

5. What other scientific terms, factors, and parameters should the Commission use as it considers regulations for monitoring adequacy of water resources?
6. Sustainable Yield Evaluation
  - a. What is best practice for sustainable yield evaluation analysis to include recharge under normal and drought conditions?
  - b. How is sustainable yield evaluation affected by karst topography?

### III. Agricultural Large Quantity Users

The Commission is interested in promoting and supporting farming and agricultural activity by ensuring that farmers have adequate water resources. In reviewing or designing policy options, the Commission wants to avoid creating new requirements that would be burdensome or otherwise harmful for farmers.

1. Which agricultural practices in Jefferson County are the heaviest uses of water?
2. How much water do these heaviest agricultural users use on a daily basis?
3. What types of farming use the most amount of water in Jefferson County?
4. Do State DEP monitoring or other programs distinguish agricultural uses from other uses among Large Quantity Users?

### IV. Environmental impacts of sewer sites

The Commission is interested in learning more about environmental impacts of sewer sites owned by public utilities and private companies in Jefferson County.

1. How can Jefferson County residents learn more about environmental impacts of sewer infrastructure through publicly available information?
2. What are the environmental impacts of sewer sites owned by public utilities in Jefferson County?
3. What are the environmental impacts of sewer sites owned by private companies in Jefferson County?
4. Other than the Department of Environmental Protection, which state agencies play a role in regulating environmental impacts of sewer sites?

Thank you and congratulations on your success reconstituting the Water Advisory Committee after years of dormancy. We look forward to receiving technical assistance

- b. What pumping test requirements are applicable (e.g. for 1ai-1avii)?
    - i. Should the duration of drawdown be 24 hours, 72 hours, or some other duration to accommodate karst hydrogeologic and conditions?
  - c. What is best practice for pumping test water discharge?
  - d. Does the State Department of Environmental Protection require that water from test pumping be discharged in a certain manner to avoid influencing the data on recharge?
3. Delineation of Contribution Areas
- a. What is best practice for delineation of recharge zones and contributing areas and boundary zones?
  - b. How is this delineation different in karst topography?
  - c. Which state agency has decision-making authority over contribution areas and what is their process for setting contribution areas?
4. Surface water influence on ground water
- a. How does the WVDEP determine that a well is using groundwater under the influence of surface water (GWUISW)?
  - b. Under best practices, what indicators of GWUISW are used?
  - c. Would a GWUISW well require additional monitoring and studies due to the potential draw down on wells in the contributing area/influence area that are shallow and under the influence of surface water?

## II. Distinguishing among uses when monitoring local water resources

The Commission is interested in distinguishing between uses that replenish water in our local ecosystem and those that do not for the purpose of monitoring adequacy of water resources for all current residents, including all types of uses (agricultural, residential, commercial, etc.), and for future residents. The Commission wants to distinguish between uses on scientific grounds, not by targeting specific commercial or industrial uses for regulatory purposes.

1. Do state agencies distinguish between uses (e.g. agricultural vs. industrial) when monitoring or evaluating replenishment of water in local groundwater and other relevant water resources?
2. How do state agencies evaluate the impact on water resources of proposed new uses?
3. What scientific terms, factors, and parameters do state agencies use for water resource quantity monitoring?
4. According to best practice, are these methods used in karst topography? If not, why not?