

# Water Conservation Programs

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## Water Conservation—what is it?

Now that you're starting a water conservation program, what does that mean?? What do you need to get started?



## Considerations when Starting a Program

Need some knowledge of your:  
**System    Town    Policy**

## Know Your...

### • System

- What's the water source & how much are you allocated?
- Is there enough to accommodate population growth?
- How much water can you treat daily?
- What are your limits?
  - Drought Contingency plan
- What is your system's water loss?
  - Unaccounted for water loss
  - Metered but unbilled water
  - Age of infrastructure

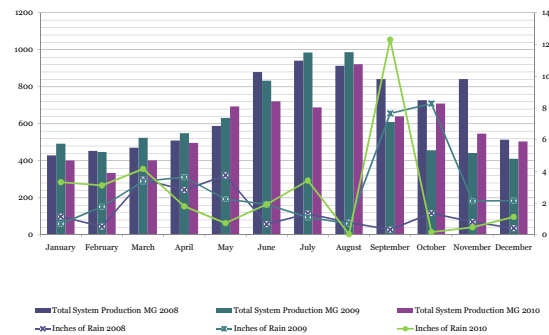


## Know Your...

### • Town

- Who's using the most water? (customer class)
- How is water being used?
  - Irrigation, industrial, residential...this will determine baselines and where it can be reduced
- When is water being used?
  - Seasonally—irrigation?
  - Peak times/days?
- Age of residences
  - Will help determine gallons used in plumbing
- GPCD (be consistent w/ formula)
  - total water produced/population/365
  - Round Rock's is:
    - 2008 = 167 gpcd    2009 = 144 gpcd    2010 = 130 gpcd

## Monthly Water Use 2008-2010





**Flood Mitigation Evaluation Form**  
 City of Grand Rapids Water Conservation  
 616.473.2700 www.GrandRapidsWater.gov

**Current Schedule**  
 1/1/10 - 3/31/10 (A=5/5/10, B=6/6/10, C=7/7/10, D=8/8/10, E=9/9/10, F=10/10/10, G=11/11/10, H=12/12/10)

**Proposed Schedule**  
 3/1/10 - 5/31/10 (A=5/5/10, B=6/6/10, C=7/7/10, D=8/8/10, E=9/9/10, F=10/10/10, G=11/11/10, H=12/12/10)

**Table Data:**

Station Location / Plant Material / Quantity / Load Type	Current Schedule								Proposed Schedule								Total Cost (Y/N)
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
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Check Total: 1000  
 Working per Month: 1000  
 Color Monthly Expenses: 1000

Customer Name: [Name]  
 Address: [Address]  
 Phone: [Phone]



## Program Implementation

- **Rainbarrels**
  - Pros
    - Repurpose barrels from other source
    - Cheap to convert
    - More than conservation
      - Stormwater, drainage, erosion
  - Cons
    - Not substantial water savings or \$ savings
    - Feel-good program




## Staff Resources

- **Collaboration**
  - Other cities, water districts, counties
    - What are they doing?
    - Who is your counterpart there?
  - Staff within your organization
    - Parks dept, utility billing office, recycle center
  - Professional organizations—be a joiner!
    - TAWWA WC&R, WCAC, WaterSense Partnership, Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists
    - Create your own with folks within your water district if there isn't already one.

## Staff Resources

- **Other Avenues**
  - Presentations
    - Schools, garden clubs, service organizations
  - Writing articles
    - Utility bill stuffer, HOA newsletters, website
  - Public Education
    - Signs or notices at high-traffic buildings
      - library, billing office, courthouse, rec centers, other?
    - Brochures, dye tables, flow bags, teacher resources...
    - Links on website to WaterSense, Water IQ

# Good Luck!

## Questions?