

Appendix U: Water Use Efficiency Requirements for Nonmunicipal Water Suppliers

Small Water System Management Program (SWSMP)

As discussed in [Chapter 1](#) some community systems and most non-community systems are not Municipal Water Systems. Non-community systems that are not an MWS should follow the information below for completion of a noncommunity SWSMP. Also use the [Small Water System Management Program Guide 331-134 \(PDF\)](#). Non-MWS community water systems should contact their [regional planner](#) to discuss WUE expectations for their system.

These are the Water Use Efficiency Requirements for Nonmunicipal Systems if you are completing a SWSMP

A complete WUE program includes both supply side (water system) and demand side (customer) strategies for efficient water use. A utility should demonstrate its efficient use of the resource and help their customers to use water efficiently. This guidance was developed to assist nonmunicipal water systems meet WUE planning requirements and recommendations.

[WAC 246-290-105](#)

(1) The purpose of a SWSMP is to:

- a) Demonstrate the system's operational, technical, managerial, and financial capability to achieve and maintain compliance with all relevant local, state, and federal plans and regulations.
- b) Establish eligibility for funding under chapter [246-296 WAC](#).

(2) All noncommunity and all community systems not required to complete a WSP as described under [WAC 246-290-100\(2\)](#) shall develop and implement a small water system management program.

Water Use Efficiency-Related Requirements

1. Per [WAC 246-290-496\(1\)\(a\)](#), Install production (source) meters.
2. Provide water production data monthly and annually for each source and provide water consumption data for residential and non-residential annual totals, [WAC 246-290-105\(4\)\(h\)\(i and ii\)](#).
3. Forecast demand considering water use trends based on actual water use records, [WAC 246-290-105\(4\)\(k\)\(i\)](#).
4. Evaluate a rate structure that would encourage water use efficiency, [WAC 246-290-105\(4\)\(l\)](#).
5. Create a water use efficiency program, [WAC 246-290-105\(4\)\(g\)](#).

Water Use Efficiency Program

[WAC 246-290-010](#) defines a WUE program as policies and activities focusing on increasing water supply efficiency and water demand efficiency to minimize water withdrawals and water use.

The WUE program recommendations summarized below replace the Water Conservation Program (Element 14) previously required in the Small Water System Management Program.

We recommend that an effective WUE program should include:

- ◆ Setting water saving goals for supply side (water system) and demand side (customer) to promote water use efficiency.
- ◆ Identifying water saving measures to meet goals.
- ◆ Evaluating, reporting, and managing water loss.
- ◆ Educating your customers about WUE.
- ◆ Installing consumption meters to determine annual residential and non-residential usage.
- ◆ Evaluating WUE program effectiveness every six years.
- ◆ Reporting WUE program success annually to your customers. Consider using an annual newsletter or your annual consumer confidence report.

Water System Plan (WSP)

Water Use Efficiency Requirements for Nonmunicipal Systems for Completing a Water System Plan (WSP)

A complete WUE program includes both supply side (water system) and demand side (customer) strategies for efficient water use. A utility should demonstrate its efficient use of resources and help their customers use water efficiently. This guidance was developed to assist nonmunicipal water systems in meeting planning requirements and recommendations regarding WUE.

[WAC 246-290-100](#)

(1) The purpose of a Water System Plan is to:

- a) Demonstrate the system's operational, technical, managerial, and financial capability to achieve and maintain compliance with relevant local, state, and federal plans and regulations.
- b) Demonstrate how the system will address present and future needs in a manner consistent with other relevant plans and local, state, and federal laws, including applicable land use plans.
- c) Establish eligibility for funding under chapter [246-296 WAC](#).

Water Use Efficiency-Related Requirements

1. Per [WAC 246-290-496\(1\)\(a\)](#), install production (source) meters.

2. Provide water production data monthly and annually for each source and provide water consumption data for each customer class (annual totals) per [WAC 246-290-100\(4\)\(b\)\(ii\)\(A and B\)](#). If over 1,000 connections include seasonal variations, [WAC 246-290-100\(4\)\(d\)](#).
3. Provide a demand forecast for a consecutive ten-year and at least a twenty-year period with and without efficiency savings, [WAC 246-290-100\(4\)\(c\)](#).
4. For systems serving 1,000 or more connections, evaluate reclaimed water opportunities, [WAC 246-20-100\(4\)\(f\)\(vii\)](#).
5. Evaluate the affordability and feasibility of a water rate structure that encourages water demand efficiency, [WAC 246-290-100\(4\)\(j\)\(iv\)](#).
6. Create a water use efficiency program, [WAC 246-290-100\(4\)\(f\)\(i\)](#), taking into consideration the water supply characteristics and affect from current and future use on water supply (see [WAC 246-290-100 \(4\)\(f\)\(ii\)\(B\)](#) and [Appendix C](#)).

Water Use Efficiency Program

[WAC 246-290-010](#) defines a WUE program as policies and activities focusing on increasing water supply efficiency and water demand efficiency to minimize water withdrawals and water use.

The WUE recommendations summarized below replace the 1994 Conservation Planning Requirements/Guidelines used in Water System Plans.

We recommend that an effective WUE program should include:

- ◆ Setting water saving goals for supply side (water system) and demand side (customer) to promote water use efficiency.
- ◆ Identifying water saving measures to meet goals.
- ◆ Evaluating, reporting, and managing water loss.
- ◆ Educating your customers about WUE.
- ◆ Installing consumption meters to determine annual usage and customer class data.
- ◆ Evaluating WUE program effectiveness as part of every water system plan or plan update.
- ◆ Reporting WUE program success annually to your customers. Consider using an annual newsletter or your annual consumer confidence report.