

Water Use Efficiency Measures for New or Replacement Wells Serving Large Uses -

Approved by Board of Supervisors, Resolution 7-2008, January 8, 2008, effective March 24, 2009.

Section 7.70.110.D of the County Well Ordinance requires that measures be implemented to ensure efficient use of water for all uses served by new or replacement wells that will serve more than four residential connections or utilize more than 2 acre feet per year. The section requires that a water efficiency audit be performed, with reasonable recommendations for improved efficiency implemented. Following are the elements to be addressed in the water use efficiency audit.

Water Use Efficiency Audit

- Measure showerhead flow rates and install low flow showerheads, if needed.
- Measure faucet flow rates and install faucet aerators for kitchens and bathrooms, if needed.
- Check toilet for leaks and install tank displacement devices or retrofit, if needed.
- Evaluate the efficiency of the irrigation system.
- Identify and correct irrigation leaks, broken or mismatched sprinkler heads, high pressure and other common problems.
- Provide water conservation materials and water-wise landscaping tips.
- Evaluate any other water uses in the home or business for efficiency.

Section 7.70.110.D.2 allows the installation of standard conservation measures in lieu of performing an audit. In this case, the following measures would be required. Some optional measures could be substituted to offset high water use landscaping.

Conservation Measures (- Mandatory Measures)**

1. Install ultra-low flow toilets (<1.2 gal/flush)** (retrofit waived if 1.6 gal/flush toilet is already in use)
2. Install low-flow showerheads (<2.5 gpm)**
3. Retrofit Clothes Washer
4. Audit for leaks**
5. Audit for irrigation efficiency**
6. Use xeriscape landscaping.
7. Utilize drip irrigation if feasible. (Required for agricultural use if feasible)
8. Evaluate water use and water savings by installation and use of a water meter.

Conservation Program for Water Systems

Water systems shall be required to develop and implement a water conservation program which will provide for installation of water conservation measures for all users in the system, including metering of individual connections, within not more than 5 years from the time of new well construction.