

Annual Water Use Efficiency Performance Report

Water System ID# 94900
Performance Reporting Period – FY 2010



In 2003, the Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1338, better known as the Municipal Water Law, to address the increasing demand on our State's water resources. The law established that all municipal water suppliers must use water more efficiently in exchange for water right certainty and flexibility to help them meet future demands. The Legislature directed the Department of Health (DOH) to adopt a Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program, which became effective on January 22, 2007. The WUE Program requires the governing body of the municipal water system to develop and adopt water use efficiency goals through a public process by January 22, 2008. The WUE Program also requires each municipal water system to report on the progress of meeting the adopted water use efficiency goals annually by July 1st.

On January 22, 2008, West Richland City Council passed Resolution 4-08 establishing the City's water use efficiency goals. These goals were amended by Council on June 1, 2009, Resolution 10-09.

Supply side goal: Maintain water distribution system unaccounted for water (loss) at 10% or less based on a rolling three year average.

Supply side progress: West Richland's water system has been fully metered since August of 2005, nearly 12 years before the Department of Health's January 2017 deadline. The City's annual residential water service meter replacement program and leak detection program began in 2005. In 2010, the City's unaccounted for water was 14.0% with the 2008-2010 three year rolling average of 6.2%.

FY 2010 Distribution System Unaccounted For Water Summary

Total water produced – 827,474,000 gallons
Water distribution system unaccounted for water – 113,750,000 gallons
Percent of unaccounted for water – 13.7%

Demand side goal: Reduce average water usage 1% annually (total reduction of 8% by 2015) from 576 gallons per day per equivalent residential unit (ERU) in 2007 to 530 gallons per day per ERU by 2015 (Potential to save approximately 85,000,000 gallons per year).

Demand side progress: In 2010, the average water usage was 523 gallons per day per equivalent residential unit; a reduction of 9.2% from 2007. The large reduction in average domestic water use is primarily due to the availability of Columbia Irrigation District's irrigation water beginning in 2009 to approximately 500 acres in the Belmont Area. The City will continue educational efforts to inform our customers about using water efficiently and residential retrofit measures to conserve water.

For more information on water use efficiency, please visit Washington State Department of Health's website at www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/programs/wue.htm or the Environmental Protection Agency's website at <http://epa.gov/watersense>.