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Washington County on Par with Top Water Conservation Programs

St. George, Utah –A recent audit conducted by a nationally recognized water conservation expert concludes that the Washington County Water Conservancy District’s (WCWCD) conservation program is “on par with other notable programs in the western United States and exceeds those of other entities of a similar size and customer base.”

WCWCD retained Maddaus Water Management (Maddaus), a recognized national expert in water demand forecasting and analysis of water efficiency programs to: (1) review its current water conservation programs; (2) compare these programs to national and international best practices and leading peers; and (3) recommend program modifications or additions designed to further increase its water efficiency savings. The [WCWCD Water Conservation Programs: A Comparative Evaluation](#) compares the district’s conservation program to that of 10 other similarly situated western water agencies with vigorous conservation programs.

According to Maddaus, WCWCD’s effective water conservation program compares favorably with those of its peers. Having observed that water conservation has been a hallmark of WCWCD’s focus since 1993, Maddaus concluded that WCWCD’s program budget, spending and staffing efforts equal or exceed those of several other similarly situated water agencies. In fact, Maddaus found that WCWCD employs two-thirds of the 36 most common practices among study participants.¹

WCWCD, like its peer agencies, uses the four most common efficiency programs, i.e., leakage management, toilet rebates, free irrigation system evaluations, and free showerhead and faucet aerator distribution.

WCWCD management has endorsed four additional conservation measures recommended by Maddaus to allow WCWCD’s strong program to become more cost effective, sustainable and robust, as follows:

(more)

¹ Maddaus Water Management, Inc. Dec. 17, 2018. Water Conservation Programs: A Comparative Evaluation.

- Work with municipal retail providers to reduce system water loss by implementing additional water loss control measures.
- Enhance existing water-efficient fixture giveaway program.
- Enhance use of outdoor efficiency incentive measures through rebates and coupons.
- Explore opportunities to partner with energy utilities to offer water and energy incentives, including incentives for efficient clothes washers and hot water on demand systems.

“The Washington County Water Conservancy District and its municipal partners have accomplished much to date in our collaborative efforts to conserve water,” said Ron Thompson, general manager of the district. “Our water use has reduced over the years despite our growing population and we expect that trend to continue. Conservation is essential to our future.”

About the Washington County Water Conservancy District

The Washington County Water Conservancy District is a not-for-profit public water provider established in 1962 to manage Southern Utah’s regional water needs. The district oversees the development, stabilization, management, acquisition and conservation of water resources in Washington County in an ongoing effort to provide a safe, reliable water supply for current and future generations. Visit www.wewcd.org for more information.