



CITY OF PORT ORCHARD Public Works Department

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PUBLIC INFORMATION CITY OF PORT ORCHARD'S WATER USE EFFICIENCY GOALS

Over the next six-year period, the City of Port Orchard will reduce single-family residential water consumption by five gallons per day per home. This reduction in single-family residential use will save approximately 2.5 million gallons per year over this six-year period.

In 2008, the average daily water production and purchases totaled approximately 1.03 million gallons per day (MGD) or 375 million gallons for the entire year. Single families in 2008 used approximately 160 gallons per day. It is the goal for the City that single family use be reduced to 155 gallons per day by the year 2014.

To comply with requirements established by the State's Municipal Water Law, seasonal water consumption for the various types of water customers in the City is being recorded, and all water sources and service connections in the City's water system currently have meters. This allows the City to easily track its distribution system leakage rate, which in 2008 was estimated to be 11% of our total water production and purchases. System leakage, defined as the amount of water lost due to leaks, water main breaks, or illegal connections, is an unavoidable phenomenon for water systems. The City mains have a leakage rate that is slightly higher than the maximum allowable rate of 10% (for a 3-year period) set by the Municipal Water Law. Each year, the City hires a consultant to identify leaks in the distribution system so that they can be repaired. As the City begins tracking uses, such as water used in the treatment process, flushing for water quality, and other uses easily accounted-for, our system leakage is expected to be more accurate and will decline over time.

In late 2008 and early 2009, Port Orchard made significant strides in improving our conservation program. The City began developing a School Outreach Program in order to provide guidance to local schools on educating youth about ways to conserve water. Other educational efforts slated for 2009 include the development of a portable display of water conservation devices for use at City-sponsored events and festivals.

In addition to educational programs, the City also has been issuing free low-flow shower heads and dye tablets to identify toilet leaks. Any City water customer may pick up a shower head or request dye tablets at the City's Public Works department. City staff were also busy conducting site visits to assist in detecting leaks inside local residences.