

Water Use Efficiency Requirements

In 2003 the Washington State Legislature passed House Bill 1338, known as the Municipal Water Law (MWL), to address increasing demands on our state's water resources. The Department of Health (DOH) was directed to oversee and enforce the Water Use Efficiency Program (WUE) to help support the goal of ensuring a safe and reliable drinking water supply. The WUE seeks to support this goal in the following ways:

- Contribute to long-term water supply reliability and public health protection
- Promote good stewardship of the state's water resources
- Ensure efficient operation and management of water systems

The Water Use Efficiency Program became effective on January 22, 2007. It requires that the state's municipal water suppliers complete the following:

- Distribution Leakage Standard
- Goal setting and performance reporting
- Metering requirements

The requirements are listed below in chronological order by due date.

Requirement	Deadline for municipal water suppliers with 1,000 or more connections (Group A)
Begin collecting production and consumption data	January 1, 2007
Include WUE program in planning documents	January 22, 2008
Set your own WUE goals	January 22, 2008
Submit service meter installation schedule	July 1, 2008
Submit first annual performance report	July 1, 2008
Meet distribution leakage standard (based on 3-year rolling average)	July 1, 2010, or three years after installing all service meters
Complete installation of all service meters	January 22, 2017