

# A National Perspective on Water Issues

Kane County Board  
Committee of the Whole  
November 28, 2011

Mary Ann Dickinson, President and CEO

A VOICE AND  
A PLATFORM  
PROMOTING THE  
EFFICIENT AND  
SUSTAINABLE  
USE OF WATER



# Perspective #1: Shortage Drives Different Utility Behaviors

A goldfish is swimming in a clear glass fishbowl. The fish is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the bowl. The water is clear and blue. The fishbowl is partially filled with water, and the top edge of the bowl is visible at the top of the image.

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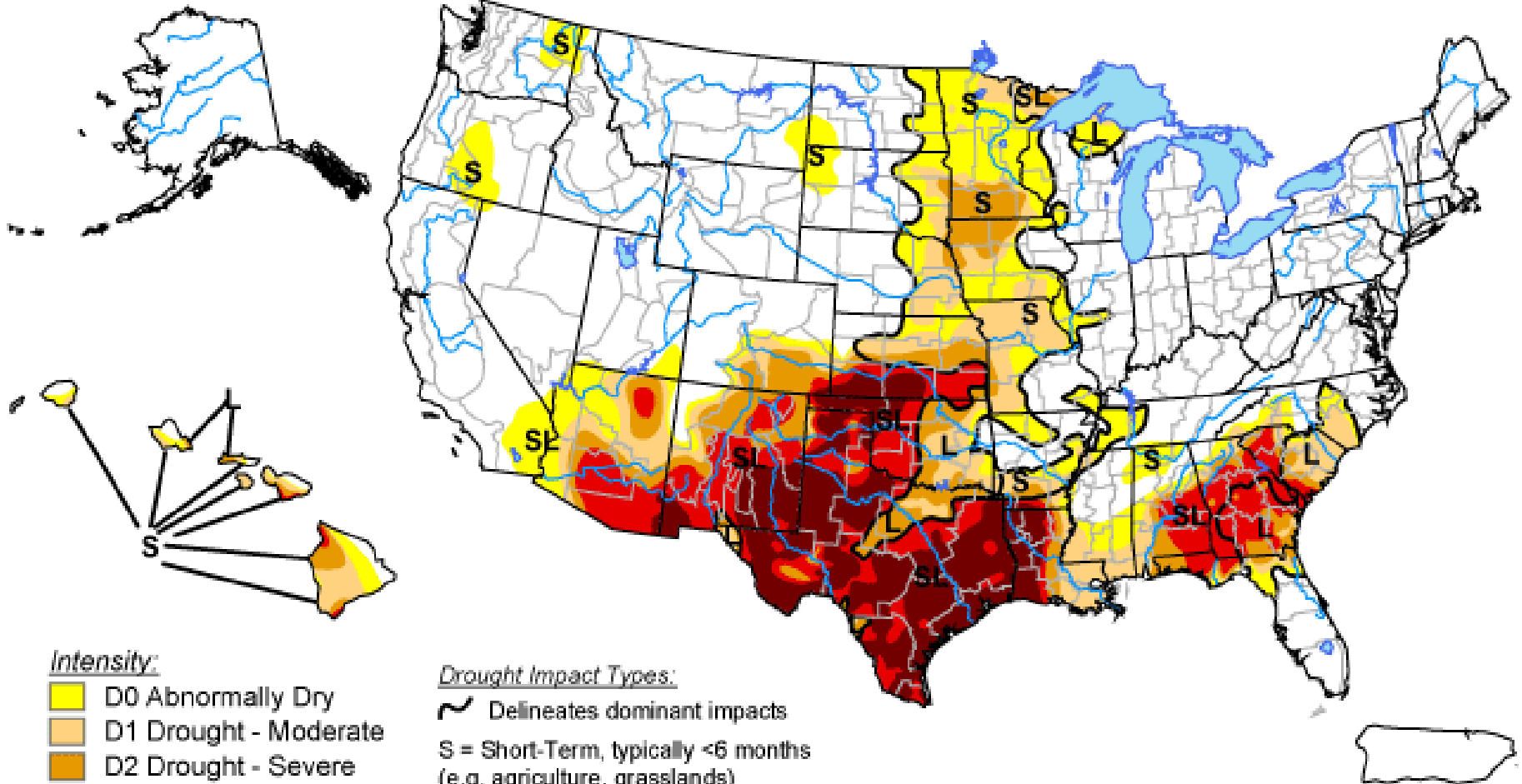


Alliance *for* Water Efficiency






# U.S. Drought Monitor

November 22, 2011


Valid 7 a.m. EST



## Intensity:

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

## Drought Impact Types:

-  Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months  
(e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months  
(e.g. hydrology, ecology)

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

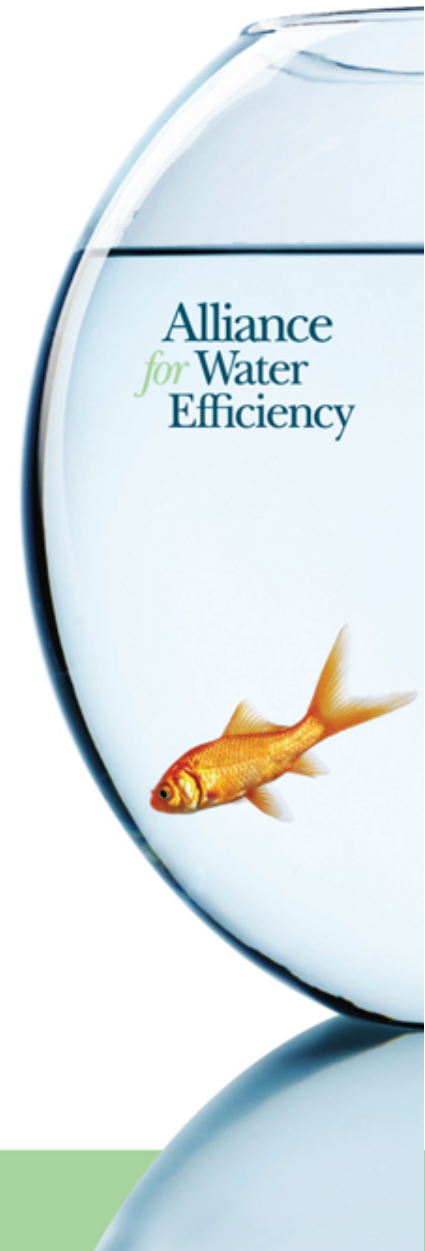


**Released Wednesday, November 23, 2011**

**Author: Anthony Artusa, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC**

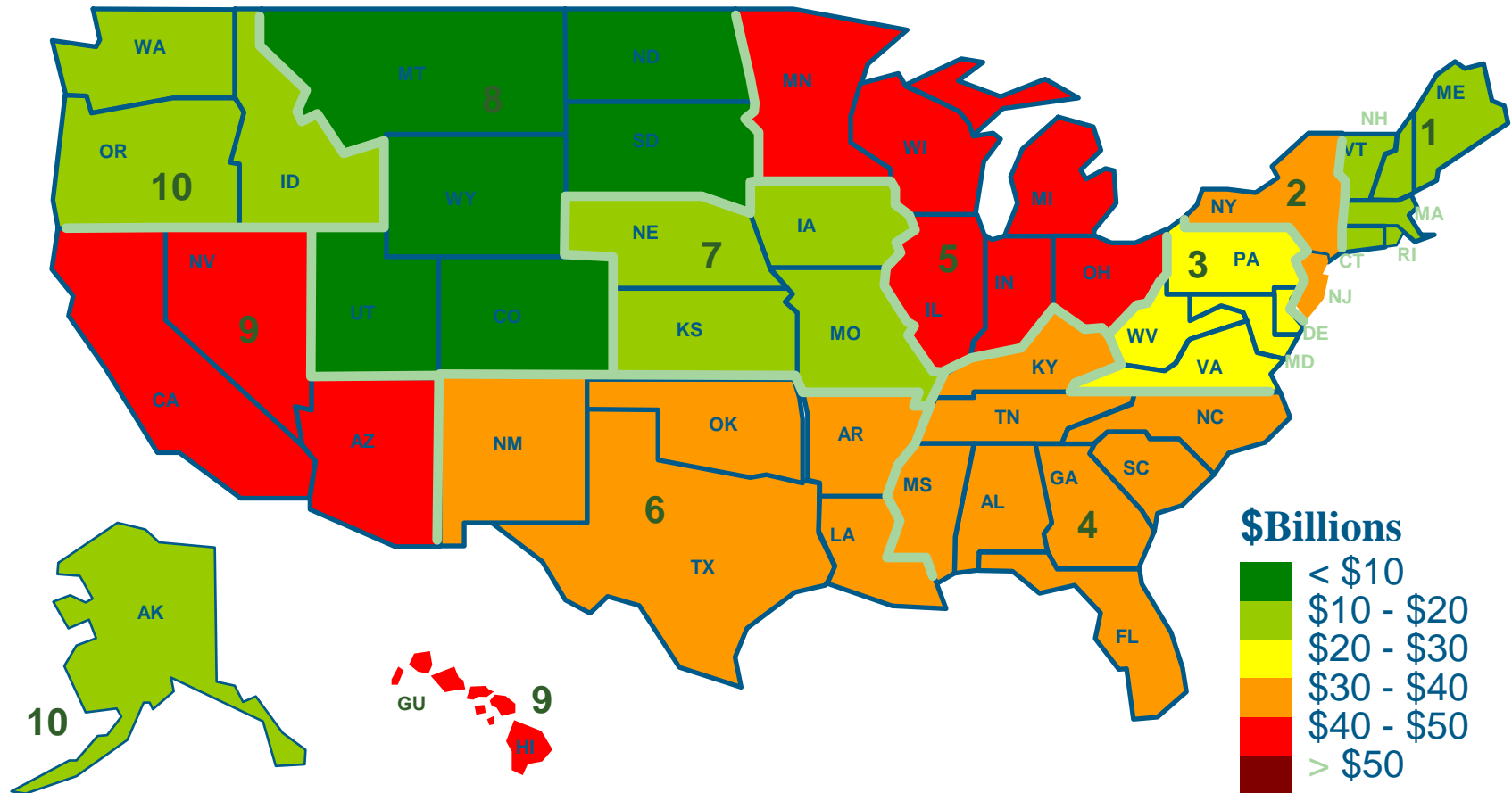
# When Not in Drought

- Water utilities across the country complain about not selling enough water and with resulting revenue loss
- Consumers expect the water bill to go down when supplies are available
- Conservation behavior often diminishes without a perceived drought crisis
- The costs avoided by the utility from conservation get forgotten in the drive to sell excess capacity





# \$533 Billion Shortfall by 2020



20 Year Drinking Water and Clean Water Infrastructure Needs by EPA Region

## Perspective #2:

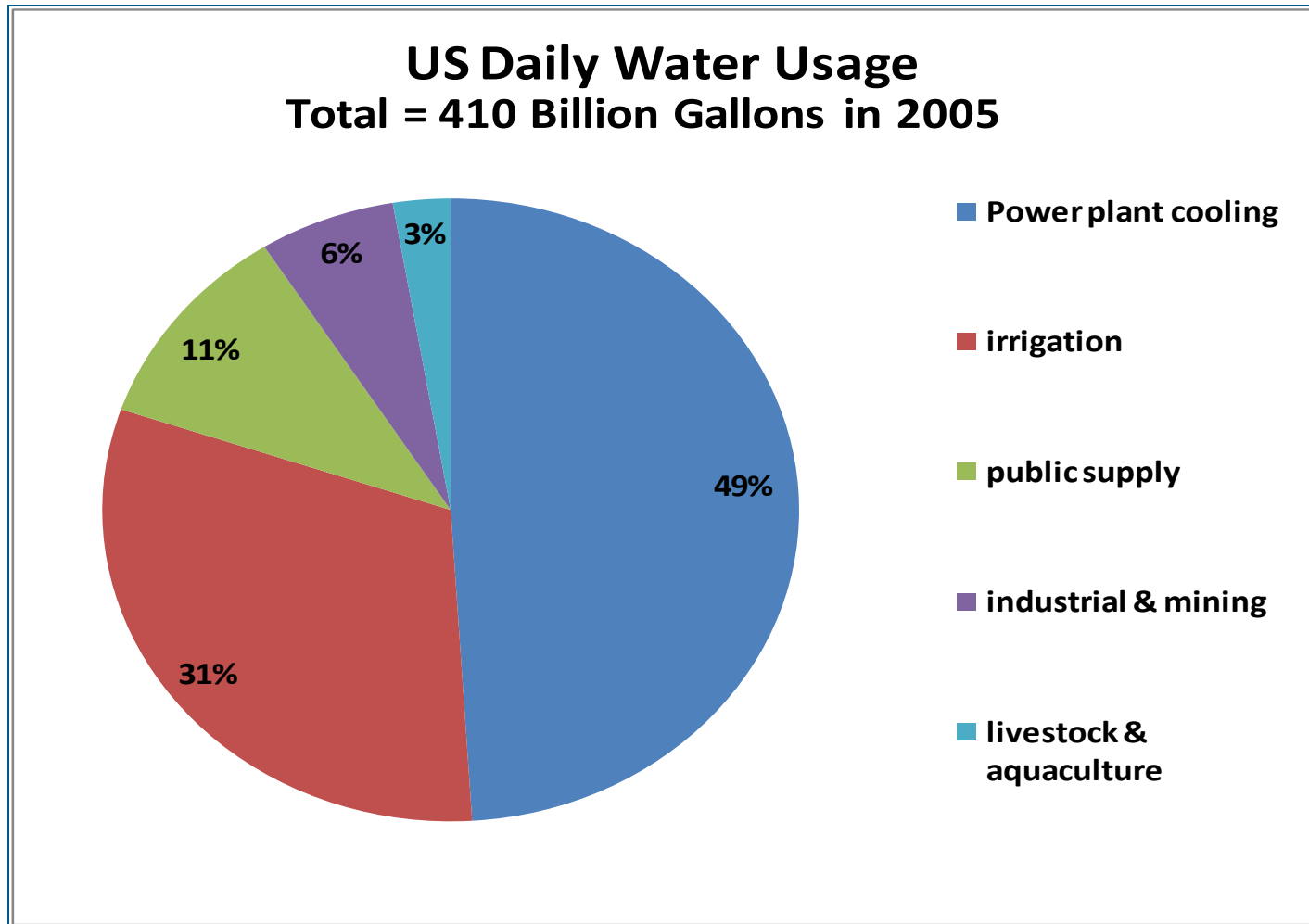
# Energy is Becoming a Significant Factor

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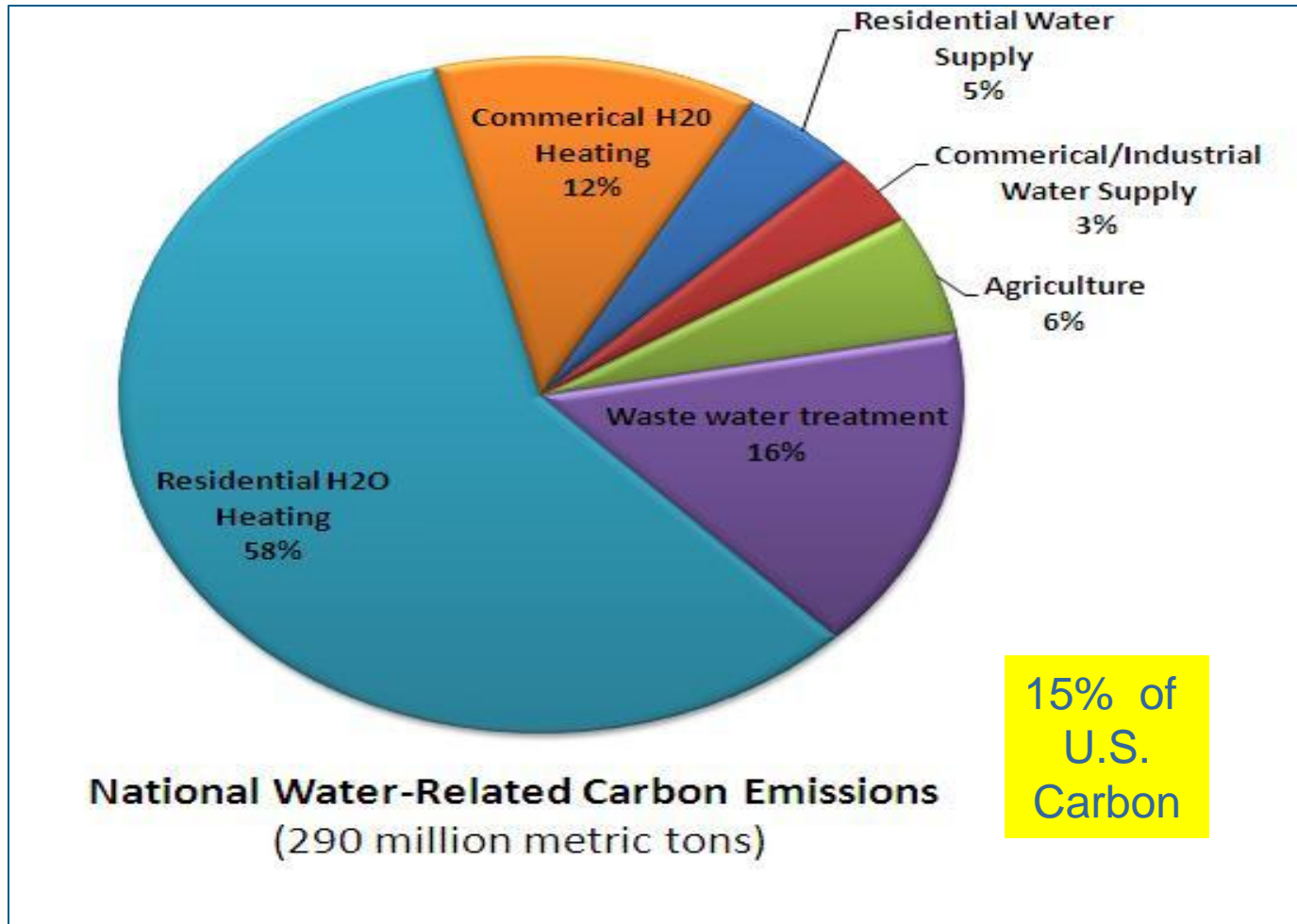
# US Daily Water Withdrawals



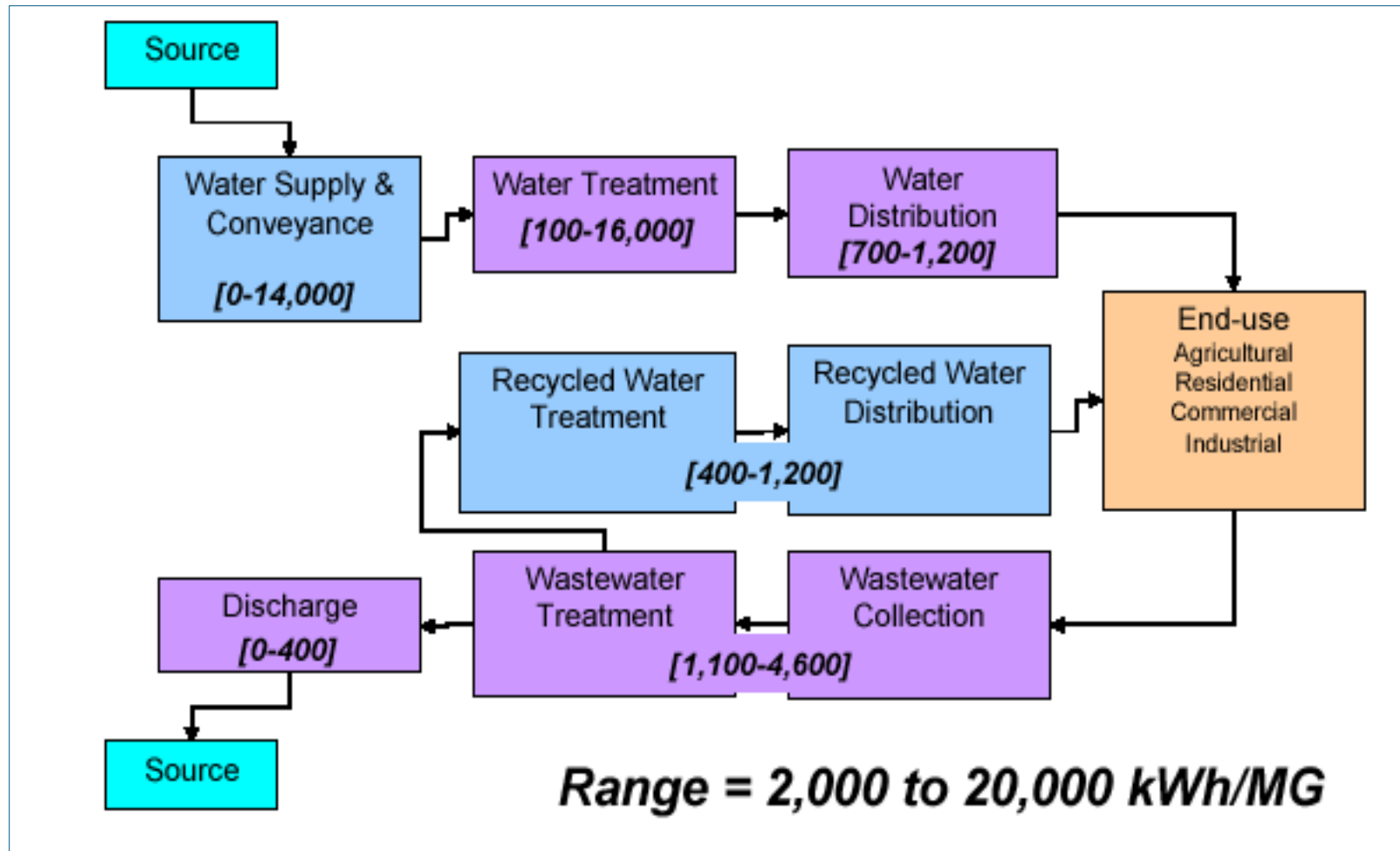
Source: US Geological Survey 2005



# The Carbon Footprint of Water

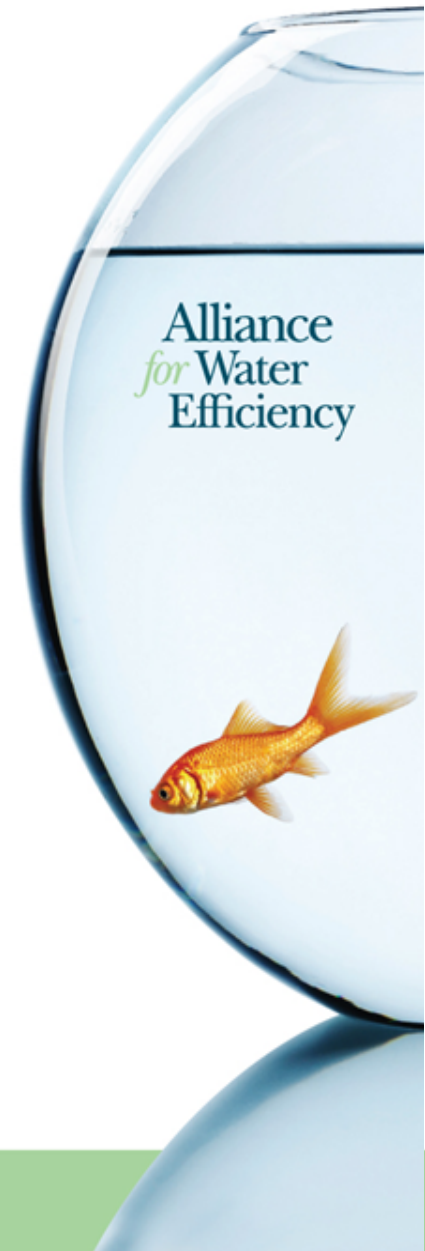


# Embedded Energy



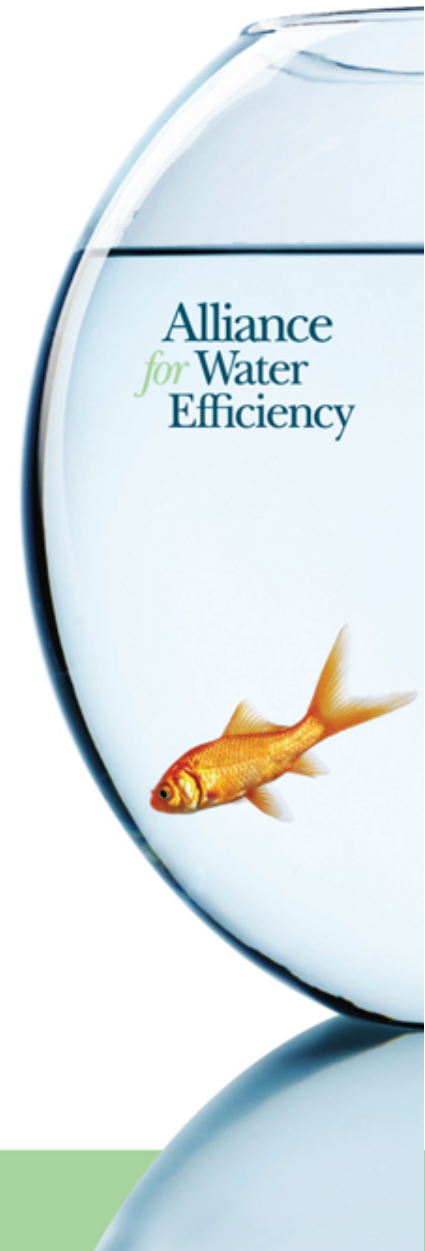
# Local Data is Key

- Every type of water supply running through the utility system has a different embedded energy value
- Utilities need to know what their on-margin energy numbers are for their water supplies
- Wastewater should not be forgotten
- Water conservation programs can be targeted to reducing demand in the most beneficial manner to the system
- Numerous models exist to help analyze this (stay tuned)



# Utility Opportunities

- System optimization for energy is important, but a large energy benefit can also come from customer demand side conservation
- Energy efficiency funding can be used to fund customer water efficiency programs when the energy benefit is calculated
- Need a better way for the water and energy communities to work together because we haven't in the past



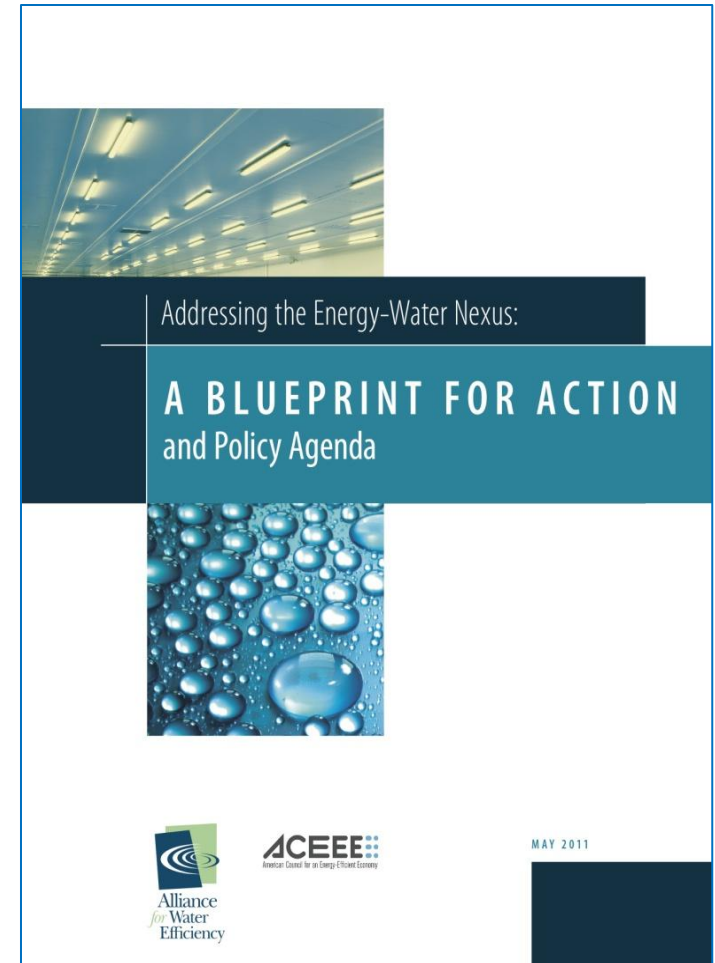
# December 9, 2010 Workshop

- AWE and ACEEE got the stakeholders together
- Over 75 key organizations identified and invited
- 54 individuals from 41 groups
- 31 themes identified with votes on priority areas
- 8 Main Themes emerged with recommendations
- 5 Priority areas for immediate action identified



# National Action Needed

- Blueprint document issued with over 50 recommendations from the stakeholder workshop
- Focused on state and national policies and programs
- [www.a4we.org](http://www.a4we.org)



## Perspective #3:

# Revenue Loss Is **THE** Big Issue All Across the Country

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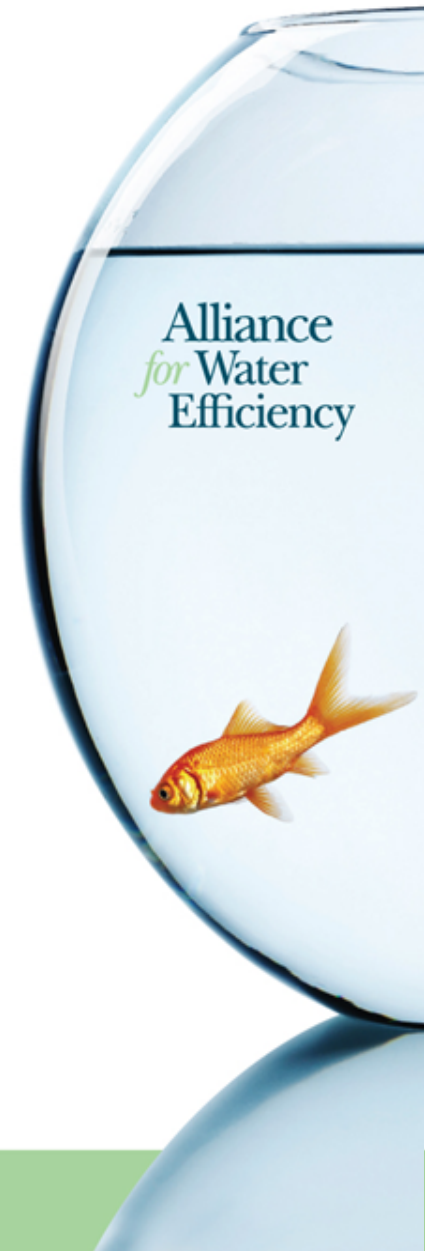


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# Our Reality

## We don't like to revise our rates

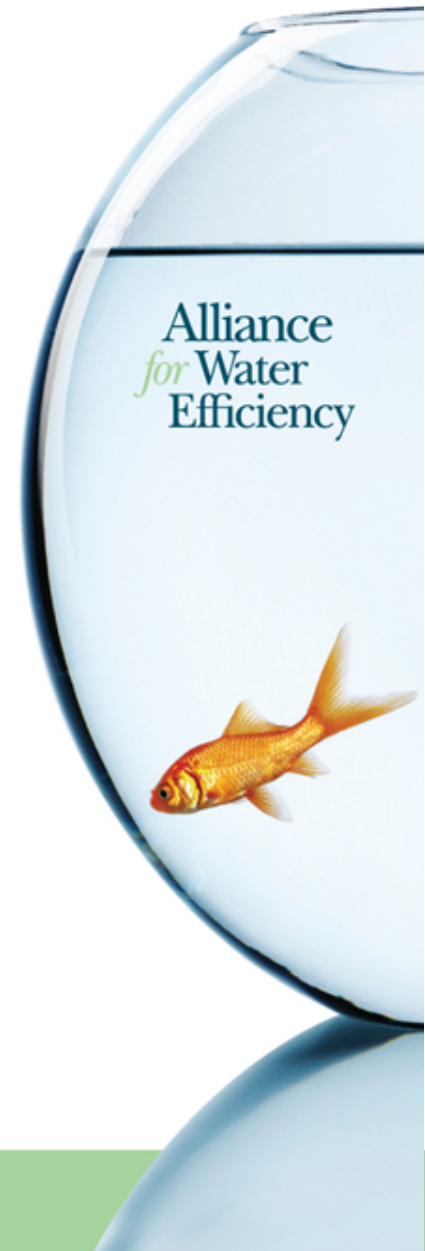
- It is politically unpopular, so rates are changed as little as possible
- The inevitable inflationary increase is postponed until it is a crisis
- Conservation is blamed as the culprit – even when the water utility or district is doing no active conservation programs at all!



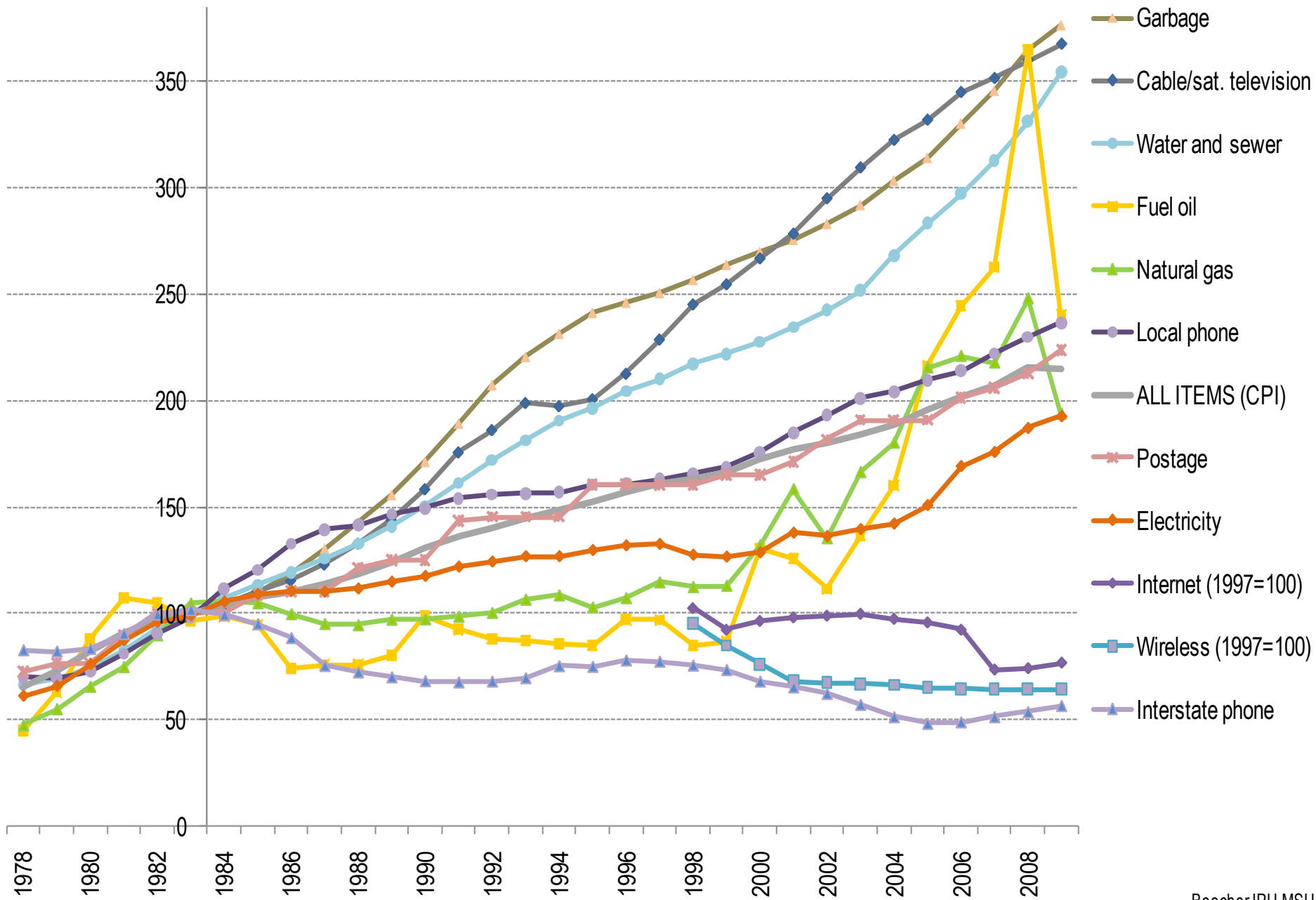


# All The Rate Drivers

- Reduced demand from efficient fixture replacement under the plumbing and appliance codes
- Reduced demand from active conservation programs
- Reduced demand from the recession: industrial shift layoffs, home foreclosures
- Reduced peak demand because of weather
- Need to maintain/renovate infrastructure
- **Inflation**
- **Rise in fixed costs**



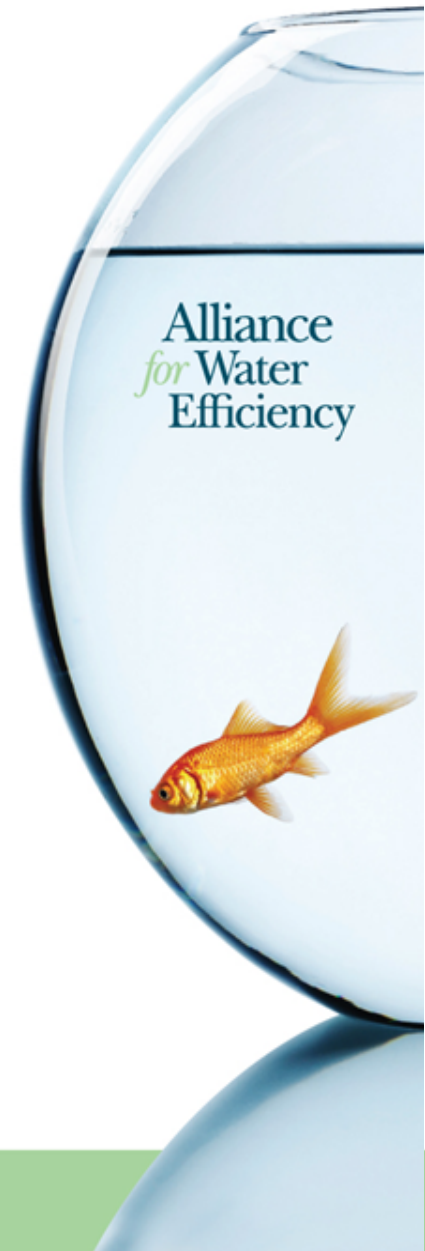
Trends in consumer prices (CPI) for utilities [1978 to 2009]



# The Anomaly

## Water is still a bargain for the consumer

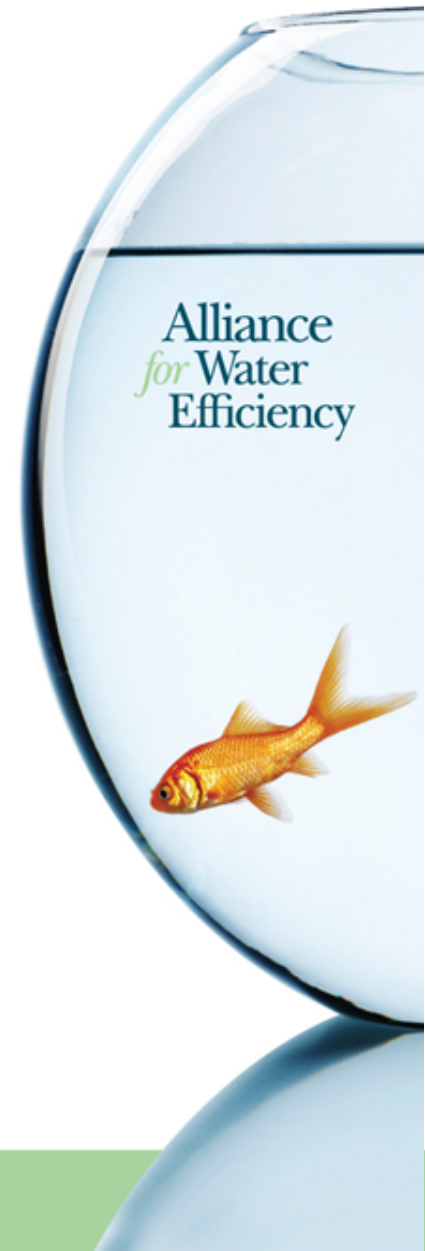
- A 30% rise in rates is often still no more than a \$4 per month increase in the average customer bill
- The same consumer -- angry about rising water rates -- buys a 16 ounce bottle of water sold for \$1.25, equivalent to \$10.00 a gallon. People are willing to pay 10,000 times more for it when it comes in a bottle
- This perception is our fault – we have too long wanted to be the “silent provider”



# The Utility Perspective

## Utilities are in a boom or bust cycle.

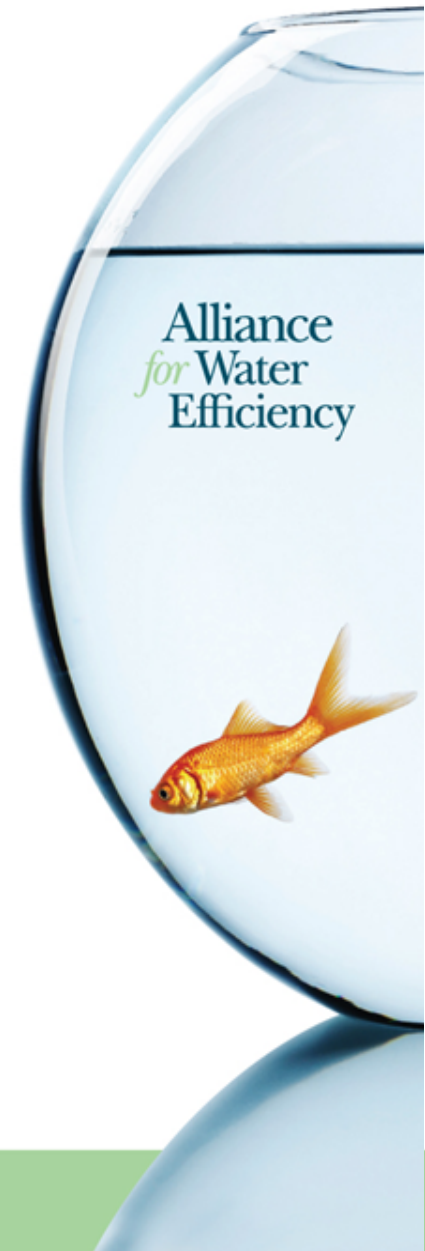
- When at overcapacity, they want to sell every drop to make their revenue goal
- When a drought occurs, they need the consumers to cut back but they actually sell more water
- Mixed messages to the customer
- Revenue structure cannot deal with these wide swings
- We need properly designed rate structures to stabilize systems



# And Conservation?

## It should still be a cost reducer to the utility

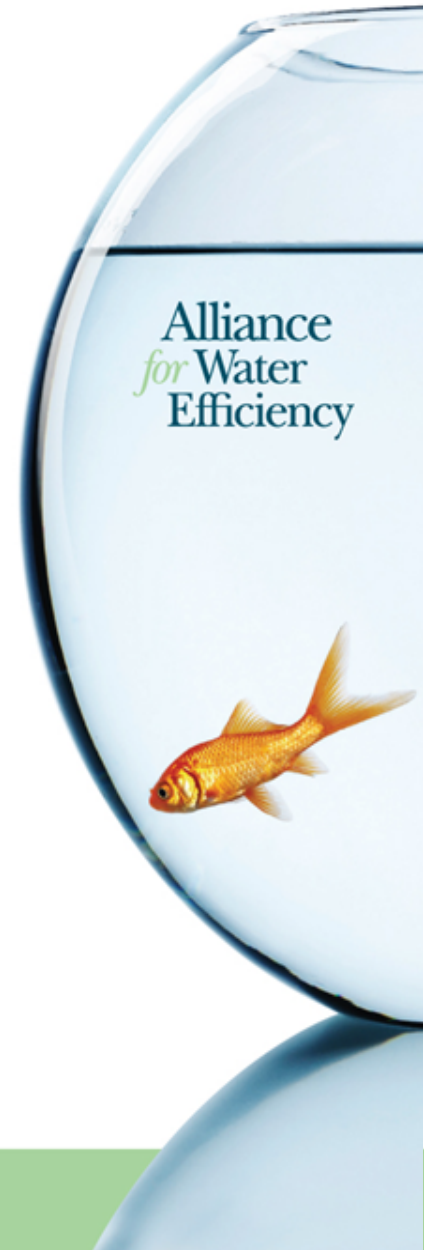
- Every gallon saved is water that does not have to be pumped and treated and delivered to the customer
- Reduced utility costs generally mean reduced rates for the customer on a long-term basis
- But the effects have to be planned for
- Conservation should not be the scapegoat for revenue loss due to other drivers



# Bottom Line

## Wasting water should not make economic sense

- Water is a commodity with a lot of embedded treatment and energy cost in it
- If conserving water makes rates rise, it is more a failure to plan rather than a failure of economics
- It is also a failure of how we are structuring our rates



# AWE Water Pricing Primer

Introduction

The Rationale for Efficiency

Cost Knowledge

The Cost of Water

Cost-based Rates

Pricing and Efficiency

How Price Matters

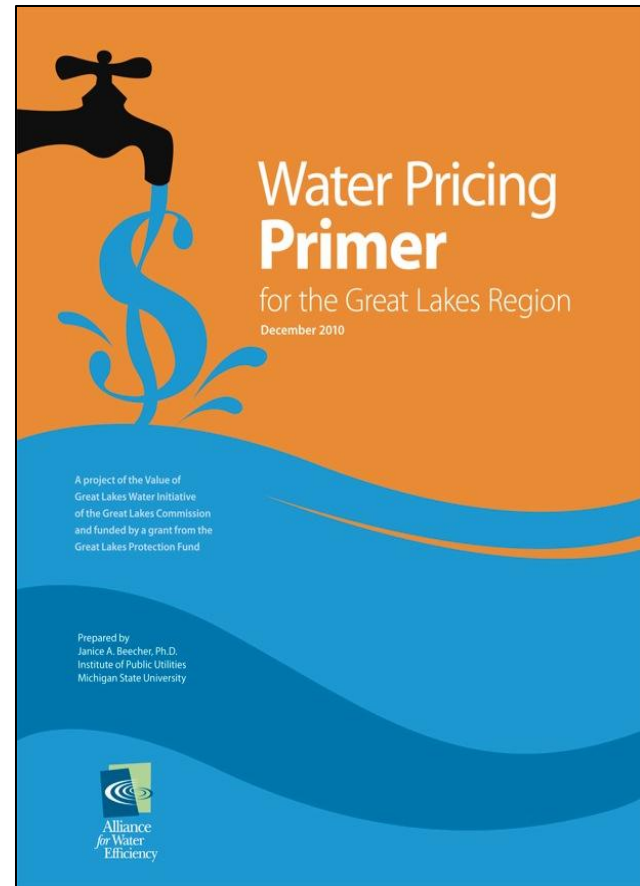
Rate Design

Efficiency-oriented Rates

Conservation and Revenues

Implementing a Change in Rates

Communication is Key



## Perspective #4:

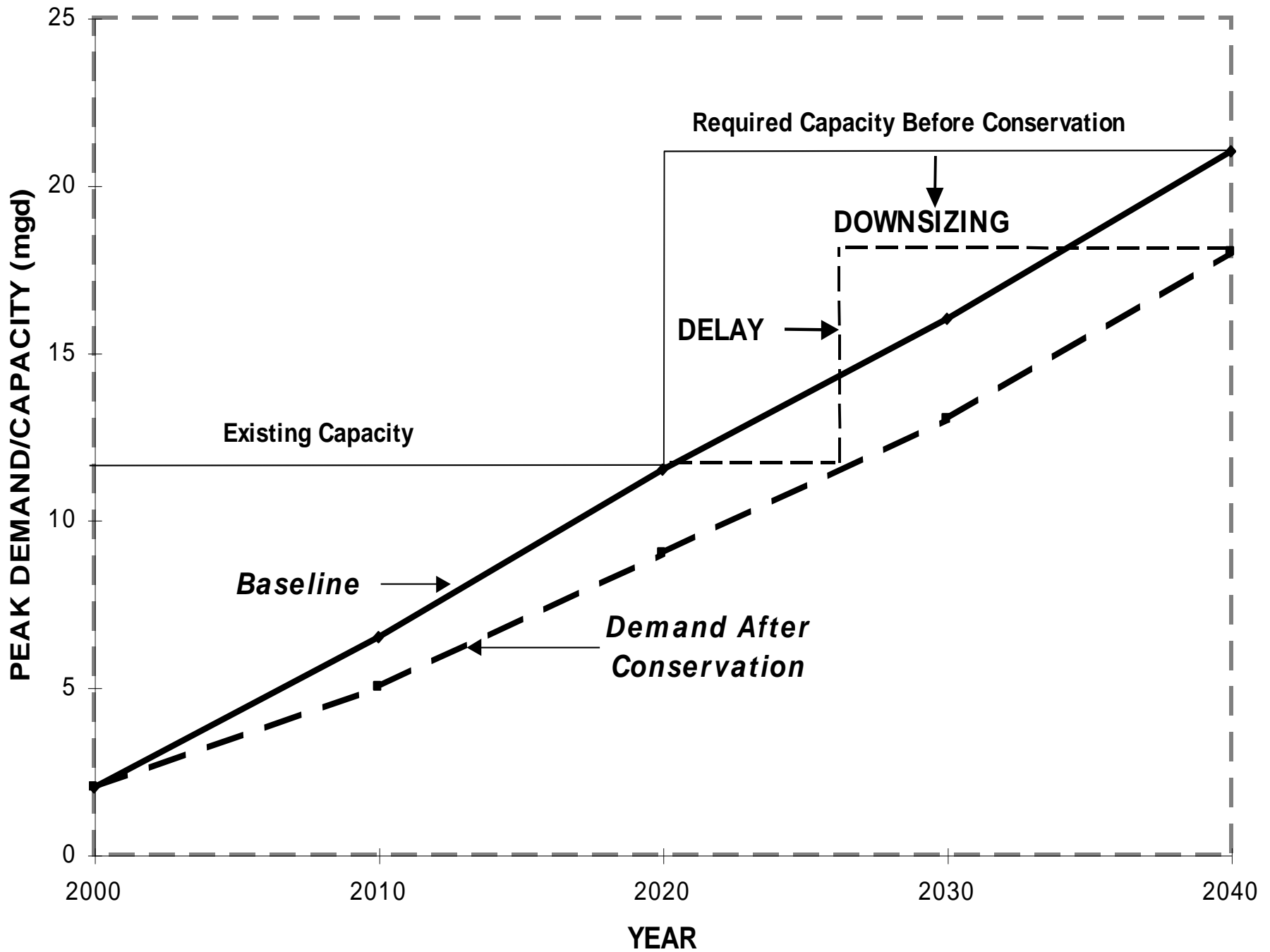
# Customer Efficiency Has Benefits for Water and Wastewater Systems

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## Getting Started:

1. The model uses a simple worksheet tab color code:

Blue Tabs = User Data Entry

Green Tabs = Model Outputs/Results

Grey Tabs = Data Storage and Library

2. First provide information about your system, customers, and water demands. This is done on data entry worksheets 1 thru 3.

3. Next define or import conservation activities and set their annual activity levels. This is done on data entry worksheets 4 and 5.

4. You can save conservation activity scenarios at any time. You access the scenario manager on the Common Assumptions worksheet.

6. You can navigate to model worksheets by clicking on the model schematic below or by clicking on the worksheet tabs at the bottom of the screen.

7. Data entry cells on input worksheets look like this:  Only enter data in cells with this color coding.

### Data Entry Worksheets:

**Model Input:**  
1. Common Assumptions

**Model Input:**  
2. Specify Demands

**Model Input:**  
3. Utility Avoided Costs

**Model Input:**  
4. Define Conservation Activities

**Model Input:**  
5. Enter Annual Activity

**(Optional Model Input)**  
6. GHG Module Inputs

### Model Results Worksheets:

**Model Output:**  
Activity Savings Profiles

**Model Output:**  
Water Savings Summary

**Model Output:**  
Utility Costs and Benefits

**Model Output:**  
Utility Revenues and Rates

**Model Output:**  
Customer Costs and Benefits

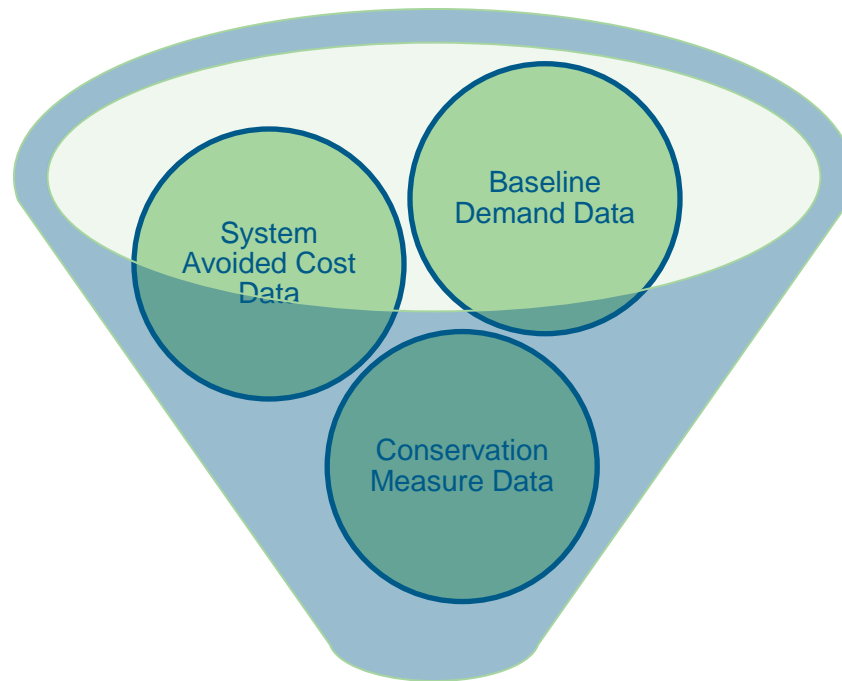
**(Optional Model Output)**  
GHG Reduction Benefits

**Data Storage:**  
Saved Scenarios

**Model Library:**  
Predefined Conservation Activities

**Data Storage:**  
User Lists and State Variables

# Tracking Tool Inputs and Outputs



Model Outputs

Savings Analysis

Benefit-Cost Analysis

Revenue/Rate Impacts

# Capacity Deferral Analysis

Year forecasted peak season demand equals existing peak season delivery capacity		Deferred Expansion (Years)	Deferred Capacity (MGD)	Benefit of Deferred Expansion (\$)	Avoided Capacity (MGD)	Benefit of Avoided Expansion (\$)
Baseline Demands	2014	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Baseline - Code Savings	2025	11	5.8	\$9,764,491	0.0	\$0
Baseline - Code Savings - Program Savings	2027	13	5.8	\$11,231,717	0.0	\$0

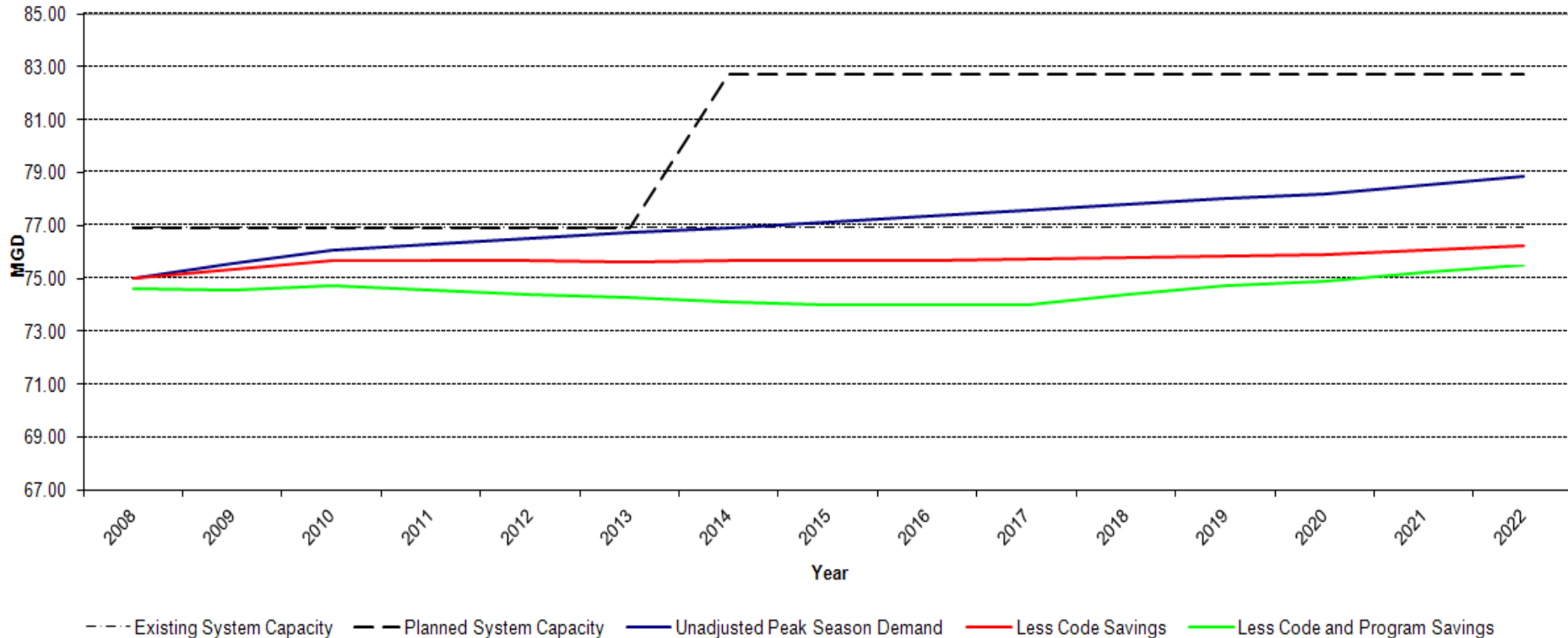
## Select Chart to View

Peak Season Capacity

No. of Years to Display

[Chart Explanations](#)

### Peak Season System Capacity

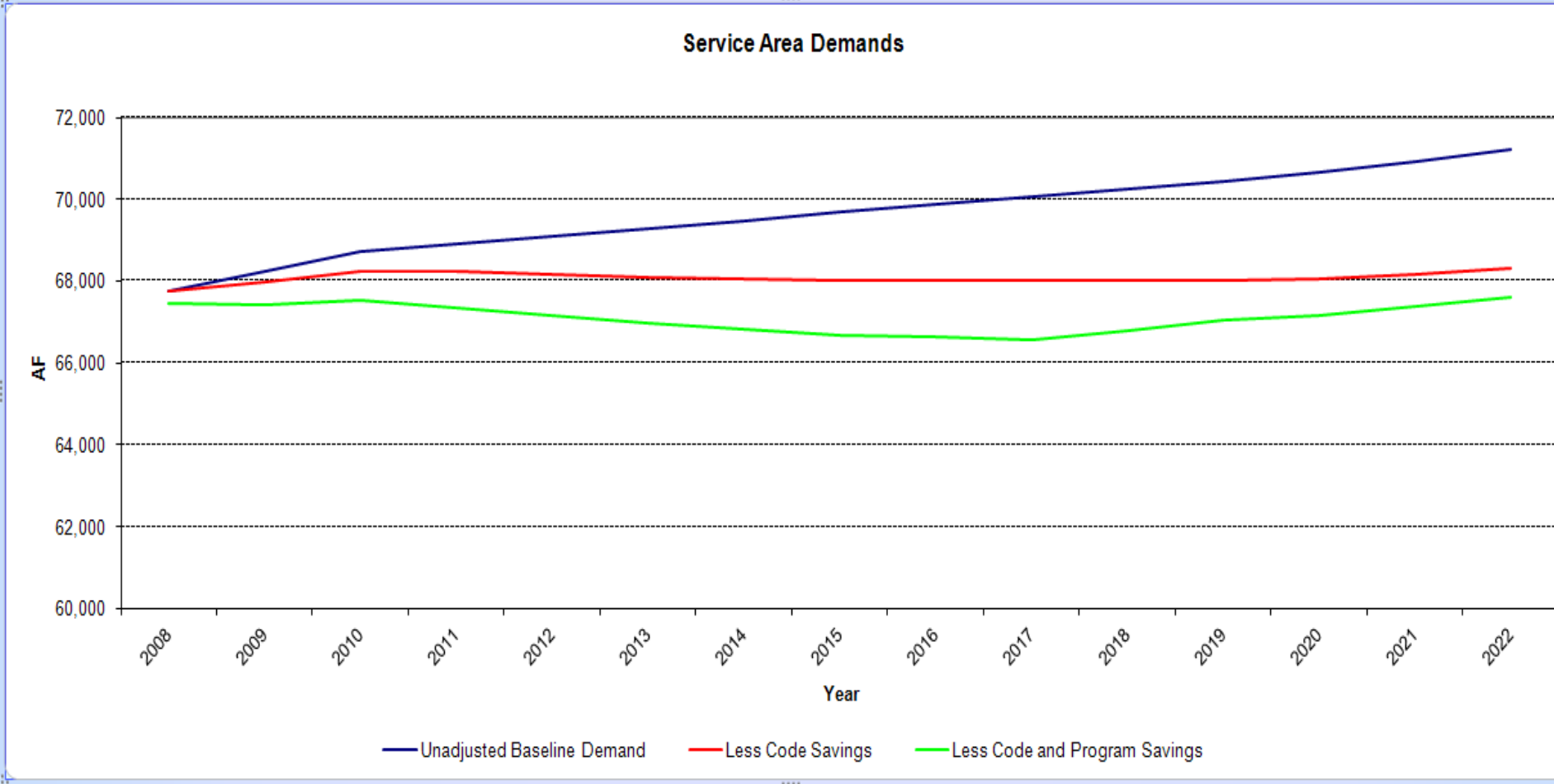


Year forecasted peak season demand equals existing peak season delivery capacity		Deferred Expansion (Years)	Deferred Capacity (MGD)	Benefit of Deferred Expansion (\$)	Avoided Capacity (MGD)	Benefit of Avoided Expansion (\$)
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Baseline - Code Savings - Program Savings	2027	13	5.8	\$11,231,717	0.0	\$0

Select Chart to View

Service Area Demands  No. of Years to Display 15 yrs

[Chart Explanations](#)



**Year forecasted peak season demand equals existing peak season delivery capacity**

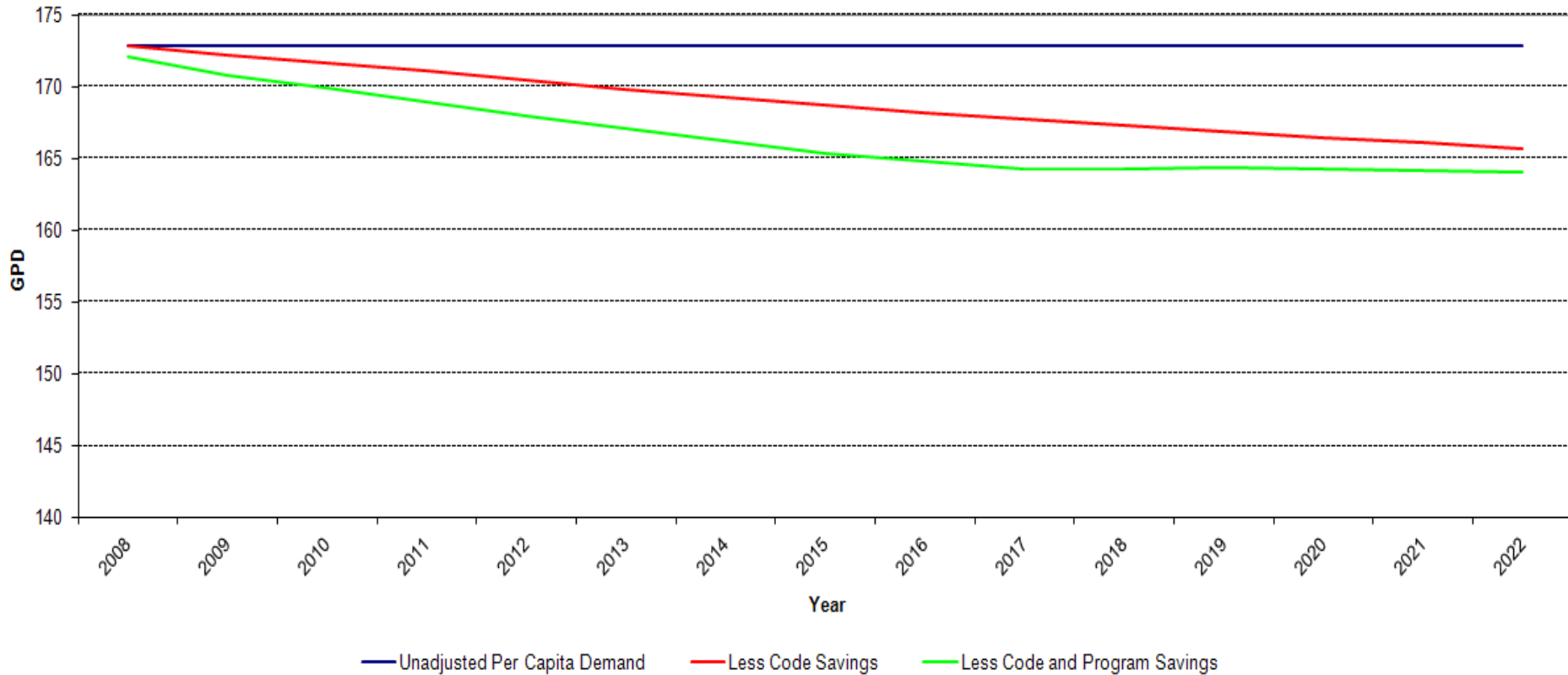
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**Select Chart to View**

Per Capita Demands

No. of Years to Display

**Per Capita Demands**



# AWE CONSERVATION TRACKING TOOL: UTILITY COSTS & BENEFITS WORKSHEET

Show Budget Table

[Return to Navigation Sheet](#) [Report Error](#)

## Conservation Program Cost Analysis (2010 Dollars)

Amort. Years: 20

Class	Activity Name	Unit Cost (\$/AF)	PV Cost	Amortized Cost
Single Family	Residential Surveys, SF	\$ 832	\$ 1,469,277	\$ 97,962
Single Family	Residential HE Toilets, SF	\$ 403	\$ 1,694,499	\$ 112,979
CII	CII HE Toilet	\$ 787	\$ 4,220,334	\$ 281,386
Single Family	Residential Irrigation Controller, SF	\$ 783	\$ 7,687,606	\$ 512,563
Irrigation	Large Land. Irrigation Controller	\$ 193	\$ 2,520,977	\$ 168,083
CII	CII Spray Rinse Valve	\$ 324	\$ 318,207	\$ 21,216
CII	CII Cooling Tower	\$ 201	\$ 1,055,409	\$ 70,368
<b>Subtotal Conservation Activities</b>		<b>\$ 469</b>	<b>\$18,966,309</b>	<b>\$ 1,264,557</b>
<b>Total With Overhead &amp; Public Information</b>		<b>\$ 469</b>	<b>\$18,966,309</b>	<b>\$ 1,264,557</b>

## Conservation Benefit Analysis (2010 Dollars)

Class	Activity Name	Unit Benefit (\$/AF)	PV Benefit	Avoided Supply	Avoided Wastewater	Capacity Benefit
Single Family	Residential Surveys, SF	\$ 662	\$ 1,167,828	\$ 898,505	\$ 40,596	\$ 228,728
Single Family	Residential HE Toilets, SF	\$ 676	\$ 2,841,271	\$ 2,280,326	\$ 240,463	\$ 320,482
CII	CII HE Toilet	\$ 676	\$ 3,624,397	\$ 2,908,842	\$ 306,741	\$ 408,815
Single Family	Residential Irrigation Controller, SF	\$ 620	\$ 6,089,920	\$ 4,773,421	\$ -	\$ 1,316,499
Irrigation	Large Land. Irrigation Controller	\$ 634	\$ 8,295,971	\$ 6,369,481	\$ -	\$ 1,926,490
CII	CII Spray Rinse Valve	\$ 695	\$ 683,579	\$ 536,074	\$ 57,006	\$ 90,499
CII	CII Cooling Tower	\$ 748	\$ 3,927,857	\$ 2,862,134	\$ 303,931	\$ 761,792
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 658</b>	<b>\$26,630,822</b>	<b>\$20,628,782</b>	<b>\$ 948,736</b>	<b>\$ 5,053,304</b>

## Utility Conservation Program NPV and B/C Ratio (2010 Dollars)

Class	Activity Name	NPV (\$)	B/C Ratio
Single Family	Residential Surveys, SF	\$ (301,449)	0.79
Single Family	Residential HE Toilets, SF	\$ 1,146,772	1.68
CII	CII HE Toilet	\$ (595,937)	0.86
Single Family	Residential Irrigation Controller, SF	\$ (1,597,686)	0.79
Irrigation	Large Land. Irrigation Controller	\$ 5,774,994	3.29
CII	CII Spray Rinse Valve	\$ 365,371	2.15
CII	CII Cooling Tower	\$ 2,872,448	3.72
<b>Subtotal Conservation Activities</b>		<b>\$ 7,664,513</b>	<b>1.40</b>
<b>Total With Overhead &amp; Public Information</b>		<b>\$ 7,664,513</b>	<b>1.40</b>

## Select Chart to View

Unit Costs Sorted

Chart Explanations

## Perspective #5:

# The First Class Utility Is No Longer Crisis-Driven

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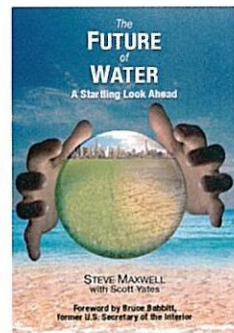
Alliance *for* Water Efficiency





# The coming water crisis is like a giant asteroid hurtling toward Earth.

We are rushing headlong into a global water crisis of calamitous proportions. It is not too late to prevent it. AWWA's new book, *The Future of Water*, looks at what might be in store for us and how individuals, water utilities, industries, and countries can change the future of water.



**NEW!**

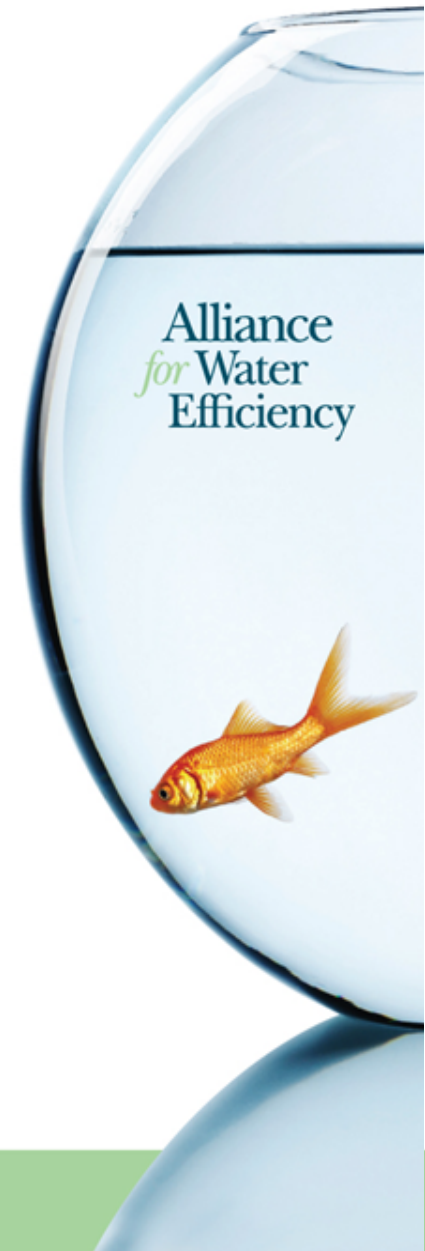
## **The Future of Water**

Steve Maxwell and Scott Yates

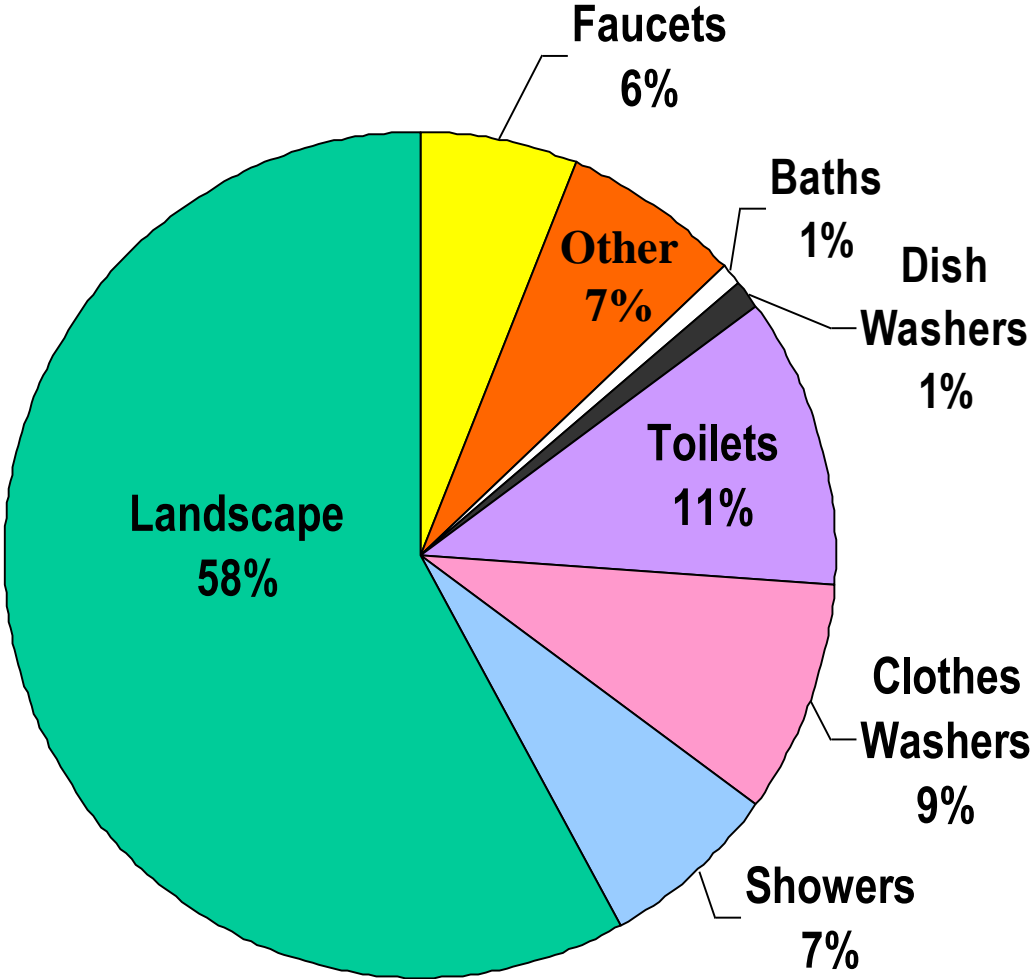


# Utilities Must Plan Differently

- Planning for sustainability and revenue stability is not the same now in 2012 as the typical utility growth planning of the past
- Cost-based rate structures must evaluate the future costs as well as the current and past ones
- The consumer must be a partner in this new planning paradigm



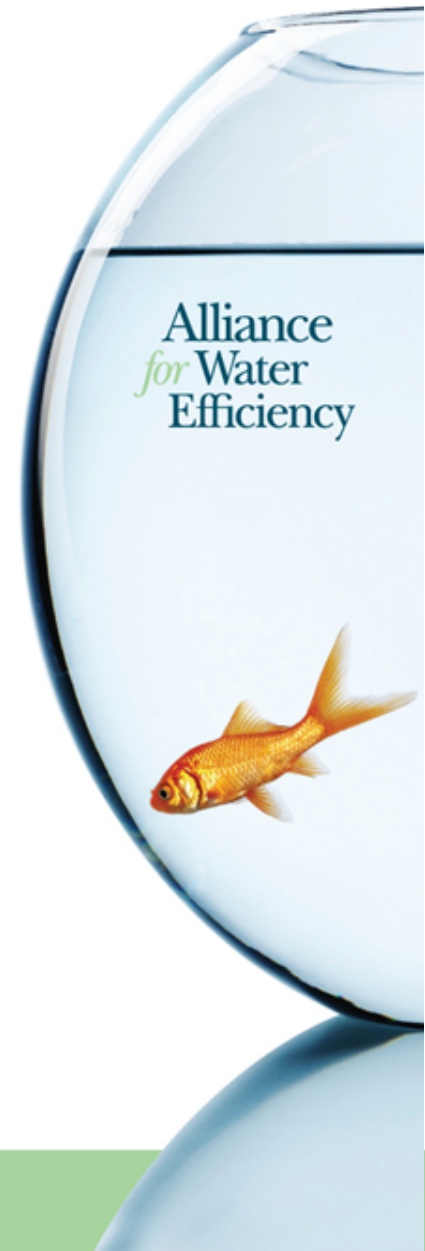
# Urban Water Use



Source: AWWRF Residential End Uses of Water, 1999

# Involving The Consumer

- **The Problem:** they are unaware of their own water usage levels
- They want the water bills to go down and not up
- Education on the level of their own water waste is critical
- Water IQ campaign and other media efforts
- AWE building consumer web site for linking to water utilities: Home Water Works



# Home Water Works

- Residential consumer oriented web site
- Water Use Calculator
- Water saving tips
- Detailed info on:
  - Toilets
  - Clothes washers
  - Landscape design, installation, & maintenance
  - Irrigation
  - Faucets
  - Much more...



[www.home-water-works.org](http://www.home-water-works.org)

# How much water do you use?



## Let's Get Started!

Click an area on the home to input how much water you use, and learn how you can conserve water there. Answer for yourself only, and assume you are in your home for a 24-hour cycle.



### My Daily Usage

Roll over for results



Carbon Footprint:

(lbs. CO2 /year)

### Percent Complete

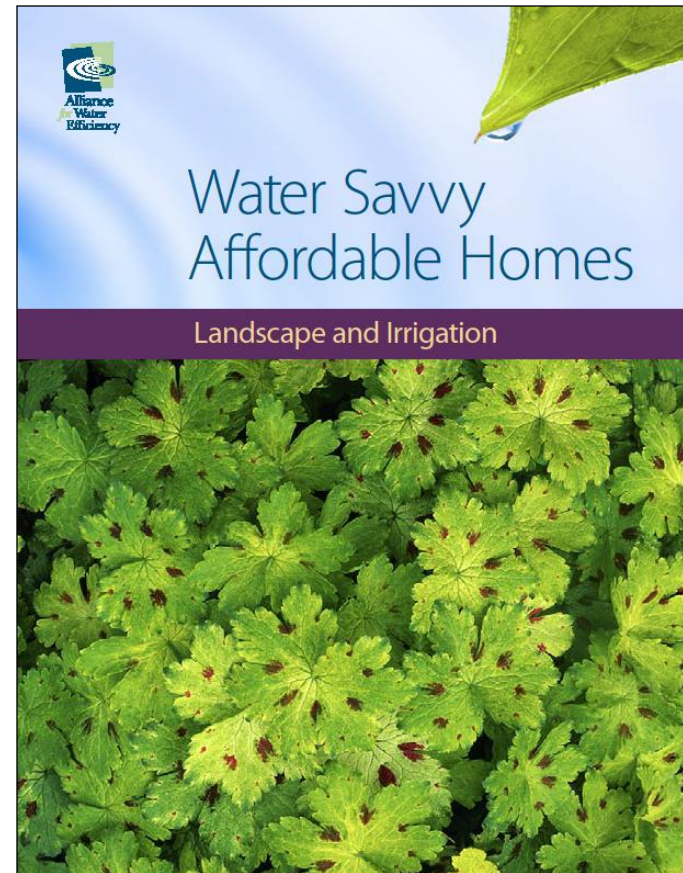
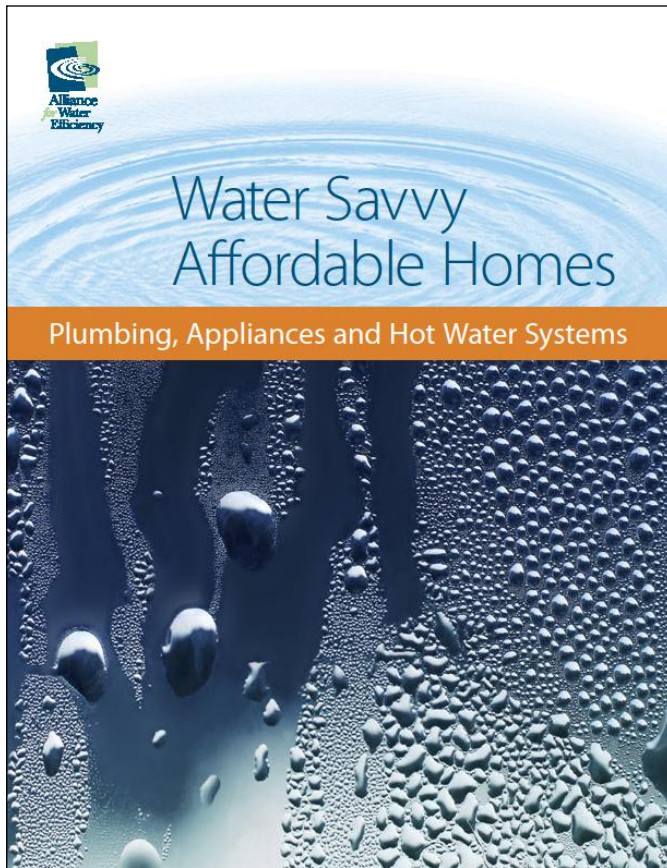


### Areas to Complete

Roll over for number of questions



# Affordable Home Design Guides





# WaterSense Label

- **20%** more efficient
- Performance Tested
- Already labeled:
  - *Toilets*
  - *Faucets*
  - *Showerheads*
  - *Urinals*
  - *New Homes*
- New Labels:
  - *Irrigation controllers*
  - *Pre-rinse spray valves*





## Great Lakes Rates Primer Released

AWE has released a report designed to provide water utilities and community stakeholders with an introduction to the key principles and concepts of sustainable ratemaking. [Learn more here.](#)



## AWE Issues Media Campaign RFP

The Alliance for Water Efficiency is seeking qualified firms to design a consumer media campaign, to be used by member water utilities as well as the Alliance itself. Responses are due April 4, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. CDT. [Click here to download the RFP.](#)

## PERC Welcomes a New Member

The Plumbing Efficiency Research Coalition welcomes the American Society of Plumbing Engineers as its sixth member. PERC was founded in 2009 to develop research projects that will support the development of water efficiency and sustainable plumbing products, systems and practices. [Learn more here.](#)

### Calendar of Events



- 3/16/2011 AWWA Water Conservation Symposium
- 3/17/2011 WI Sedimentation and Erosion Control Inspector BMPs Class
- 3/23/2011 ILCA Natural Lawn Care Workshop
- 3/29/2011 6th IWA Specialist Conference of Efficient Use & Management of Water
- 4/7/2011 Watershed Planning Class

### Latest Information



-  Water Efficiency Watch Newsletter March 2011
-  AWE Water Conservation Tracking Tool Released
-  USGS Report - Estimated Use of Water in the U.S. in 2005
-  Executive Order Sets Water Efficiency



## Resource Library

Welcome to the Alliance for Water Efficiency's Resource Library. AWE strives to provide the best on-line resources on water conservation and efficiency. Search through our collection and discover the wealth of useful, technical information assembled. Enter keyword(s) in the search box below or select an library section from the list on the right. Search instructions and tips are available here.



### Recent Library Updates



- 3/11/2011 Water and Water Efficiency Publications
- 3/9/2011 Water Efficiency Watch Listing
- 3/9/2011 Beecher (2011) Water Pricing Primer for the Great Lakes Region
- 3/9/2011 WRA (2010) Commonsense Solutions for Meeting Colorado Water Needs
- 3/9/2011 CEE (2010) Actual Savings and Performance of Tankless Water Heaters

## Resource Library Search Tool

Use the tool below to search the Alliance for Water Efficiency library:

Basic Search | **Advanced Search**

Site

### AWE Library Sections



- Residential Water Use, Fixtures, and Appliances
- Landscape, Irrigation, and Outdoor Water Use
- Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Water Users
- Non-Residential Fixtures, Appliances and Equipment



## Great Lakes

AWE has released a... provide water utilities stakeholders with an principles and conce ratemaking. Learn m

## AWE Issues M

The Alliance for Water consumer media can well as the Alliance it p.m. CDT. Click here

## PERC Welcom

The Plumbing Efficient Society of Plumbing E founded in 2009 to de development of water systems and practice

[Resource Library Home](#)

[Alliance Water Conservation Tracking Tool](#)

[Alternate Supply](#)

[CII Water Efficiency](#)

[Codes and Standards](#)

[Conservation Programs](#)

[Drought](#)

[Green Building](#)

[Landscape and Irrigation](#)

[Metering](#)

[Planning](#)

[Province Info \(CAN\)](#)

[Residential Efficiency](#)

[State Info \(US\)](#)

[Toilet Testing - MaP & UNAR](#)

[Water Loss Control](#)

[Water Rates](#)

## Released



## RFP

qualified firms to design a member water utilities as April 4, 2011 at 5:00

## ber

welcomes the American member. PERC was that will support the plumbing products,

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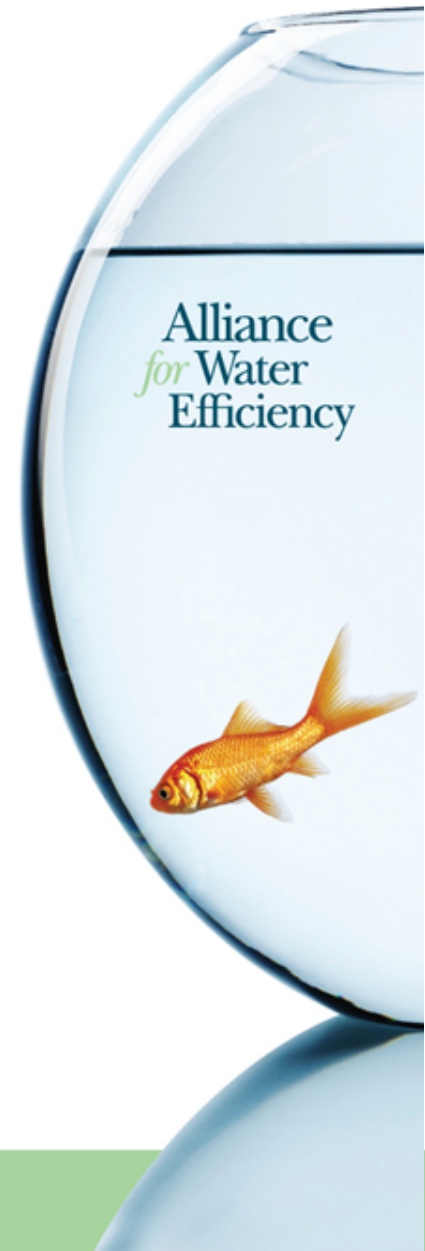
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# Online Resource Library

- Originally built in 2008 and use is growing
- Nearly **7 million** hits so far in 2011 with over **540,000** discrete users
  - Daily average hits: Over 24,000
  - Document downloads: over 200,000
  - Daily average downloads: over 2,000
- Content update now underway and will be completed in December, 2011
- Who uses it?







# Alliance *for* Water Efficiency

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A PLATFORM  
PROMOTING THE  
EFFICIENT AND  
SUSTAINABLE  
USE OF WATER

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