

Consumptive Use Permit Application Water Conservation Plan Guidelines

Introduction

Chapter 373.227 of the Florida Statute states that all public water supply utilities applying for an individual permit are required to develop and implement a water conservation plan (WCP). This document provides a template which a municipality can use to develop their own WCP and the information it contains is for reference only and does not constitute a requirement by the South Florida Water Management District (District). Municipalities can create their own WCP and are strongly encouraged to review other documents when developing one. It is recommended the WCP be reviewed periodically and updated as needed to ensure efficient water use for the duration of the permit.

Section 2.6.1 of the District's Basis of Review for Water Use Applications (BOR) states that:

"All water supply utilities applying for an individual permit are required to develop and implement a water conservation plan. The water conservation elements of each plan need to be identified as part of the application. A timetable outlining the implementation schedule of each of the required (minimum) water conservation elements will be required to be submitted or shown to already exist prior to issuance or renewal of a public water supply water use permit."

This document provides the basic framework for a WCP to support the above requirement which is part of a permittee's Consumptive Use Permit (CUP).

Minimum Conservation Plan Elements

Table 1 lists the minimum conservation requirements as stated in the BOR, Section 2.6.1. For each element, indicate the status of completion and/or planned start and end dates and the associated annual budget amounts.

Table 1. Minimum Conservation Plan Elements (BOR 2.6.1)

Requirement	Completed (Yes/No)	If yes, completion date	If no, anticipated start date	Anticipated completion date	Annual budget allocation (if applicable)
Adoption of irrigation hours ordinance					
Adoption of Florida Friendly-based landscape ordinance					
Adoption of an ultra-low volume fixtures ordinance					
Adoption of automatic landscape irrigation systems interrupter (rain or soil moisture sensor) ordinance					
Adoption of a water conservation-based rate structure					
Implementation of a water conservation public education program					
Implementation of a leak detection and repair program (if >10% unaccounted for water loss)					
An analysis of reclaim water feasibility					

Consumptive Use Permit Application Water Conservation Plan Guidelines

In addition to the eight (8) required elements, the following items are recommended toward the development of a WCP:

- A. Identification of water conservation goals, objective and policies as outlined in the relative Local Government's Approved Comprehensive Plan Amendment
- B. Development of Other Quantifiable Water Conservation Measures

The above items are further explained as follows:

A. Permittee's Conservation Goals

Goals, Objectives and Policies should be reflective of what is adopted in the local government's comprehensive plan amendments as a **beginning point**.

PART 1. Goals, Objectives and Policies: *Identification of Water Conservation Goals, Objectives and Policies*

Goal: *The Permittee will state their Conservation Goal as written in their local government's adopted comprehensive plan amendment's Conservation Element.*

Objectives: *The Permittee will identify and show all objectives and policies relevant to water conservation detailed in their adopted comprehensive plan as follows:*

Policies: *List the Policies to be implemented in order to fulfill the above objective*

PART 2. Progress of Policy Implementation: *Identifying progress towards the fulfillment of each policy identified in Part 1 is crucial to ensure the Permittee's goal is achieved. This section is supported by any documentation for policy implementation. For each policy, the Permittee will indicate the anticipated start and end dates and indicate if completion has been achieved. For all completed policy items, final products and relevant documents (such as ordinances) are required to be attached to the WCP. Figures for all quantifiable items should be provided.*

Below is an example of documenting the implementation of a policy:

Policy 1: *The City will adopt an ordinance limiting lawn irrigation to morning and evening hours.*
Follow up with the questions:

Has the city adopted an ordinance limiting lawn irrigation to morning and evening hours?

Yes _____ Date approved by City Commission: _____

No _____ Expected date to be approved by City Commission: _____

Water conservation goals can be expressed in reductions of gpcd over time. This can occur even as populations increase particularly when water conservation measures are implemented. Provide the gpcd goals and population projections for the years coinciding with the current permit or renewal (Tables F & G) in Table 2. Population projections presented in this table should also be consistent with those stated in the local government's comprehensive plan amendment's 10-Year Facility Work Plan.

Table 2. Goals for gpcd and population projections over the permit period

Consumptive Use Permit Application Water Conservation Plan Guidelines

Year (indicate base year)	+5 yrs.	+10 yrs.	+15 yrs.	+20 yrs.
gpcd				
Population				
Total Finished ² Water demand (gpcd x pop)				

Notes: 1) gpcd calculated as follows: Total Annual Use (MG)/365 days); the result is then divided by served area population
2) Total Finished Water should be consistent with figures reported in Table G ('Total Annual Use (MG)' column) unless expected savings from implementing water conservation goals were not included in these amounts

B. Quantifiable Water Conservation Measures

Table 2 above indicates the gpcd goal at 5, 10, 15 and 20 year intervals. In order to achieve the reduced amount at each interval, an identification of current and future quantifiable water conservation measures (i.e. toilet rebate programs, automatic line flushing device installations, etc.) is necessary. In Table 3, list each quantifiable water conservation measure by user group, the planned number of units that are expected to be completed by the years identified below and estimates of gallons saved (in million gallons per year) per measure.

Table 3. Quantifiable Water Conservation Measures

		Number of Units to be Implemented				Estimate of Gallons Saved			
		Permit Year				Permit Year			
Measure	User Group	5	10	15	20	5	10	15	20
	Single Family								
	Multi-Family								
	Other (commercial, Industrial)								
	Single Family								
	Multi-Family								
	Other								
	Other								

Section 2.6.2 of the BOR requires all public water supply applicants for an individual or general permit having a Per Capita Use Rate of >200 identify water demand by user group. While the permitted Per Capita Use Rate may be < 200, this breakout of information is very useful for the purpose of developing a conservation plan. These include:

- Residential Use – divided into single-family residential use and multi-family residential use and
- Other metered uses – includes all uses (commercial, industrial,) other than residential accounted for by meter.