Water Efficiency Opportunities

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Denver Water

Plumbing Training Workshop
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Why do utilities ask customers to conserve?

- Part of long-range planning
- Climate uncertainty
- **Cost effective**
- Multi-pronged approach
- Population growth and new demands, but same amount of water
- Right thing to do
Opportunities to Engage Customers

- **Plumbing Fixture Rebates**
  - WaterSense UHET ($150)
  - WaterSense HET ($75)
  - WaterSense HE urinal ($100)
  - Flushometer bowl/valve combo ($125)
  - Coin/card operated laundry equipment ($150)
  - Commercial Warewashing equipment ($300)
Opportunities Continued

• WaterSense Challenge

• Indoor and outdoor audits

• Informational water budget program

• Performance Contracts
Case Studies

- Several thousand fixtures have been installed throughout about 40 properties.
- Customer surveys show very high satisfaction level with program and products.
- Reduction in water use between 15-40%
- Program has comparatively low cost per acre foot for water savings.

Saved 30.8 million gallons of water/year and $196,000/year in water and sewer costs!
## More Case Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer Name</th>
<th>Annual Savings (gallons)</th>
<th>Annual Savings (acre feet)</th>
<th>% Reduction</th>
<th>Annual Utility Bill Savings (Water and Sewer)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property A</td>
<td>30,800,000</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>$196,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>(800 units)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property B</td>
<td>1,700,000</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>(130 units)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property C</td>
<td>18,600,000</td>
<td>57.1</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>$15,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(240 units)</td>
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Colorado SB14-103 In a nutshell

- On a statewide basis, phases out the sale of less efficient fixtures and requires WaterSense™-labeled versions in their place.
A long road….

- Efforts started years ago—unsuccessful first attempt
- Denver Water decided to champion efforts
- Research, research, research
- Outreach, outreach, outreach
- Coalition building, coalition building, coalition building
- Timing, timing, timing!

"USE ONLY WHAT YOU NEED."
Technical Research

Lots of questions to answer…

- Where have similar things already happened? Did they have problems?
- Are there conflicts with plumbing code?
- Drainline carry issues?
- Septic systems?
- Consumer choice?
- Performance?
- Availability?
- Water Savings?
Hearings and Bill Passage

What do two dogs, Big Bird, and Jerry Seinfeld have to do with water conservation?
What’s Next?

- Continued outreach and education
- Phase-out of fixtures and adjusting rebates
- Colorado Water Conservation Board and reporting
- Evaluation of Amendments to add other products
Resources to help answer questions about SB-103

- WaterSense website
  - Detailed **specification** on each product
  - **Fact Sheet** on each product
  - **FAQ** on each product

- CWCB
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