#### Massachusetts Water Supply Policy Statement May 1978

Demand Management Policies 1978 Recommendations Accomplishments

- Require statewide water conservation efforts, including:
  - the use of water saving appliances
  - maximization of industrial and commercial multiple usage of water
  - and reduction of evaporative uses where feasible.
  - Require ... water suppliers to institute mandatory conservation measures consistent with the statewide water conservation program

- Plumbing code change 1989; federal laws passed in 1992, 2005,
   & 2007 requiring low flow devices and appliances
- Water conservation requirements incorporated into the MWRA enabling act as a condition for admission of any new communities to the water supply division.
- Interbasin Transfer Act incorporated water conservation requirements as a criterion of approval for all significant transfers. Requirements were strengthened through adoption of Performance Standards in 1999.
- WMA permits incorporate performance standards, requirements to limit non-essential uses, particularly during low flow periods, and standard water conservation requirements.
- The Water Resources Commission developed and adopted Water Conservation Standards for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1992. Updated and expanded in 2006.

Require metering of all water utility deliveries and accelerate programs to install, maintain and replace meters in all local systems, giving priority to systems having the greatest amount of unaccounted-for water.

- The State Water Conservation Standards require 100% metering and proper sizing of service lines and meters.
- This is also required for all systems permitted by DEP under the WMA.
- For all approvals under the Interbasin Transfer Act.
- For all contract communities of the MWRA.

Require the rehabilitation of supply and distribution facilities which show large quantities of unaccounted-for water.

- State Water Conservation Standard: meet or demonstrate steady progress towards meeting 10% UAW as soon as practicable.
- Standards require water suppliers conduct a water audit annually and a system-wide leak detection survey every two years.
- Water Management Act: DEP requires that communities meet 10% unaccounted-for water within 5 years of being permitted or demonstrate ongoing best efforts to control UAW.
- ITA Performance Standards require that a water supplier be at 10% unaccounted-for water at the time of applying for approval.

Encourage and assist water utilities to promote recycling of industrial process water and renovated municipal wastewater.

- In 2001, DEP developed guidelines for water reuse, including toilet flushing, irrigation of golf course and aquifer recharge. The guidelines included standards and BMPs. Some examples of entities which implemented these guidelines are Wrentham Outlet Mall and Gillette Stadium.
- ▶ 314 CMR 20.00, promulgated in 2009, and administered by DEP, instituted a wastewater reuse program.
- Greywater reuse is addressed under DEP's Title 5 regulations (310 CMR 15.00)
- Indirect aquifer recharge is addressed under the groundwater regulations (314 CMR 5.00).

Require the Water Resources Commission to study water rates set by all publicly and privately owned utilities and recommend legislation on pricing consistent with state water policy.

- A study (1982), by the Special (Legislative) Commission Relative to Determining the Adequacy of the Water Supply of the Commonwealth, looked at the water rates set by all publicly and privately owned utilities.
- Water What Price Do We Pay survey of water rates completed in 1989
- Chapter 492, Section 1 of the Acts of 1989 amended Chapter 40 of the General Laws by prohibiting declining block rates.

# Massachusetts Water Supply Policy Statement May 1978 Demand Management Programs 1978 Recommendations Accomplishments

- A vigorous state-supported program of public information, and education to promote water conservation in all uses
- A program of incentives and other measures to achieve conservation goals
- Targeting large users and areas with significant unaccounted-for water.

- Many of these items incorporated into Water Conservation Standards, Interbasin Transfer Act and Water Management Act.
- Office of Technical Assistance, within EEA, established in 1990. OTA provides nonregulatory, confidential assistance to businesses and other organizations in reducing water use.
- ▶ EEA's National Estuaries program partners with the non-profit "Greenscapes" coalition, which educates people on ways to care for their yards using less water.

A comprehensive metering, meter maintenance and meter replacement program for all utility systems.

- ▶ 100% Metering is required by:
  - The State Water Conservation Standards
  - Interbasin Transfer Act Approvals
  - Water Management Act permits
  - MWRA Contracts

A comprehensive state-supported system rehabilitation program to reduce wastage of water in utility systems.

- Chapter 805 of the Acts of 1979 provided financial assistance to cities, towns, and water districts to repair and rehabilitate their water distribution systems.
- DEQE (now DEP) was given the responsibility of approving the criteria and priorities for the disbursement of funds.
- DEP used this program as a match to leverage federal funds. The program has been completed.
- Subsequently, Massachusetts used set aside monies from the Federal Drinking Water SRF to fund conservation, including leak detection work. That effort was discontinued this year due to falling Federal money.

- A program to provide legal, technical and institutional means for water utilities and industrial and commercial users to reuse both industrial cooling and process water and renovated municipal wastewater.
- Coordination with the EPA's 201 and 208 programs should be directed to this objective.

- In 2001, DEP developed guidelines for water reuse, including toilet flushing, irrigation of golf course and aquifer recharge. The guidelines included standards and BMPs. Some examples of entities which implemented these guidelines are Wrentham Outlet Mall and Gillette Stadium.
- ▶ 314 CMR 20.00, promulgated in 2009, and administered by DEP, instituted a wastewater reuse program.
- Greywater reuse is addressed under DEP's Title 5 regulations (310 CMR 15.00)
- Indirect aquifer recharge is addressed under the groundwater regulations (314 CMR 5.00).

- A comprehensive study of water supply pricing by public and private water utilities, leading to legislation dealing with water pricing and subsidy.
- Recommended water rates should reflect consideration in differences in supply costs; the need for sound long-run financial management of water supply utilities; effect on water conservation; equity among users; and other relevant factors.

- A Study by the Special (Legislative) Commission Relative to Determining the Adequacy of the Water Supply of the Commonwealth, completed in 1982, looked at the water rates set by all publicly and privately owned utilities.
- Water What Price Do We Pay survey of water rates completed in 1989
- Chapter 492, Section 1 of the Acts of 1989 amended Chapter 40 of the General Laws by prohibiting declining block rates.
- Chapter 177, Section 129 of the Acts of 1990 amended Chapter 44 of the General Laws by allowing municipalities to establish enterprise accounts for water and wastewater systems.

#### Discussion

- Any Existing Programs not Mentioned?
- Water Conservation Standards only enforceable if the water supplier is permitted under the Water Management Act or has an ITA <u>approval</u>.
- Where do we go from here?

#### **Brainstorm!**

- What are the major demand management policy/program needs going forward?
- Ideas Received to Date on Handout

## **Next Steps?**

 Please send any topics we've missed for inclusion in an updated Water Supply Policy

**AND** 

Your top three priorities for Demand Management Policies and/or Programs (achievable/pressing topics) for inclusion in the 2012 Workplan

#### To:

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- By September 19<sup>th</sup>