



City of Prineville

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City of Prineville Water Management and Conservation Plan

What is a Water Management and Conservation Plan?

A Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP) is a plan documenting a water supplier's use, management, and conservation of the state's water resources. Submittal of a WMCP is typically triggered through a condition in a water right permit administered by the Oregon Water Resources Department (Department). The requirements for the contents of the plan are described in administrative rules and very prescriptive. A full copy of the draft WMCP can be found on the City of Prineville website. Please go to www.cityofprineville.com, click on "Document Center" on the left side of the screen, "Public Works" and finally "Draft Water Management and Conservation Plan."

Why is the City of Prineville developing a Water Management and Conservation Plan?

The City's water right permit for use of the Airport Wells, Permit G-16146, contains a condition requiring that the City submit a WMCP to the Department within two years of permit issuance. The deadline for the City's plan is December 2008.

What is in a Water Management and Conservation Plan?

A WMCP has four major components:

1. Water supplier description
2. Water conservation
3. Water curtailment
4. Water supply

Water Supplier Description: This section includes a description of the City's sources of water, service area, present and projected service population, adequacy and reliability of water supply, water use characteristics (customer classes, indoor vs. outdoor water use, etc.), water rights, water system demand, unaccounted for water estimates, and a map of the City's water system.

Conservation: This section includes a description of the City's past, current and future conservation activities, and a set of new measures that will be implemented within the next five-years. These are called "five-year benchmarks." Some the benchmarks in the City's plan include:

- An annual water audit: Under this benchmark City staff will continue to record all production and consumption data and will develop reports on a monthly basis with an annual summary to better track unaccounted for water (the difference between production and consumption).
- Metering: Currently there are three City customers that are not metered: the Police Station, City Hall and Pioneer Park. Under this benchmark, these three customers will be metered within one year.
- Technical and Financial Assistance Programs and Supplier-Financed Retrofitting or Replacement: Under this set of benchmarks the City will make available at City Hall and at public events: 1) water conservation packets which include toilet leak detection kits and lawn watering measurement devices and, 2) low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators.

Curtailment: This section describes the City's plans for reducing water demand during supply shortages due to prolonged drought or system failure.

Supply: This section forecasts the City's water supply needs for a ten-year and twenty-year period.

What does approval by the Oregon Water Resources Department mean to the City?

Upon approval of the WMCP by the Department, the City will have fulfilled its permit condition. Within five years of approval the City will need to submit a progress report on implementing its five-year benchmarks. Within ten years the City will be required to submit an updated WMCP.

What processes remain?

The Department's administrative rules require that the City provide a draft WMCP to all affected local governments to ensure that the plan is not inconsistent with local comprehensive land use plans. A draft of the WMCP has been provided to the Crook County Planning Department.

The City's Final Draft WMCP will be reviewed by Oregon Water Resources Department for compliance with the administrative rules. Interested third-parties can also comment on the plan. The Department often has minor comments on the plan that can be addressed with a brief response letter. Ultimately, the Department will issue a final order approving the plan and setting timelines for submitting the benchmark progress report and updated plan.

What actions are required from the City Council?

At this time, no action is required from the City Council. This presentation is for informational purposes only. Once the plan is approved by the Department, city staff will return to discuss how best to incorporate the curtailment plan into our existing water ordinances.