***September 2017***

***Social Media has had a tremendous impact on retirement planning.  Technology has opened our eyes to the fact a mobile app, planning calculators, and games can make reaching retirement age fun.  Now’s the time to step into the future and view retirement planning from a different light.  VRS Defined Contribution Plans (DCP) offers you the opportunity to be in sync with your future.  Remember, the future is coming and it is never too late to make a change.  Start Today!!***

*Participation in the* ***VRS Defined Contribution Plans (DCP)*** *is easy.*  *By setting up an* ***Online Account****you will be able to do the following at your convenience:*

* *Enroll in the plan*
* *Make contribution amount/deferral changes*
* *Update beneficiary information*
* *Monitor your balance(s)*
* *Make asset allocation changes*
* *Access forms and publications*
* *Set-up email delivery options*

*This is a virtual one-stop shop that begins with establishing a username and password at our secure web portal known as* ***Account Access****.*

*Here are the links for account set-up and review by Plan Name:*

* 1. ***457 Deferred Compensation Plan***: [www.varetire.org/457](http://www.varetire.org/457)
	2. ***Hybrid 457 Deferred Compensation Plan***: [www.varetire.org/hybrid](http://www.varetire.org/hybrid)

*If you’re always on the go, but your mobile phone never leaves your side, you’ll want to sign up for ICMA-RC’s* ***Text Access Feature****, which allows you to request certain account information and have it sent directly to your mobile phone via text. To sign up, log into Account Access and navigate to the Account Notifications page. After signing up, you can get information including your account balance, your last contribution amount, and your rate of return.*

*For multiple accounts, you also have the option of creating a nickname for each account.*[*ENROLL NOW*](https://accountaccess.icmarc.org/participant/login_vrs.jsp)

***Did you know there is a cost to delaying the opportunity to save for your future?  Have you thought about increasing your contributions?  Have you ever thought how can one small change make a big impact on your savings for the future?*** 

*Great News!!................... If you are seeking an answer to these questions, we invite you to view the VRS Website Calculators at the following link,* [***Plan Calculators***](http://www.varetirement.org/dcp/resources/calculators.html)***.*** *The calculators provide the opportunity to review the possibility of change, the Roth contribution option, and more.*

*Your* ***Plan Specialists*** *are available to conduct on-site group meetings and/or* ***one-on-one individual consultations****to help employees gain awareness of the benefits of the Defined Contribution Plans.  Our group meetings address the highlights and features of our plans, overall investment options, and distribution strategies for those employees approaching retirement.*

***One-on-One Consultations*** *with your Plan Specialist include the following:*

* ***Managing your account online***
* ***Reviewing your contributions***
* ***Investment awareness***
* ***Beneficiary review***

*Please see the attached flyer labeled “****DCP/VRS Rep Contact Sheet****” to locate your Plan Specialist’s contact information.  For* ***investment awareness****, we have attached the* ***Investment Option Performance (IOP)*** *document for* ***September 2017****.  Please distribute both attachments to your employees.*

***VRS Defined Contribution Plans Educational Seminars****are currently being held around the state of Virginia. The meetings are open to employees eligible to participate in the VRS Defined Contribution Plans.  Advance registration is requested for all sessions and individual consultations.*

*To register for the meeting(s) for the* ***457 Deferred Compensation and Virginia Cash Match Plans****, please* [***click here***](https://icmarc.secure.force.com/events?SiteId=a0lj0000003QNuaAAG)*.*

*To register for the meeting(s) for the* ***Hybrid Defined Contribution Plans****, click on the following link* [***View Hybrid Retirement Plan group seminars and one-on-one consultations***](https://icmarc.secure.force.com/events?SiteId=a0lj0000002sBwVAAU)***.***

*VRS Defined Contribution Plans are currently conducting* ***Live Webinars****on a regular basis throughout the year for you and your employees.  The webinars are open to employees eligible to participate in or currently participating in one or more of the VRS Defined Contribution Plans.*

*Here is the link to our* [***Upcoming 457 Deferred Compensation and Virginia Cash Match Live Webinars***](http://www.varetirement.org/dcp/upcoming-live-webinars.html) *as well as* [***Upcoming Hybrid Defined Contribution Component Live Webinars***](http://www.varetirement.org/hybrid/education/defined-contributions.html)*that will assist with the overall understanding of the plans.*

***Special Note****:  Our seminars and webinars are designed for all eligible employees with or without the option to participate in the VA Cash Match Plan(s).*

***Hybrid Retirement Plan:***

*Have you tried using the new* ***Hybrid Member Paycheck Calculator??***

***What’s the purpose of this calculator?*** *The Member Paycheck Calculator helps you see the impact on your paycheck when you change your voluntary contributions to your retirement account.  The calculator includes your 5 percent mandatory contribution, your voluntary contributions up to 4 percent plus any optional pre-tax and after-tax deductions you would like to include.  Keep in mind that pre-tax contributions, including those you make to your hybrid account, allow you to save more on taxes now!!*

[*Calculate Now*](http://www.icmarc.org/prebuilt/static/paycheckcalculator/vrs/)

*As always, please don’t hesitate to let us know how we can assist you in any way.*

*Thank you,*

*Steven Scott*

Steven J. Scott, Certified Retirement Counselor®

VRS Defined Contribution Plans

Defined Contribution Plans Specialist

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