

How Water Systems Work

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAMS - Water Management and Conservation Plans

https://www.oregon.gov/owrd/WRDPublications1/wmcp_guidebook.pdf

Municipal Water Management and Conservation Plans are required by the State of Oregon to provide a process for municipal water supplies to develop plans to meet future water needs. The purpose of a Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP) is to be a guide to the development and implementation of proactive water management and conservation programs and policies that suppliers can undertake to ensure sustainable use of water resources for municipal water users.

Effective water management requires an evaluation of the adequacy of water supplies to meet current and future needs, identification of planned modifications in water systems, and development of new water supplies. WMCPs provide information important in water resources planning and management. The plans may also provide support for applications for new water use permits, water right transfers and permit amendments, requests for permit extensions of time, and approvals of water exchanges and reservations of water.

All water providers must implement the following conservation measures:

- Water use measurement and reporting
- Annual water audit
- Full metering of the system
- Meter testing and maintenance program
- Rate structure based on the quantity of water metered
- Leak detection program
- Public education program

In addition, many water providers are required to implement technical and financial assistance programs and/or retrofit/replacement of inefficient fixtures - typically implemented through rebate programs.

All CRWP members are required to develop these Plans as part of their water right permit conditions. These Plans are used to demonstrate our communities' needs for increased diversions of water under their water permits as our communities and water demands grow. The CRWP implements a *Public Outreach & Education Program as well as a Conservation Rebate Program on behalf of its members to encourage efficient water use, which helps meet some of the WMCP requirements listed above.

Water conservation is an important tool in meeting the water supply needs of our communities and can help us reduce the cost of developing new water supplies. It also allows us to leave more water in the rivers for fish and recreation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about how you can save water year-round, to receive free conservation devices and information about the Clackamas River Water Providers Conservation Rebate Program, visit our website at www.clackamasproviders.org.

*The Cities of Tigard and Lake Oswego implement their own Water Conservation programs.