# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

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# Picking the Low Hanging Fruit: Efficient Use of Marketing Dollars in Promoting Free Efficient Showerheads

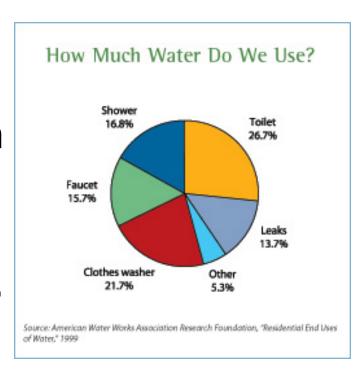


Sr. Public Relations Specialist Seattle Public Utilities



#### Why Showerheads? = Water Savings

- The average American family uses 400 gallons of water every day (EPA), with 70% of it indoors.
- Almost 17% of indoor water use is in the shower.
- Conservation delays development of new sources.



#### Why Showerheads? = Energy Savings

- Heating water is the second-largest residential energy-user (Dept. of Energy).
- Energy is also needed to treat, pump, and deliver water.
- Reduced energy use = decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.

#### 2005 Pilot Program

- Saving Water Partnership conducted a 2005 pilot project of 15,000 households that achieved a 21% participation rate.
- The 2005 pilot enabled SWP to estimate participation and establish savings goals for the 2007 program.

#### 2005 Pilot Survey Results

- Biggest motivating factors for households requesting and installing showerheads:
  - Saving Money
  - Helping the Environment.
- Respondents liked the new showerhead and were glad their utility provided the free showerhead offer.

#### **Regional Partnership**

- Partners consisted of water and energy utilities covering cities of Seattle, Bellevue and surrounding areas:
  - Saving Water Partnership (incl. Seattle Public Utilities) (SWP)
  - Seattle City Light (SCL)
  - Puget Sound Energy (PSE)
  - Cascade Water Alliance (CWA)

#### The Showerheads

- The showerheads were 20% more efficient than standard efficient showerheads (2.0 gallons per minute compared to 2.5).
- Supplied by New Resources Group.



#### Four Program Objectives

- 1. Distribute 100,000 showerheads and aerators = 30% participation.
- 2. Save water and energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. Raise customer awareness of program.
- 4. Obtain an 85% or higher customer satisfaction level with the products.

#### **Target Audience**

- Target audience was dispersed across greater Seattle and surrounding cities.
- Single-family only program added complexity to targeting.
- Media

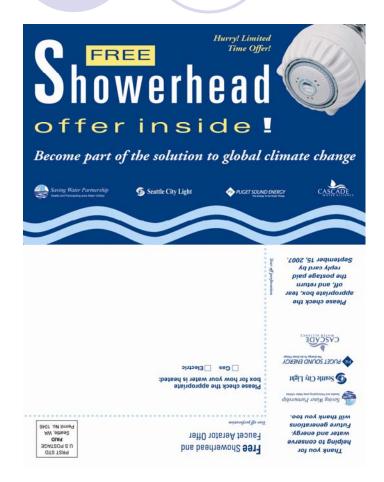
### Challenges

- Showerhead Performance
- Timeline
- Geographic Media Messaging
- Single-Family Only

## Tactics ( )

- Campaign employed the following tactics:
  - Direct mail
  - Television & radio advertising
  - Earned media
  - Customer newsletters
  - Internet advertising and webpage
  - Promotional giveaways
  - Mid- and Post-Campaign surveys

#### **Direct Mail Offer**





#### **TV Advertisement**



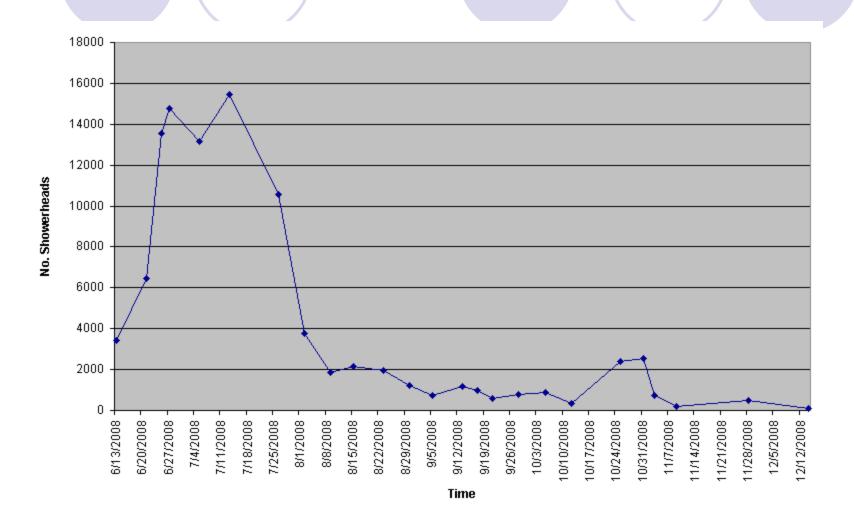


- Primary budget items were:
  - Direct mail
  - TV advertising
  - Radio and Internet advertising

#### **Customer Participation**

- 77% of participants responded in first seven weeks of campaign.
- Remaining 18 weeks of campaign yielded only 23 percent of participants.
- Costs of recruiting final 23% were significantly higher than first 77%.

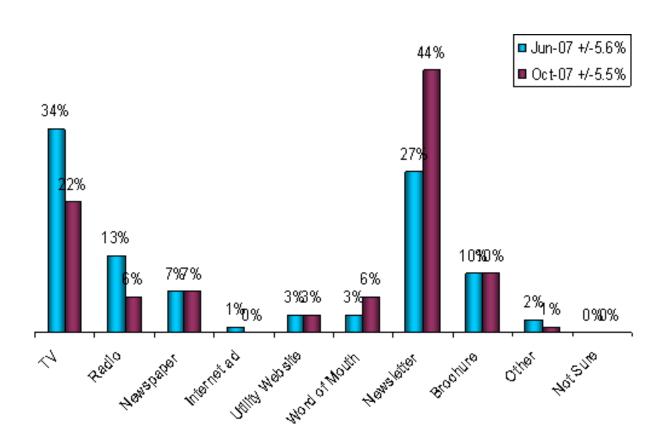
#### **Showerhead Redemption Over Time**



#### Results of Media Campaign

- TV Advertising
- Earned media
- Radio Advertising
- Internet Advertising

#### TV and Direct Mail Most Effective

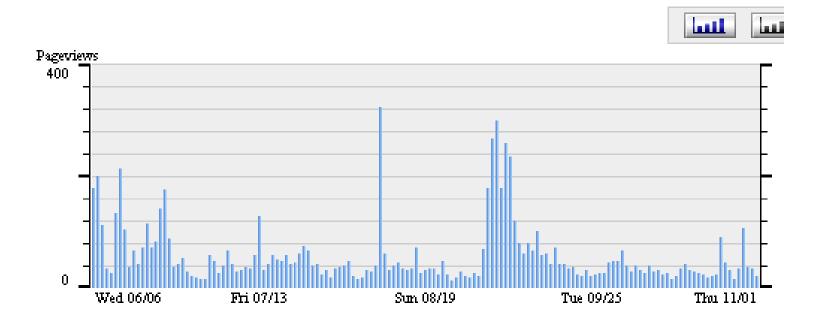


#### Web Hits - www.savingwater.org

Report: Data Over Time - SavingWater
Date Range: 06/06/2007 - 11/01/2007

Range Total: 8,797 Daily Average: 59.04

/inside\_bathroom\_showerheads.htm



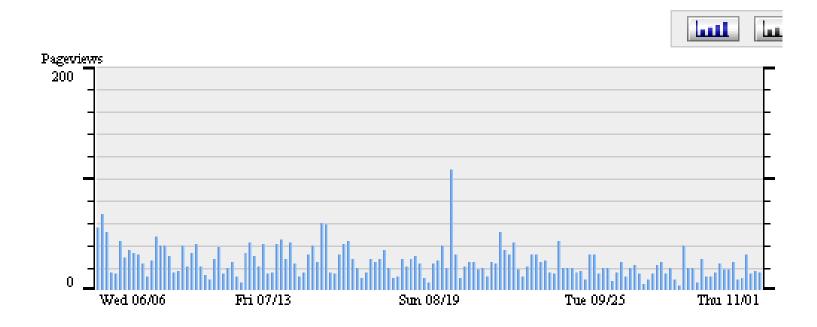
#### Web Hits - www.seattle.gov/util

Report: Data Over Time - spu

Date Range: 06/06/2007 - 11/01/2007

Range Total: 3,844 Daily Average: 25.80

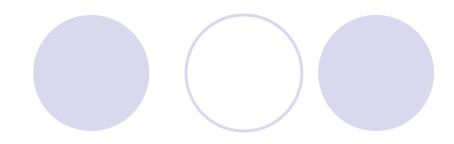
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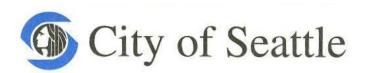


#### **Lessons Learned**

- Media mix
- Research
- Ease of participation
- Political support
- Flexibility to overcome barriers

## Questions?





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