



## SUPERVISORS TO HEAR REPORT ON WATER AVAILABILITY AT THE RIDGES

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**Montgomery County, Virginia** – Montgomery County’s Board of Supervisors will hear a report tonight on a hydrogeologic study prepared for the proposed additional phases of The Ridges development in the Ironto area of the County.

The Board of Supervisors requested the study to determine the availability of well water on 224 acres at The Ridges, located north of New Ridge Road and west of Bradshaw Road. ATS International, which conducts engineering geology and geophysical analyses and water resources studies, looked at groundwater availability for the proposed development of up to 67 residential lots.

ATS President Ted Dean, P.G., will tell the Board of Supervisors at its work session that wells on the proposed 1.5 acre lots will be far enough apart that adjacent wells will not be affected, even if they are pumping at the same time.

The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing April 28 on the ordinance requested by Reese Family Limited Partnership to rezone the property from Agriculture (A-1) to Rural Residential (RR). The Supervisors requested the hydrogeologic study after hearing that some adjoining property owners expressed concerns about the ability of the water table to support additional development.

“We believe that the water resources of the area are adequate to support the proposed development, and we recommend that groundwater not be considered an issue in deciding whether to approve the development,” the report states.

ATS recommends that prospective property owners be informed that it is advisable to drill the well before designing any other aspect of the home. “The house location and the septic system can be moved around the lot but water might not be found anywhere that is convenient,” the report continues.

In the event drilling produces a low yield well, ATS recommends the following options:

1. Drilling in a different location on the lot, which may be the most expensive option.
2. Drilling the well deeper in order to build storage capacity into the well bore.
3. Considering an indoor storage tank.

The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to vote on the rezoning request at its meeting at 7:15 p.m. on July 28 at the County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St., Christiansburg. To see the complete hydrogeological study, including aerial photographs, go to [www.montgomerycountyva.gov](http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov).

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