

## Water Supply Plans and Water Appropriation Permit Approvals

Water Supply Plan (WS Plan) approvals may also include approval for increased water volumes and/or new wells that are planned over the ten year life of the plan. Requesting permit approvals as part of the WS Plan is optional and would most likely benefit growing communities that anticipate large increases in water use or a number of new wells over the next ten years. To qualify for the ten year permit approval certain benchmarks or conservation measures are required along with adequate documentation on the need for increased water volumes and new wells.

<p><b>Benchmarks and Conservation Measures.</b> Permit approvals will be based on meeting specified benchmarks listed below. If water demands exceed Benchmarks for unaccounted water, residential per capita, and peak demands then permit approval will be contingent on implementation of one or all the listed Conservation Measures or Programs until the benchmark is achieved.</p>	
Benchmarks	Conservation Measures or Programs
<p><b>Unaccounted Water</b> (water withdrawals minus sales) Less than 10%</p>	<p>If over 10%, a plan is required that addresses reduction of unaccounted water through universal metering and accounting of water use, routine meter testing and repair, and distribution system leak detection and repair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Metering of source water and customers.</li> <li>➤ Accounting for public uses.</li> <li>➤ Water audits to determine unaccounted water.</li> <li>➤ A leak detection survey that also includes an inspection of hydrants once each year.</li> <li>➤ Operational procedures that include an established schedule for repairing leaks within 30 days.</li> <li>➤ Operational procedures that include an established schedule for meter testing, maintenance and repair.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Residential Gallons Per Capita</b> Less than 75 GPCD</p>	<p>If over 75 GPCD, a plan is required that evaluates and implements measures targeted at reducing residential per capita.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Analyze residential customer use to determine reasons for high per capita use.</li> <li>➤ Customer education a minimum of four times per year that targets reduction of indoor and outdoor uses.</li> <li>➤ Contact customers with high volumes and large volume increases and offer home audits and conservation tips.</li> <li>➤ Incentive programs to reduce per capita use, such as distributing showerheads, aerators, leak detection kits, or soil moisture meters, rebates for washing machines or ULF toilets rebate programs, or other types of incentives.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Peak Demands</b> Maximum Day to Average Day Ratio Less than 2.6</p>	<p>If over a ratio of 2.6, a plan is required to reduce peak demands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ordinances for lawn watering including time of day, scheduling (along with information on how often to water) and water wasting (runoff) with adequate enforcement and penalties for non-compliance.</li> <li>➤ Development approvals with criteria that minimize large open turf areas, require organic soil augmentation for new turf areas on sandy soils, and require one or more trees for new construction.</li> <li>➤ Customer education/conservation tips during summer peak demands a minimum of four times between May and September of each year.</li> <li>➤ Conservation Water Rate Structure: Increasing block <b>or</b> summer surcharge with 25-cent minimum increments between blocks or normal rates.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rate Structures</b> - A conservation or conservation neutral rate structure is required that does not include any volume of water in the service or base charge (lifeline exceptions allowed).</p>	
<p><b>Monitoring Plan</b> – A monitoring plan approved by DNR that includes monthly water level readings in production wells and/or observation that may be required. Monitoring data must be submitted to DNR once each year or upon request.</p>	
<p><b>Sustainability</b> – All impacts and limits on natural resources and other water users must be satisfied.</p>	

### Permit Approval Requests and Process

- 1) The Water Supply Plan must be approved by DNR.
- 2) A letter summarizing the permit approvals being requested for new water sources (CIP) and increased volumes (demand projections) for the next 10 years along with documentation that Benchmarks or Conservation Measures and Programs are being implemented.
- 3) Billing for permit amendment fee.
- 4) DNR review of permit request, which may require additional information or discussions with the public water supplier.
- 5) DNR final action on request (approve, approve with limitations, or deny).
- 6) Compliance reporting by public water supplier.