

# Guidebook of Best Practices for Municipal Water Conservation in Colorado

Peter Mayer, P.E.



# What is the Best Practices Guidebook?

- A planning tool for improving and enhancing water efficiency throughout Colorado.
- A resource for selecting the most sensible and cost effective water conservation measures and programs.
- A supplement to the Colorado Water Conservation Board's water conservation planning resources.

# Why a Best Practices Guidebook?

- Water Conservation Act of 2004 requires water providers to submit water conservation plans to CWCB.
- Utilities large and small need help developing and implementing their water conservation plans.

# Guidebook Funding & Management



- Colorado WaterWise developed the Best Practices Guidebook through a generous grant from the CWCB's Office of Water Conservation and Drought Planning.
- Project Manager: Brenda O'Brien, Colorado WaterWise & GreenCO
- Writing Contract: Aquacraft, Inc.

# Colorado WaterWise

- Formed in 2000 to promote and facilitate the efficient use of Colorado's water.
- Is Colorado's voice for water conservation.
- Provides support to water professionals, water providers and communities in developing sensible and cost-effective water conservation programs.
- [www.coloradowaterwise.org](http://www.coloradowaterwise.org)

# Who Gave Input to the Guidebook?

- Project Advisory Committee
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Colorado WaterWise Board of Directors
- Folks participated from utilities, state agencies, the green industry, water conservancy districts, non-profits, consultants and academia.

# What are Best Practices?

- Best Management Practices for water conservation.
- BPs are water planning, management and efficiency measures and policies designed to deliver *proven water savings* and *improved water management*.

# What Does the Best Practices Guidebook Provide?

- A detailed description of specific water conservation measures, program elements, regulations, policies and procedures that can be implemented by Colorado water providers, and local and state government.



# How Were the BPs Selected?

- Literature review
- List of nearly 100 potential best practices
- Culling and combining
- Focus on benefits and costs
- Stakeholder process made final selection of 14 BPs

# Four Categories of BPs

1. Water System and Utility
2. Outdoor Landscape and Irrigation
3. Indoor Residential  
(single-family and multi-family)
4. Indoor Non-Residential

# Additional Categorization

- **Foundational:** essential for all utilities
- **Informational:** educate to foster conservation actions
- **Support:** technical information, data and assistance
- **Management:** improved utility management procedures
- **Understanding:** improve knowledge and awareness
- **Operational:** conservation in everyday utility functions

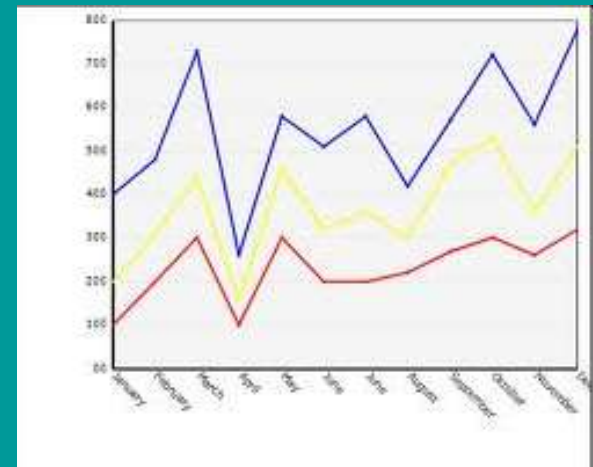
# Water System and Utility Best Practices

BP 1: Metering,  
Conservation-Oriented  
Rates and Tap Fees,  
Customer Categorization  
Within Billing System



# Water System and Utility Best Practices

BP 2: Integrated  
Resources Planning,  
Goal Setting and  
Demand Monitoring



# Water System and Utility Best Practices

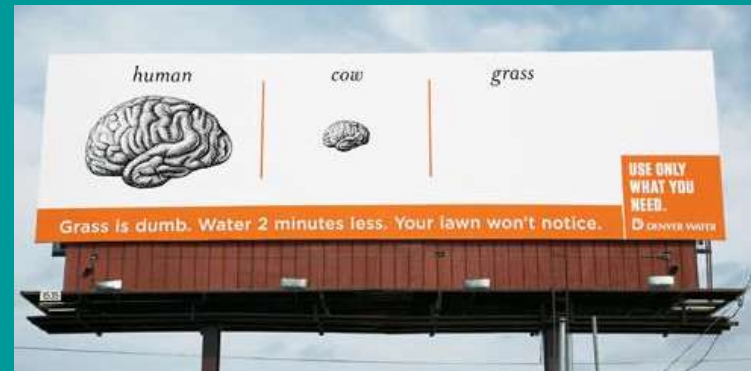
BP 3: System Water Loss Control  
BP 4: Conservation Coordinator



# Water System and Utility Best Practices

BP 5: Water Waste Ordinance

BP 6: Public Information and Education







# Outdoor Landscape & Irrigation Best Practices

BP 7: Landscape Water Budgets, Information and Customer Feedback



# Outdoor Landscape & Irrigation Best Practices

BP 8: Rules and Regulations for Landscape Design & Installation and Certification of Landscape Professionals



# Outdoor Landscape & Irrigation Best Practices

BP 9: Water Efficient Design, Installation and Maintenance Practices for New and Existing Landscapes



# Outdoor Landscape & Irrigation Best Practices

## BP 10: Irrigation Efficiency Evaluations



# Indoor Residential Best Practices

BP 11: Rules for New Construction

BP 12: High-Efficiency Fixture and  
Appliance Replacement for Residential  
Sector



# Indoor Residential Best Practices

## BP 13: Residential Water Surveys and Evaluations Targeted at High Demand Customers



# Indoor Non-Residential Best Practices

BP 11: Rules for New Construction

BP 12: High-Efficiency Fixture and Appliance  
Replacement for Non-Residential Sector



# Indoor Non-Residential Best Practices

## BP 14: Specialized Non-Residential Surveys, Audits and Equipment Efficiency Improvements





# Suites of Best Practices

**Suite 1:** Foundational, No Excuse BPs

**Suite 2:** Foundational + Regulatory BPs

**Suite 3:** Complete Package of BPs

# Best Practice Guide Outreach

- Best Practices Guidebook: \$25 or free .pdf download
- Summary Guide to be developed
- Three stakeholder workshops
  - Pueblo, Sept. 30
  - Glenwood Springs, Oct. 14
  - Westminster, Oct. 21

# For More Information...

**Peter Mayer – [mayer@aquacraft.com](mailto:mayer@aquacraft.com)  
303-786-9691**

**Laurie D'Audney - [ldaudney@fcgov.com](mailto:ldaudney@fcgov.com)  
970-221-6877**

**Brenda O'Brien - [brenda.obrien@comcast.net](mailto:brenda.obrien@comcast.net)  
303-973-4026**



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