

Section 6: Water Demand Management Measures

This section discusses water conservation measures being implemented by TUD. TUD does not directly budget for conservation programs. Cost for the Water Demand Management Measures (DMM) or programs are folded into the public information and maintenance budgets. Existing District policy reserves the right for TUD to allocate the delivery of available water supplies among its water users.

The annual allocation of water during a critical year is based upon projections of municipal and industrial use, public trust requirements (where fish flow requirements and other environmental uses are a condition of use imposed by an appropriate regulating governmental body), and the watering of livestock (including poultry).

The next highest priority is for maintaining the survival of permanent crops, and fire protection; followed by irrigation of nonpermanent crops, and other agricultural and commercial uses.

The final group includes the delivery of water delivered under a "Surplus Water" agreement and for other uses such as noncommercial recreation, scenic, and construction purposes.

6.1 DMM 1 - Water Survey Programs

TUD, through the Master Gardener program has in the past offered free residential water use surveys to customers upon request. The Master Gardeners had also provided landscape surveys including sprinkler system efficiency, distribution uniformity, seasonal scheduling and repairs or improvements.

TUD does not track the number of surveys performed annually. This program has been eliminated for funding reasons.

6.2 DMM 2 - Residential Plumbing Retrofit

TUD offers water-saving kits free upon customer request. The water-saving kits include free showerhead replacements and a device for reducing toilet flush water requirements for regular toilets.

TUD does not track the number of kits requested annually. In addition to the water-saving kits, TUD offers a rebate program, for ultra-low-flush toilet replacement.

6.3 DMM 3 - System Water Audits, Leak Detection and Repair

TUD has a water leak detection and repair program. Records are kept annually on water production versus consumption to track unaccounted water in the system (see Table 5). TUD has budgeted \$100,000.00 per year for its open ditch conveyance system leak reduction program.

6.4 DMM 4 - Metering with Commodity Rates

TUD's water systems are fully metered and TUD's rates and charges include increasing commodity rates as usage increases.

6.5 DMM 5 - Large Landscape Conservation Programs

TUD reviews all landscape plans proposed for new developments in coordination with the County Planning and Building Department. Drought tolerant native plants are recommended with down sized turf areas.

6.6 DMM 6 - High-Efficiency Washing Machine Rebate Programs

TUD does not presently offer a rebate on high-efficiency washing machine replacement. We are currently discussing this option.

6.7 DMM 7 - Public Information Programs

TUD promotes public awareness of water conservation through bill inserts, brochures, special events throughout the year, and water conservation programs sponsored in local schools. Appendix D displays samples of public information distributed by TUD. In addition to brochures and handouts, TUD's website (www.tudwater.com) provides information on water conservation, reservoir levels, river flows, and links to local, state, and federal agencies for additional information.

6.8 DMM 8 - School Education Programs

TUD contracts with a consultant to implement school education programs. Educational materials and videos for this program are provided by TUD. Presentations and demonstrations on water conservation are conducted at the local schools.

6.9 DMM 9 - Conservation Programs for Commercial, Industrial and Institutional

TUD offers to review plans for new commercial, industrial, and institutional customers. In addition, TUD will provide water use audits to any commercial, industrial, or institutional customer who requests one.

6.10 DMM 10 - Wholesale Agency Programs

TUD does not receive support for the DMMs from any wholesale agency and does not offer support to their raw water clients to implement the DMMs.

6.11 DMM 11 - Conservation Pricing

TUD uses a tier structure for water service rates which is a major factor in promoting effective water conservation. TUD's current water service charges and rates are included in Appendix C.

6.12 DMM 12 - Water Conservation Coordinator

TUD designated a part time Water Conservation Coordinator in 1996. The water conservation coordinator's responsibilities include coordinating all consultant contracts for public outreach and education, media advertisements, and special services.

6.13 DMM 13 - Waste Water Prohibition

TUD enforces the no waste section of their Water Shortage Contingency Plan, Regulation No. 12, as noted in Appendix C. The regulation restricts certain uses of water during dry and critical drought years.

Specific measures include:

- Fire hydrant flow testing prohibited
- Outside water usage restricted between 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.
- Unattended water prohibited
- Shortened irrigation season
- Car, boat, building, and trailer washing restrictions
- Restrictions on the washing of sidewalks and driveways
- Restrictions on filling of swimming pools
- Restrictions on use of potable water for sewer flushing, dust control, earth compaction and other construction use

6.14 DMM 14 - Residential Ultra-Low-Flush Toilet Replacement Programs

As part of the residential plumbing retrofit, TUD offers a program that provides for the payment of \$45 for each standard toilet that is replaced with an ultra-low-flush toilet. In addition to the rebate program, new construction requires the installation of ultra-low-flush toilets.