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Tailored to Fit: The Essentials of Designing a Successful Water Conservation Program



BROWN AND CALDWELL

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#### Overview

- Local water efficiency drivers and benefits
- Internal Conservation
- External Conservation
- Case Study: Honolulu Board of Water Supply



#### **Regional Water Efficiency Drivers**

- Need for sustainable water supply
- Declines in sources of supply
- Not enough developed water for all needs
- Water quality
- Environmental goals
- Droughts
- Community support
- Plumbing code
- Water Sense partnership
- Beyond basic stewardship



#### Tailoring Internal and External Conservation Programs



- Theme: most water savings for least cost
- Launch and continue to focus on "cleaning house" first
  - credibility with customers
  - production cost savings
- Set example for customers by reducing visible waste on part of utility and other government agencies (e.g., gutter flooding from parks)
- Target highest water conservation potential (leakage, residential and commercial, irrigation)
- "Shared vision" strategic plan founded on stakeholder buy-in
- Build on other's lessons learned and pay attention to local setting and drivers
- Fund and implement plan with clear milestones
- Track and incorporate your own lessons learned

## Potential Benefits: Multiple Perspectives on the Triple Bottom Line



- To the Utility
  - deferred capital projects
  - reduced O&M
  - water, energy and greenhouse gas emissions savings
  - more reliable supplies
- To the Customer
  - -lower water/sewer bill
  - -lower energy bill
  - "green" actions for better quality of life

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- To the Environment
  - increased stream flows
  - -higher groundwater table
  - more sustainable ecosystems improves water quality

#### Potential Benefits: Utility Perspective



#### Tailor Programs to Target Potential: Example BWS Demand



#### Case Study: Honolulu Board of Water Supply

# KA WAI OLA



#### BWS Background -The Board of Water Supply

- 1929, Act 96
- 7-member board
- 1 million customers
- 166,445 active services
- 600 employees
- 150 MGD pumpage
- 104 water sources
- 164 storage tanks
- 2,037 miles of pipeline



#### Current BWS Efforts -Conservation Program



#### Current Internal BWS Efforts -Leak Detection Program



### Statistics for 2007:

- 56 leaks totaling about 829 MG/yr
- \$265,000 savings



### Current Internal BWS Efforts -QUINCI - Leakage Management Program



- Corrosion Control Program
- Pipeline Failure Analysis Program



#### Current Internal BWS Efforts -Main Repair Statistics 2005-2007

	2005		2006		2007	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Defective Pipe	1	0	0	0	0	0
Corrosion	164	43	163	44	165	58
Contractor in Area	8	2	15	4	7	2
Settlement	29	8	33	9	15	5
Rock	8	2	5	1	2	1
Expansive soil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pressure	11	3	12	3	4	1
Tree roots	7	2	8	2	1	0
Unknown	132	34	114	31	89	31
Other	29	8	10	3	1	0
TOTAL BREAKS	385		373		284	

#### Current Internal BWS Efforts -Data Collection



#### Current Internal BWS Efforts -Response Plan









#### Current Internal BWS Efforts -Water Trend

Non-revenue Water Trend 2004-2007



#### Internal BWS Efforts -Next Steps

Type of Main	Type of Failure& Description	What to Look For / What to do	Photo Examples
Cast Iron& Ductile Iron	Electrolytic Corrosion Driven by oxygen, soil chemistry, and resistivity of soil	<ul> <li>Shows wastage of metal</li> <li>Look for thinning of wall thickness from outside-in or inside-out</li> <li>Big pits or interconnected pits will typically be present</li> <li>Scrape pipe from outside with a sharp, blunt tool – see if metal is soft and can be removed. Probably not if it is electrolytic corrosion</li> <li>Look for sharp knife-like edges</li> <li>Get a soil sample</li> </ul>	Cast Iron main
Cast Iron& Ductile Iron	<b>Grap hitic</b> <b>Corrosion</b> Preferential leaching out of iron from the metal matrix leaving the graphite flake network. Slow corrosion mechanism – so pipe will probably be quite old (40 years or more). Driven by slightly acidic soil or ground water conditions.	<ul> <li>Won't show pitting</li> <li>Scrape the pipe from the outside with a sharp, blint tool and the metal will be soft and easily removed.</li> <li>There will not be sharp knife-like edges</li> <li>Saw through the pipe and look at the cross section of the pipe wall. You will see a color variation due to graphitic corrosion (see photo below)</li> <li>Get a soil sample</li> </ul>	Image: state stat

#### Current External BWS Efforts -Integration in water planning

- Build on existing momentum
- Utilize successful examples
- Develop programs specific to region, climate, and culture
- Consider as option for deferring development of additional supplies





DETECT-A-LEAK WEEK JUNE 1-7, 2008 DON'T WASTE WATER





#### Current External BWS Efforts -Pilot Projects

- BWS screened and ranked 10 potential pilot projects against criteria
- Top four ranked projects selected
- Data collection
  - Effectiveness
  - End use demand
- Insight for fullscale program
- Education and outreach
  - Program participants
  - Honolulu BWS



#### Photo Sources:

http://www.roadsideamerica.com/hotels\_motels/images-hotel/h25404/1.jpg http://www.rainbarrelguide.com/

#### Current External BWS Efforts -Wai Akamai – Residential Pilot

- Retrofit of indoor fixtures
- Annual water savings per household:
  - Toilets: >16,000 gal
  - Showerheads: >500 gal
  - Faucets: >2,000 gal
- Potential outdoor savings component
  - Rain barrels



#### **Photo Sources**

Toilet: http://www.us.kohler.com/tech/products/why\_flushsystems.jsp Showerhead and faucet aerator: http://amconservationgroup.com

#### Current External BWS Efforts -Green, Green Building – Commercial Pilot

- Retrofit of indoor fixtures
- Pilot site: BWS Public Service Building (PSB)
- Benefits:
  - BWS leading by example
  - Buy-in from custodians with new purchases
  - Water, energy, and financial savings
- Starting point for potential LEED certification



Photo Source: http://www.waterless.com/

#### Current External BWS Efforts -Pre-rinse Spray Valve Retrofit



Photo Source: http://www.wapa.gov/ES/pubs/esb/ 2005/apr/apr057.htm

- Retrofit of commercial pre-rinse spray valves
- Pilot sites: Two school cafeterias and one private business
- Documented water savings with flow meters
- Up to 50,000 gal/year water savings
- Up to 21 kWh/year energy savings
- Less than 4 month payback by private business customer
- Local business serves as example to others

#### Current External BWS Efforts -Toilet Flapper Replacement

- Ongoing program
- Documented water savings
- Up to 200 gal/day savings per toilet (other programs)
- ~26,000 gal/day documented savings since January 2007



Photo Source: http://www.toiletflapper.org

#### External BWS Efforts -Phase 2



Waikele Stream at Waipahu, Oahu Photo Source: USGS

- Collection and evaluation of pilot project water savings and lessons learned
- Full-scale Water Conservation Plan development
  - Market Penetration Study
  - Detailed cost-effectiveness evaluation
- Public outreach campaign
- Implementation of full-scale program

#### **Resources for Additional Information**

- Thanks to WaterSmart Innovations, SNWA and USEPA
- Honolulu BWS

www.hbws.org

- AWWA WaterWiser www.waterwiser.org
- US EPA Office of Water www.epa.gov/ow
- California Urban Water Conservation Council www.cuwcc.org
- National Drought Mitigation Center

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The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

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