

The background of the slide is a photograph of a cityscape, likely Phoenix, Arizona. In the foreground, a large saguaro cactus stands on a hillside. The middle ground shows a dense urban area with various skyscrapers and buildings. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a clear blue sky.

Water Wise Development Coalition

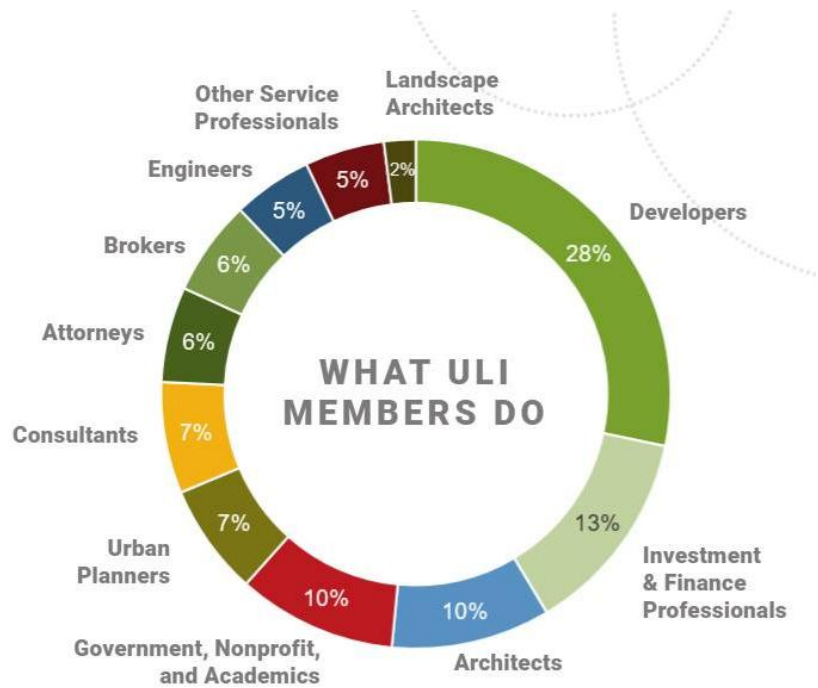
Marianne Eppig, Sr. Director of Resilience, ULI

June 25, 2025

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., ULI is an independent and nonpartisan organization singularly focused on impact.

From its establishment in 1936, ULI's fundamental purpose has been to **connect** industry leaders, **inspire** best practices for equitable and sustainable land use, and **lead** in anticipating and addressing challenges facing the urban landscape.

LOCAL IMPACT



70+ District and National Councils worldwide

ULI AMERICAS

58 District Councils

ULI EUROPE

13 National Councils

ULI ASIA PACIFIC

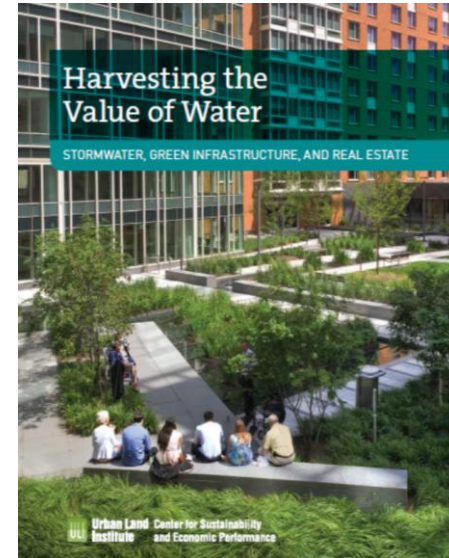
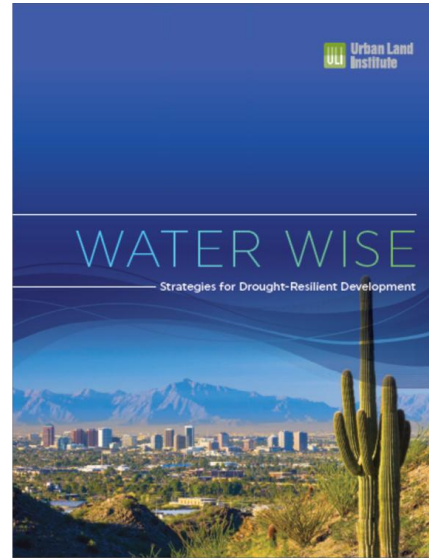
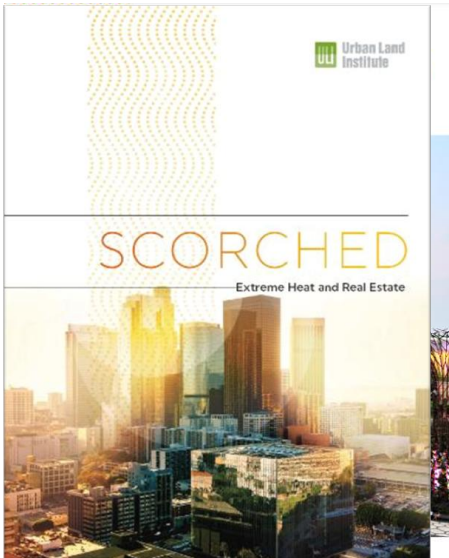
7 National Councils

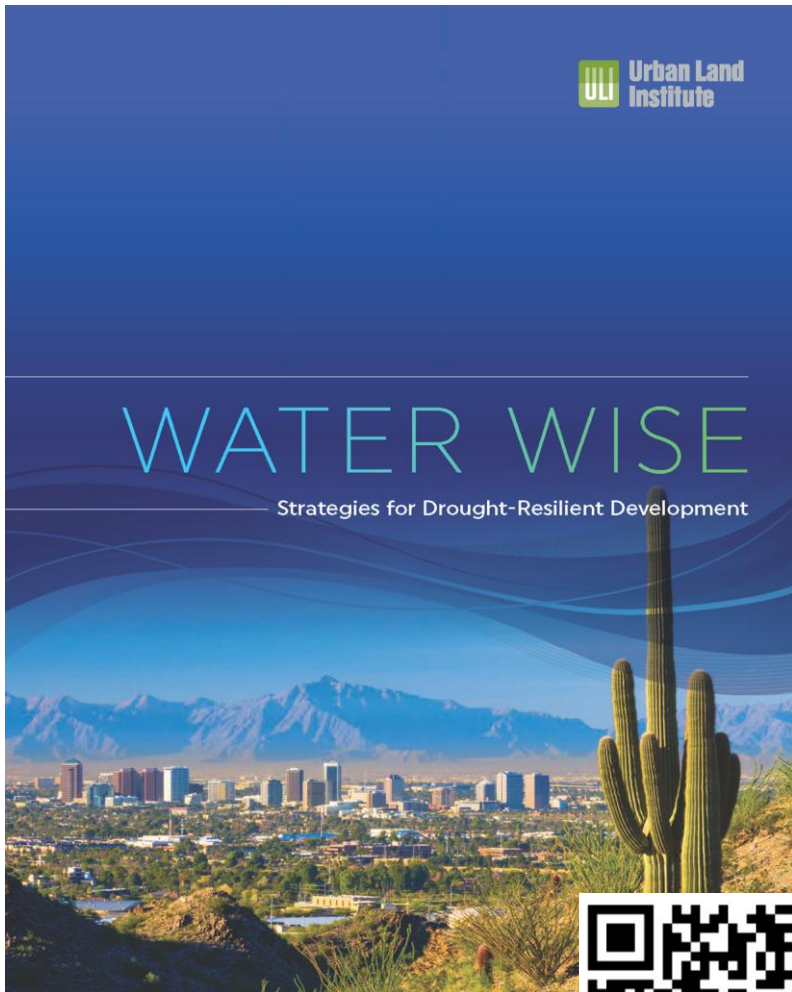


ULI's Urban Resilience Program

ULI's Urban Resilience program is focused on how buildings, cities, and communities can be more resilient to the impacts of climate change and other environmental vulnerabilities. We do this by:

- Advancing industry understanding of resilience
- Cultivating champions for resilience and catalyzing resilience partnerships
- Supporting communities in becoming more climate resilient





Water Wise Report

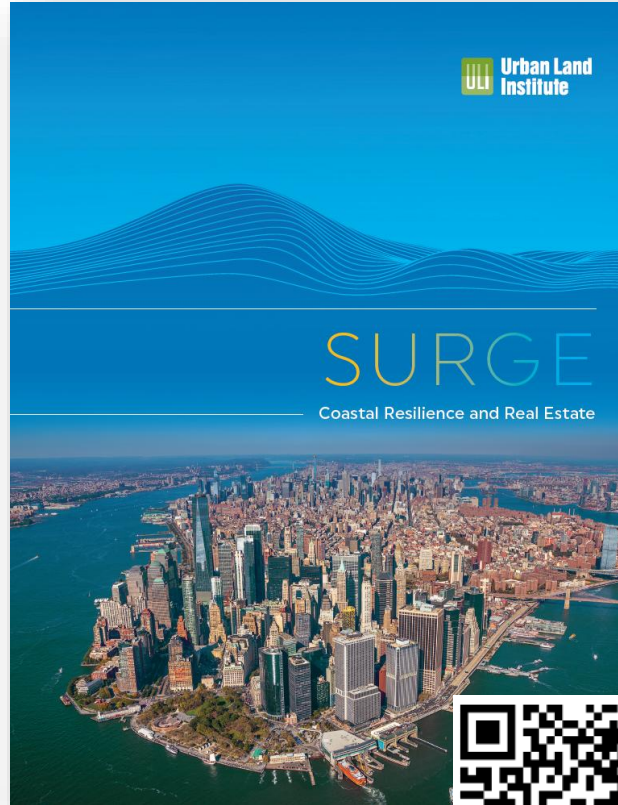
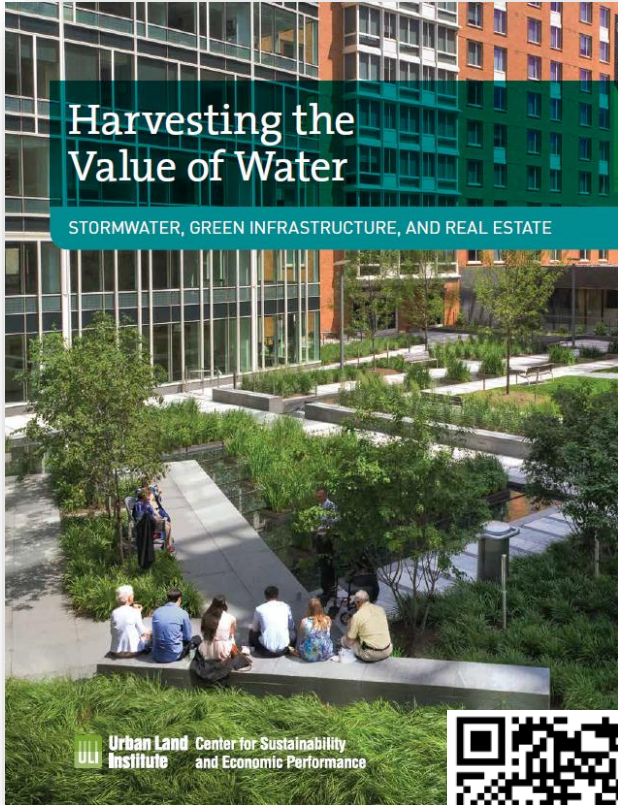
From ULI's Urban Resilience Program

Water Wise: Strategies for Drought-Resilient Development introduces the challenges associated with drought and limited freshwater availability and provides best practices for real estate and land use professionals to address them.

- Water reuse is covered!
- Many case studies with water reuse included!



ULI Reports & Resources on Flooding



More ULI resources
on flood
preparedness:



Water Wise Development Coalition

Intro for newbies!

- **Who:** ULI, in partnership with the Alliance for Water Efficiency, the Sonoran Institute, and the WaterNow Alliance, is convening land use and real estate professionals with policymakers and decision-makers. This coalition is supported by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Gates Family Foundation.
- **What:** Advancing water-smart real estate development and supportive policies.
- **When & Where:** Quarterly virtual meetings.
- **How:** Participants will have a say in meeting topics, speakers, and efforts.



Agenda

- ULI welcome and introductions (5 minutes)
- Speakers (20 minutes each, including individual Q&A):
 - **Shannon Spurlock, Pacific Institute:** Overview of water reuse and resources available
 - **John Rehring, Carollo Engineers, and Kyle Pickett, Worthen Foundation:** How to make water reuse work for your project
 - **Austin Krcmarik, Denver Water:** Onsite and regional water reuse at Denver Water
- Group discussion and resource sharing (20 minutes)
- ULI wrap up (5 minutes)





PACIFIC
INSTITUTE

Water Reuse: An Overview

Shannon Spurlock
Senior Engagement Specialist, Public Policy & Practice Uptake

Water Wise Coalition
June 25, 2025



PACIFIC
INSTITUTE

What is Water Reuse?

"Water reuse, also known as water recycling, is the process of intentionally capturing wastewater, stormwater, saltwater or graywater and cleaning it as needed for a designated beneficial freshwater purpose such as drinking, industrial processes, surface or ground water replenishment, and watershed restoration."

<https://watereuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/The-WaterReuse-Association-Engage-Educate-Advocate.pdf>

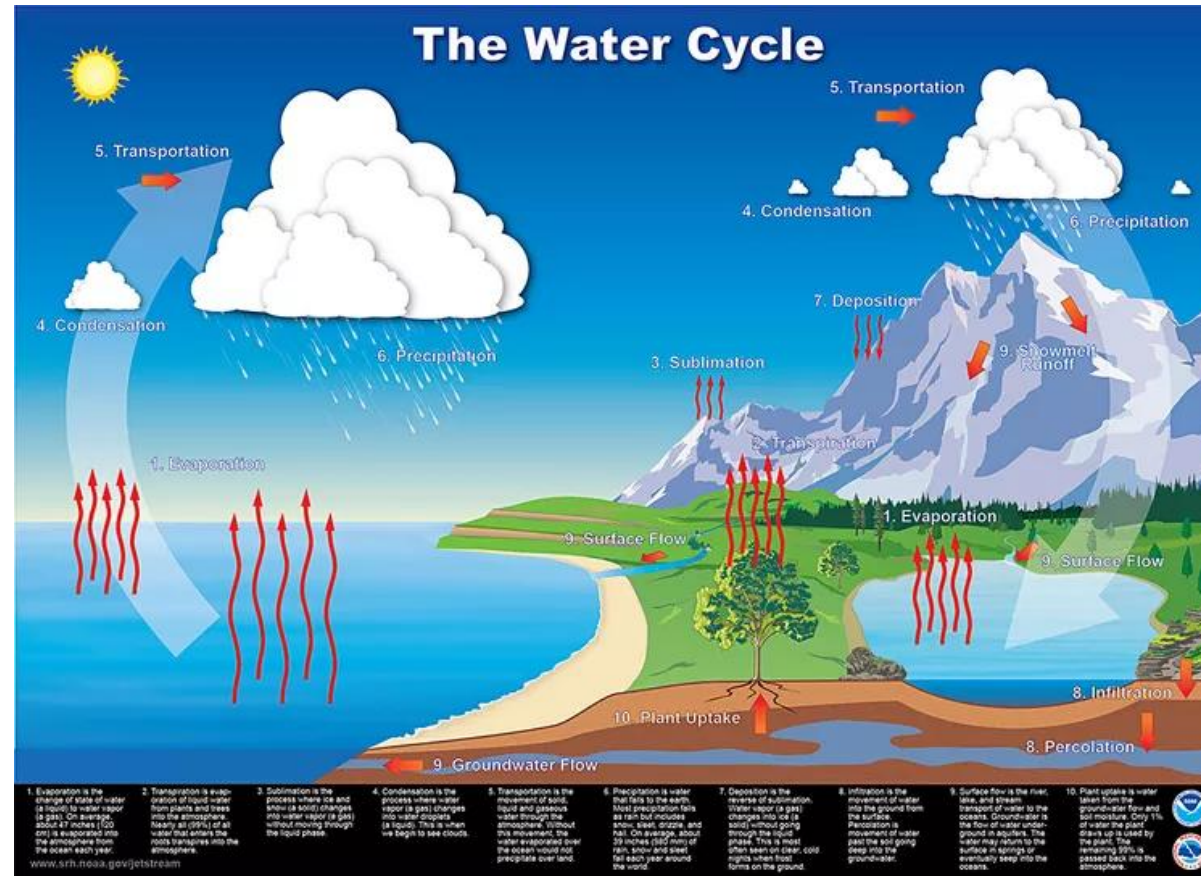


https://www.roseville.ca.us/government/departments/environmental_utilities/at_your_service/recycled_water

Navigating & Thriving in Uncertain Times

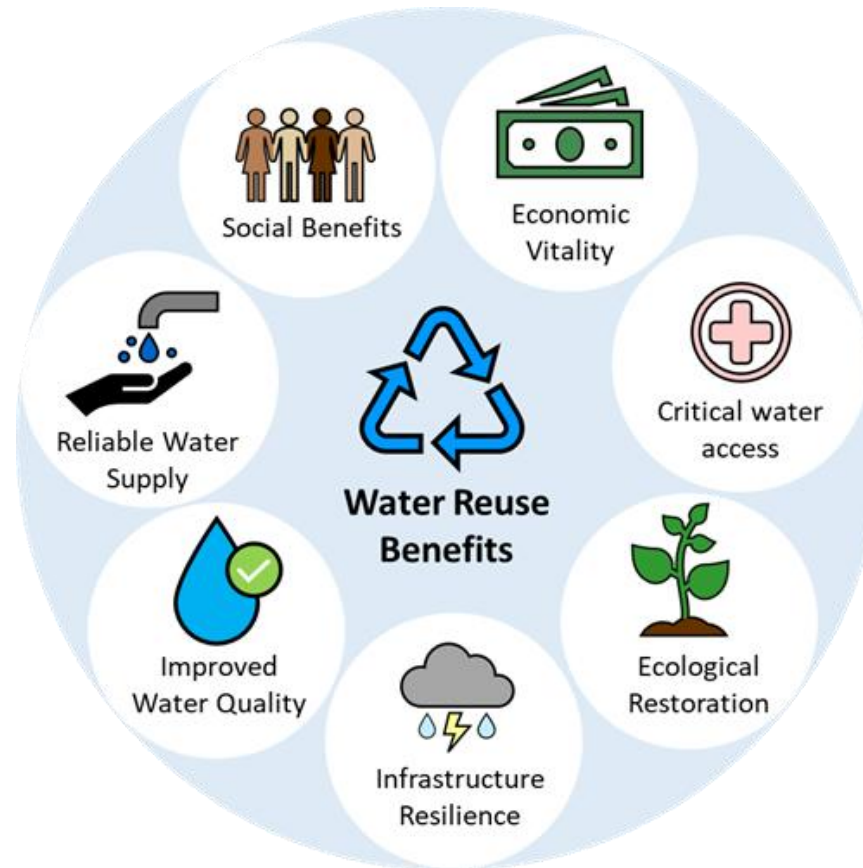


All Water is Recycled



<https://www.thoughtco.com/the-water-cycle-4049926>

Water Reuse: Benefits



<https://www.epa.gov/waterreuse/case-studies-demonstrate-benefits-water-reuse>

Types of Water Reuse: Nonpotable, IPR, DPR



Nonpotable, Outdoor irrigation
(Broomfield)



Indirect potable, Prairie Waters
(Aurora)



Direct Potable Reuse
(tbd)

Types of Water Reuse: Centralized, Decentralized



Centralized, Denver Water



Decentralized/Onsite, Denver Water

Resources: National



Actions in the plan are intended to support the adoption of potable and non-potable reuse and address local and national barriers across a range of technical, institutional and financial topics. Since 2020, the effort has grown to include over 70 actions and 170 action leaders and partners.



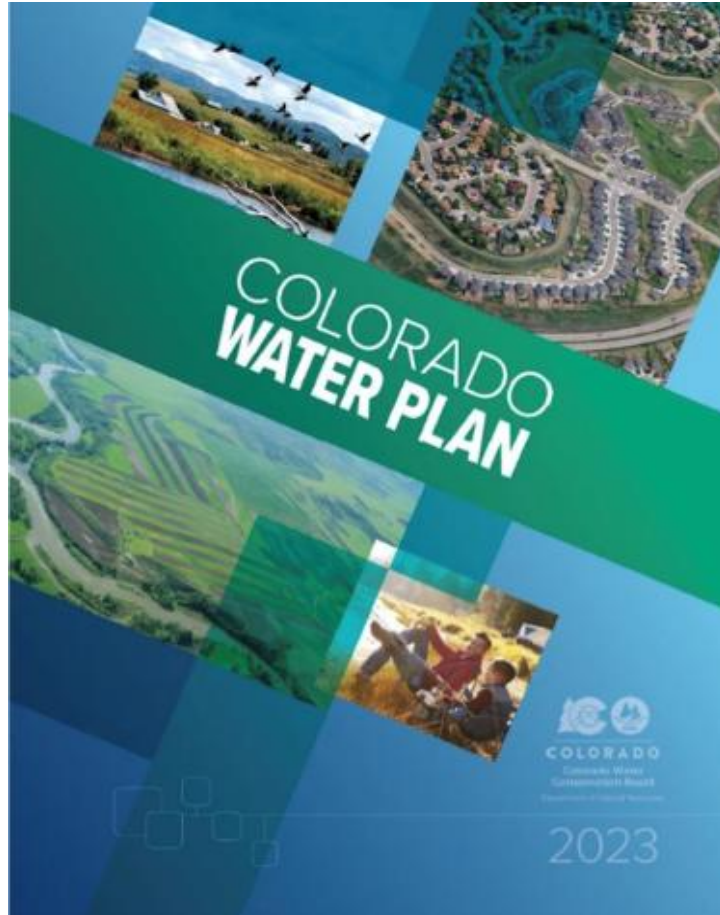
**National Blue Ribbon Commission
for Onsite Water Systems**



BILD
BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE
LOCALLY FOR DECENTRALIZED
WATER SYSTEMS

BILD is a collaborative global community of practice working to uncover opportunities, advance implementation, and spread transformative solutions related to decentralized water systems to support the efficient use and reuse of water.

Resources: State



SOUTH PLATTE AND METRO BASIN ROUNDTABLE GOALS

Maintain and promote reuse

Agency Actions, Vibrant Communities

1.5 Strategically expand water reuse and
develop a water reuse progress report

Resources: State

REGULATION 84 (Reclaimed Water Control Regulation)

Regulation 84 establishes requirements, standards, and concentration limits for the use of reclaimed water from a centralized treatment facility. The uses for reclaimed water include certain industrial applications, landscape irrigation, certain commercial applications, fire protection, toilet and urinal flushing, and certain commercial and non-commercial agricultural irrigation applications (including trees, non-food and edible crops, and edible and non-edible hemp).

REGULATION 86 (Graywater Control Regulation)

Regulation 86 regulates the use of graywater. Graywater sources may include water discharged from bathroom and laundry-room sinks, bathtubs or showers, and laundry machines. Because graywater can carry some human pathogens, this regulation sets standards for using graywater for non-drinking water purposes such as subsurface irrigation or toilet flushing.

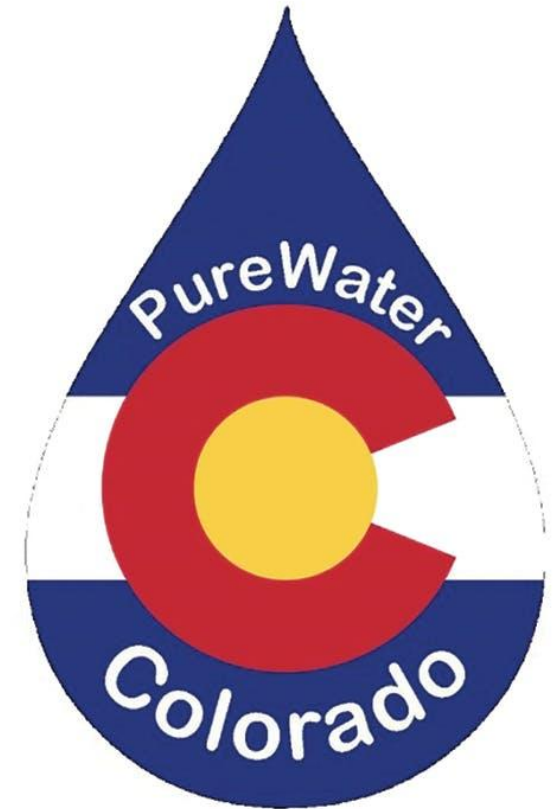
REGULATION 11 (Direct Potable Reuse)

In October 2022, the WQCC adopted changes to Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations to govern DPR after a rigorous stakeholder process led by the WQCD. The new rules set minimum standards and oversight for DPR to ensure consistency and ensure a thorough public outreach process for new projects.

Water Reuse: Word on the Street

PureWater Colorado Mobile Demonstration Project:

Funded by a grant from CWCB, Colorado Springs Utilities and its partners designed and constructed an advanced water purification system inside of a mobile trailer using treated wastewater from the JD Phillips Resource Recovery Facility to produce potable water. The DPR trailer was used by Colorado Springs Utilities in 2021 and 2022 for public education and outreach, operator training, and treatment process refinement.





**PACIFIC
INSTITUTE**

Thank you!

SHANNON SPURLOCK

sspurlock@pacinst.org

Pacific Institute

Learn more about our water work:

www.pacinst.org

Stay informed on important water issues:

<https://pacinst.org/email-sign-up/>



WATER REUSE AS A DESIGN OPPORTUNITY

ULI Water Wise Development Coalition // Virtual // June 25, 2025



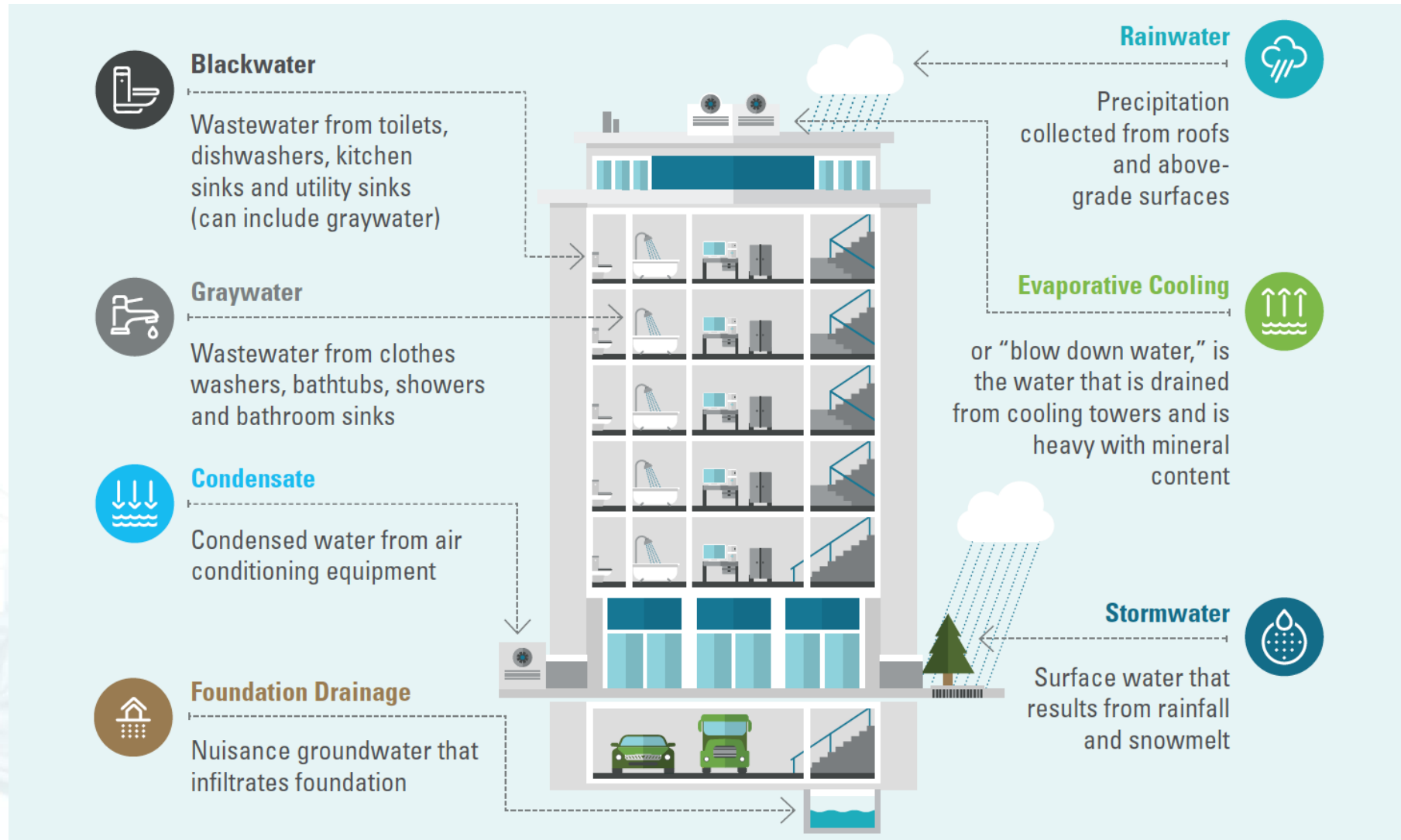
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”YUCK” TO ”YAY”










THE GUIDE

WATER TYPES IN BUILDINGS



STAKEHOLDERS & DECISION DRIVERS

Internal Stakeholders		
	Developer/Owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost efficiency• Regulatory compliance• Brand enhancement
	Design Team/Builder	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Positive industry reputation• New expertise
	Occupants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ease of use• Control over rate increases
	Facility Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seamless, cost effective, reliable operations
External Stakeholders		
	Regulators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect public health and water quality• Conserve scarce resource• Enforce code compliance
	Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guarantee water supply• Maintain revenue
	Financial institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid risk• Maintain long term value of investment





KEY TALKING POINTS WITH REGULATORS

- Non-potable onsite reuse is safe and feasible in this project. The reused water will not be used for drinking and will minimize public health risks.
- The project is using treatment technologies that are proven effective.
- The building will remain connected to centralized water/wastewater systems to continue providing drinking water and to serve as a backup in the unlikely event of system failure.
- The design meets all codes and regulations.
- The system will be regularly monitored and maintained.
- Appropriate signage and public education and outreach are integrated into the project.





KEY TALKING POINTS WITH UTILITIES

- You have an interest in working with utilities, not against them.
- Non-potable onsite reuse can supplement local and regional efforts to build water security and promote environmental sustainability.
- It can reduce treatment costs by reducing unnecessary potable water consumption.
- It can delay or mitigate the need for expensive infrastructure expansion.
- It reduces energy consumption and system overflows.
- A blend of decentralized and centralized treatment boosts system reliability and resiliency.
- You understand that the building will still require connections to water and wastewater systems, regardless of the level of onsite non-potable water reuse.





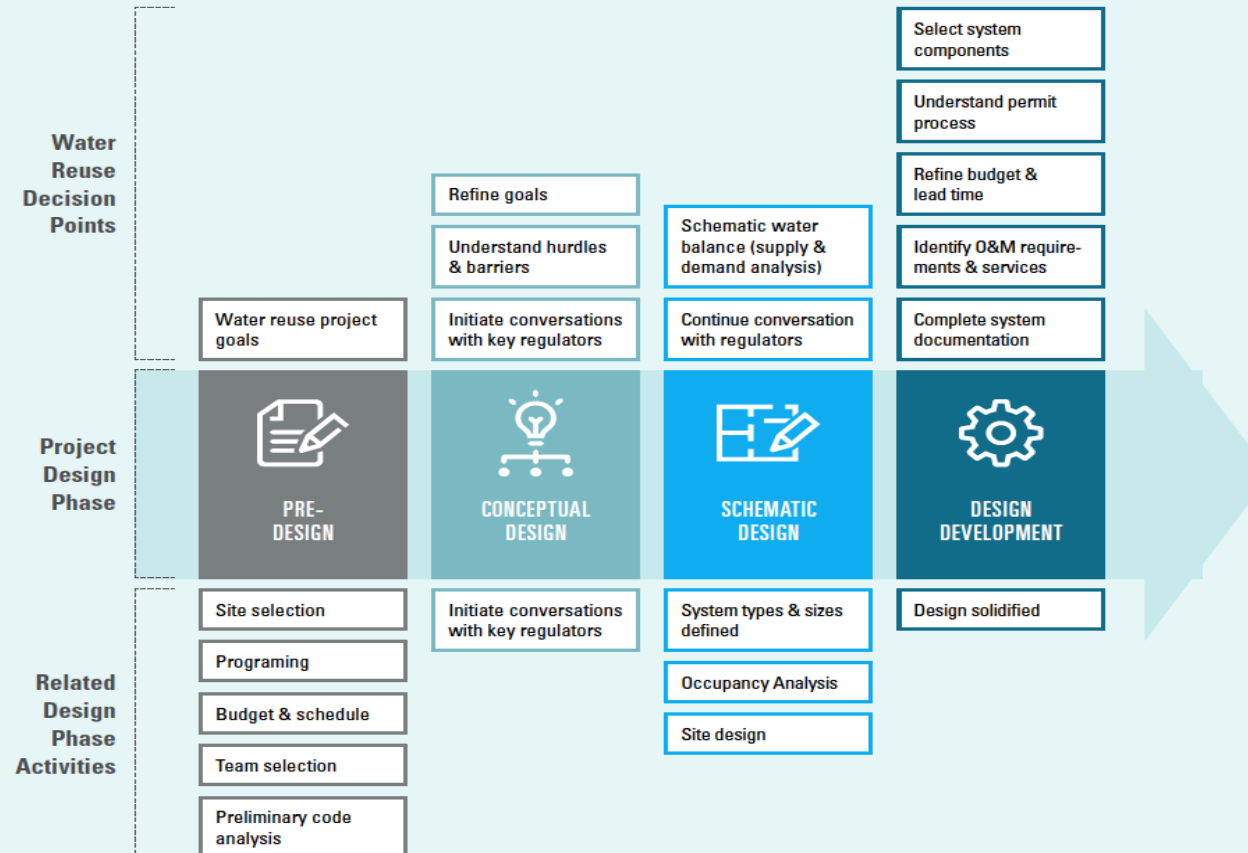
KEY TALKING POINTS WITH OCCUPANTS

- Non-potable onsite reuse is safe. All water is already recycled water.
- Effective treatment technologies ensure water is of a sufficient quality to use for non-drinking purposes.
- Regular monitoring and maintenance are conducted.
- Reuse saves energy, water, and costs—contributing to building and community sustainability.

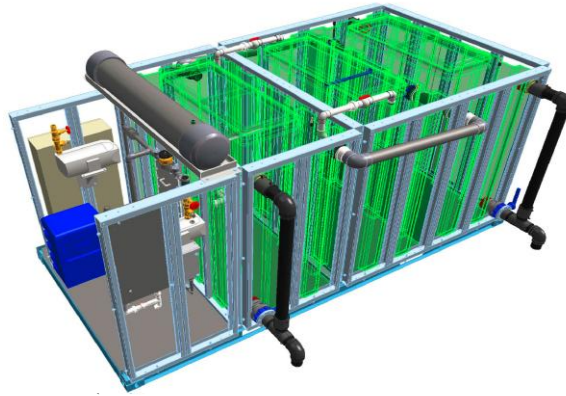


DESIGNING FOR WATER REUSE

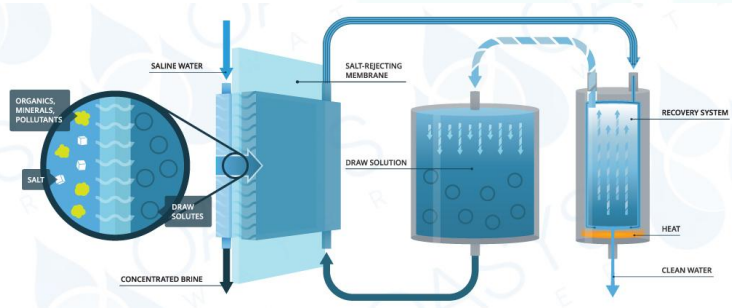
MAPPING WATER REUSE TO THE DESIGN PROCESS



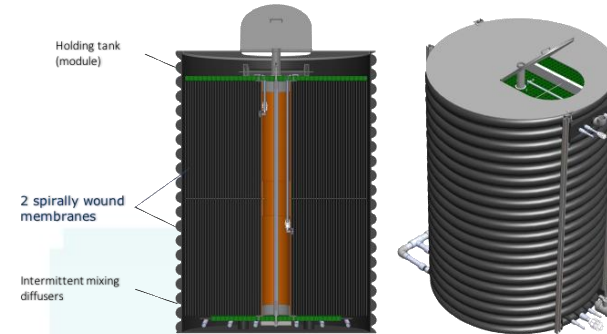
MECHANICALLY BASED SYSTEMS



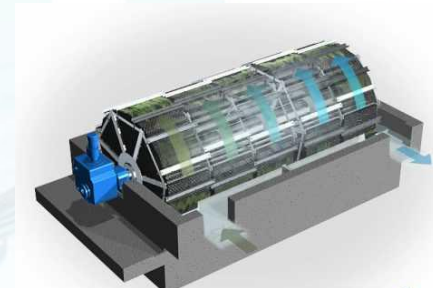
MBR - Membrane Bio Reactor



FO - Forward Osmosis



MABR -Membrane Aerated Biofilm Reactor

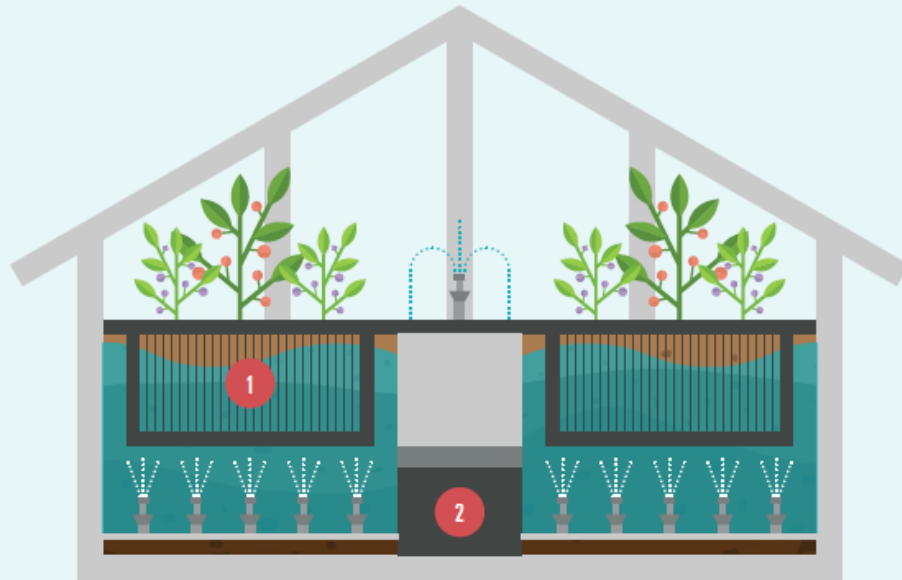


RBC – Rotating Biological Contractor



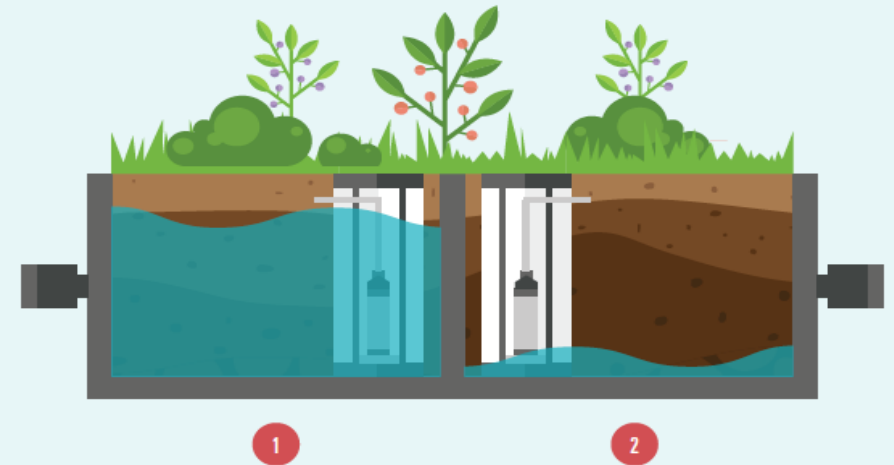
OTHER TECHNOLOGIES

TYPICAL HYDROPONIC TREATMENT SYSTEM



1. Select plant species grown hydroponically in aerated reactors will produce dense root mats up to four feet in depth. The fractal structure of the roots provides greater surface area than synthetic media for biofilm development.
2. Hydroponic reactors generally have greater biodiversity of microorganisms that graze on bacteria, resulting in reduced sludge volumes.

TYPICAL RECIPROCATING OR TIDAL FLOW WETLANDS TREATMENT SYSTEM

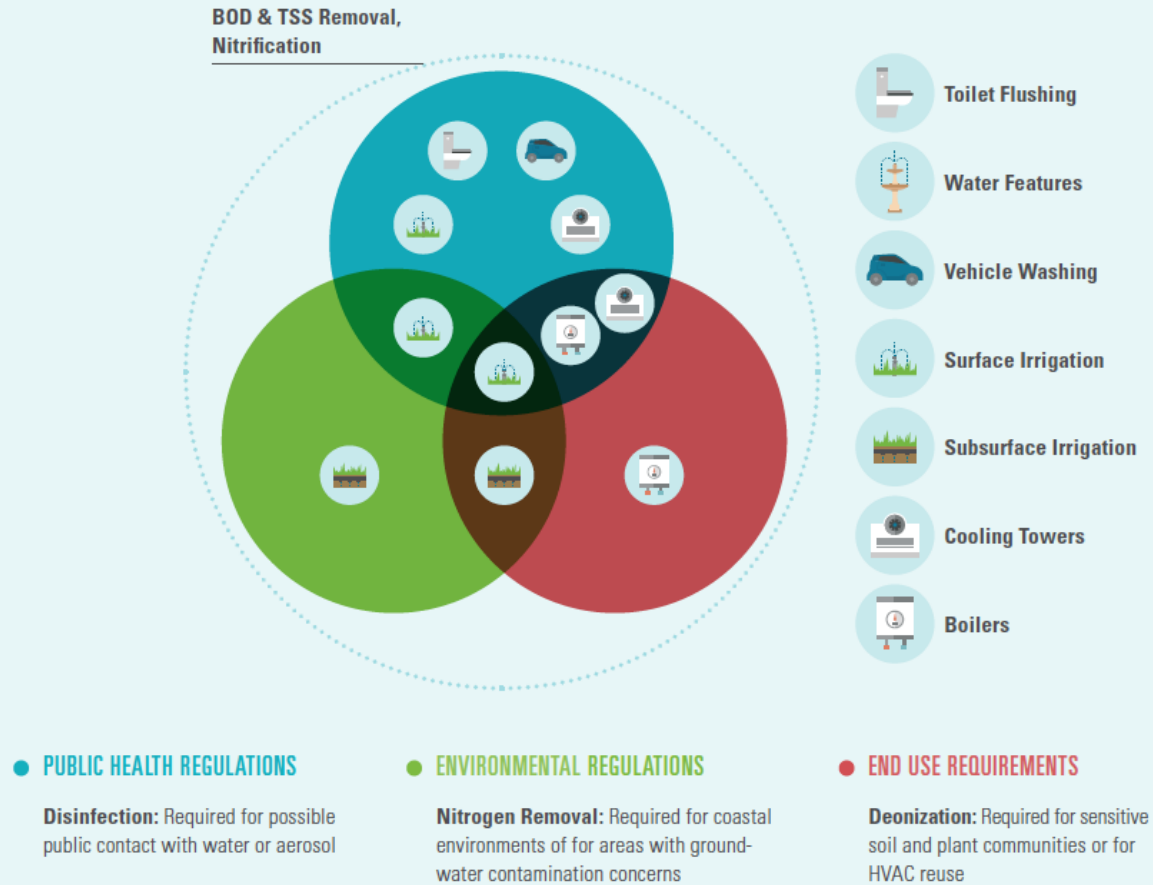


1. After primary treatment, wastewater is pumped into subsurface wetland cells that are alternately filled and drained multiple times per day. During the fill phase, biofilm communities on plant roots and aggregate consume nutrients in the wastewater.
2. During the drain phase, atmospheric oxygen passively fills the void area, helping to “turbocharge” the microbial processes. Plants play an important role by increasing nutrient removal, microbial diversity, and long term aggregate porosity.



OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

ROAD MAP FOR WASTEWATER REUSE



Depicts general water reuse applications and treatment requirements.

Water Reuse Operations

- Visual Inspection
- Water Quality Testing
- Servicing Instrumentation
- Replenishing Consumables
- Preventative Maintenance
- Emergency Maintenance

Equipment Replacement

- Filter/Membranes
- Mechanical Components

Waste Removal

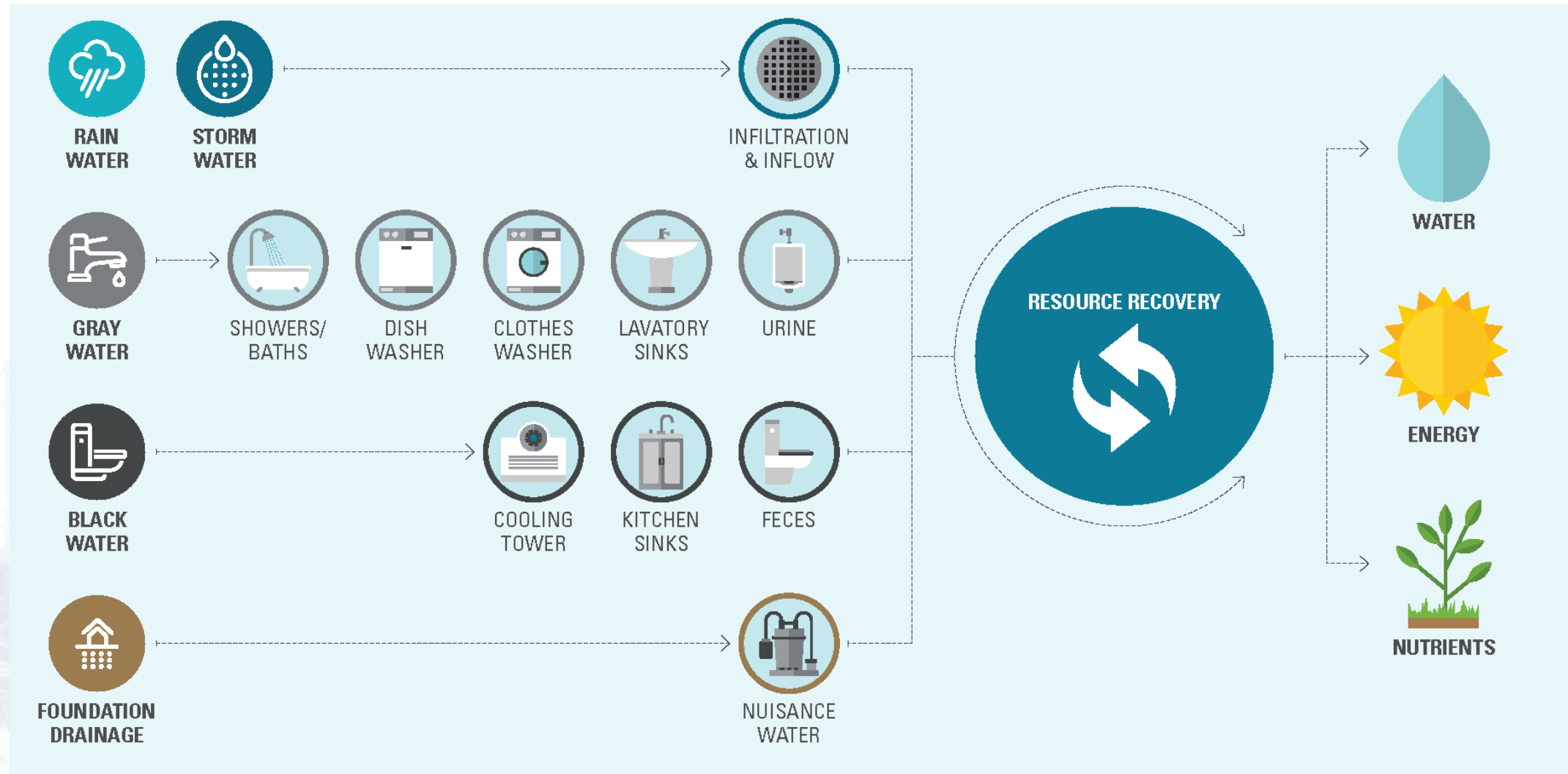
- Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)
- Sludge

Know your Costs!

- Energy Use – Variable among system types
- Pumps
- Treatment
- Disinfection
- Monitoring (Service Contract)

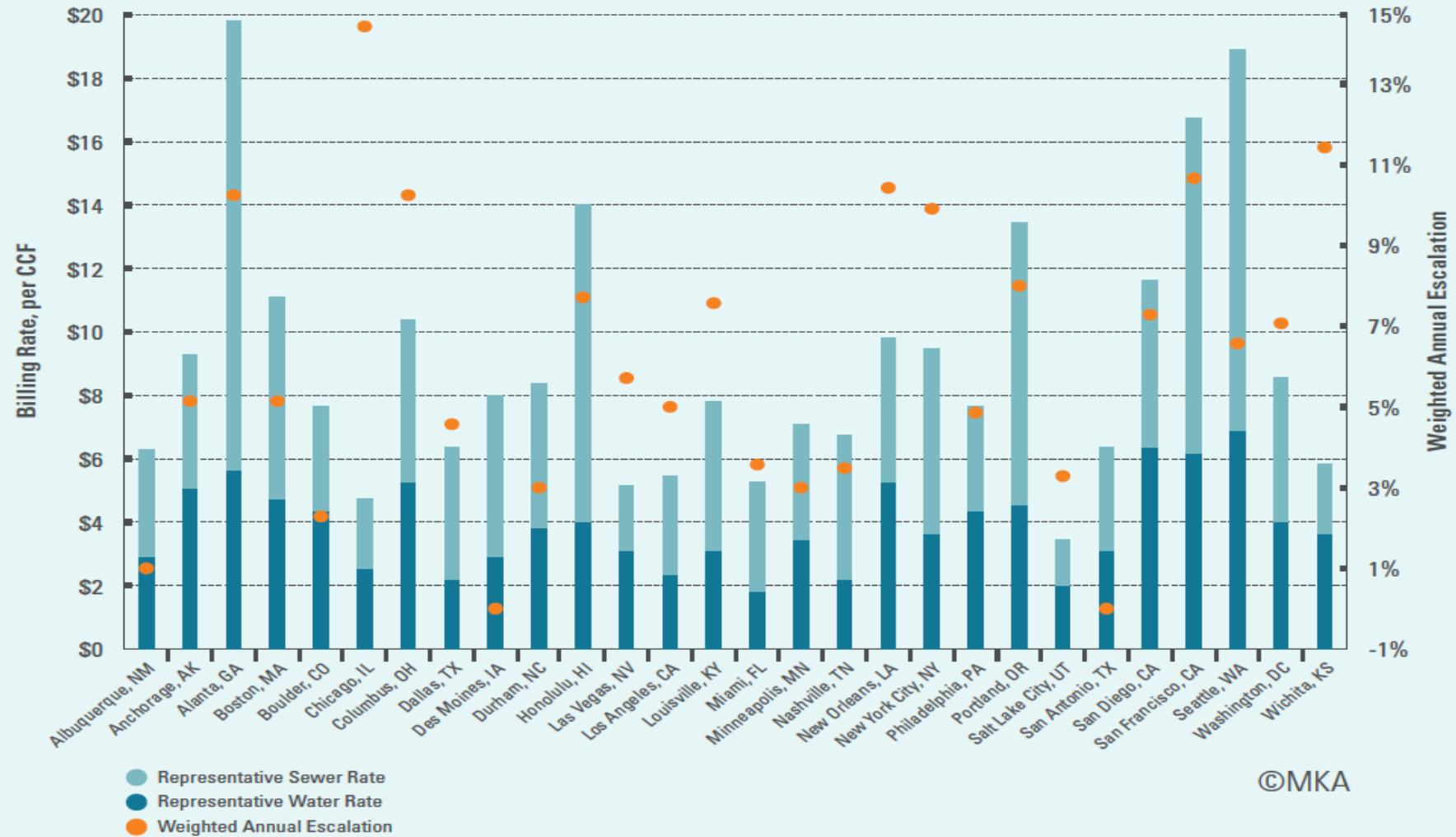


RESOURCE RECOVERY



‘SHOW ME THE MONEY’

RESIDENTIAL COMBINED WATER/SEWAGE RATES AND ESCALATION (2014)

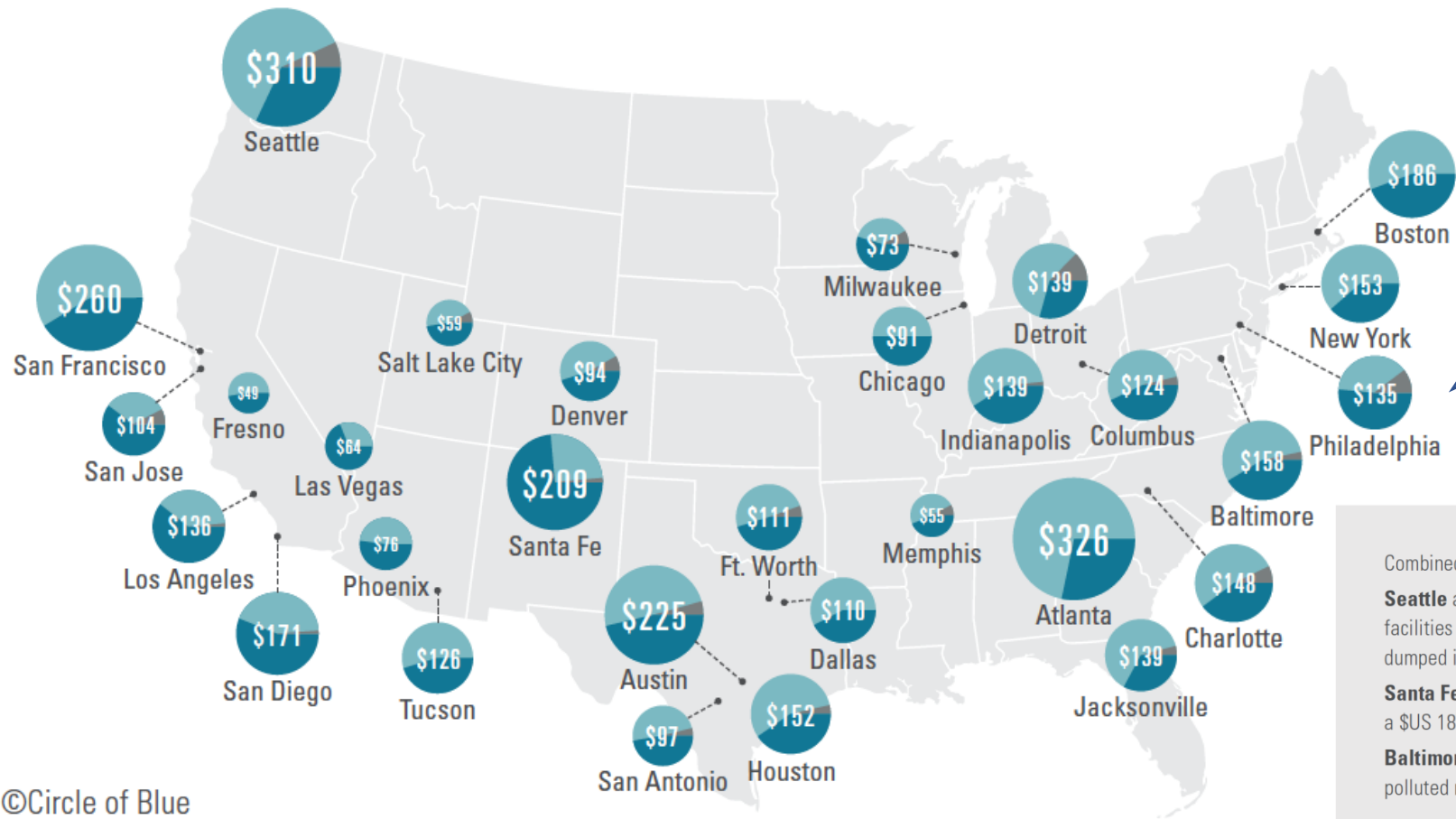


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THE PRICE OF WATER (2015)



Key Question:
Does onsite
water reuse make
financial sense?

Combined water, sewer and stormwater prices for households in 30 major cities.

Seattle and **Atlanta** have the highest total monthly bills. Each is building costly underground storage facilities and treatment plants to comply with federal requirements to reduce raw sewage that is dumped into lakes and rivers.

Santa Fe has the highest water prices in the survey. The small city of 70,000 recently completed a \$US 187 million pipeline from the Rio Grande.

Baltimore has stormwater fees that are mandated by state law as part of a program to keep polluted runoff from entering the Chesapeake Bay.

©Circle of Blue

- WATER** prices for treating, pumping and delivering water, while sewer prices cover the cost of cleansing the water that goes down the drain.
- SEWER** prices are often higher than water prices because more energy and chemicals are required for treatment. Following the Clean Water Act, the federal government gave grants for new treatment plants during the 1970s and 1980s. Over the past three decades, however, new spending has been cut for local sewer infrastructure.
- STORMWATER** fees are not included in every city's monthly bill. Some cities use general tax revenues to pay for projects to reduce polluted runoff from streets and parking lots. However, these projects must then compete for funds with other departments like police and schools.

DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

Properly researching incentives and funding opportunities in your region can substantially inform you and your clients' decisions during the vetting process. Some development incentives offered in the marketplace include:

- **Chicago's Green Permit program expedites reviews for projects that meet certain LEED criteria**
- New Jersey adopted business tax credits and sales tax refunds as incentives to support reuse in industrial processes
- Seattle launched The Living Building Pilot Program to encourage innovative green buildings
- **Cincinnati offers financial grants and low-interest loans for innovative projects**
- City and Co of San Francisco offer capacity charge adjustments for new buildings installing onsite non-potable water systems to ensure projects are only charged for the demand placed on the municipal water and sewer systems. San Francisco also offers grants for onsite non-potable water projects that meet eligibility criteria (*heat recovery grant)
- **City of Santa Monica waives building permit fees for projects and properties that include water reuse systems**
- New York City charges discounted service rates for projects and properties that include water reuse systems



LEGISLATION

WATER REUSE LEGISLATION

California SB966 *passed Sept 2018!

Recognition that as onsite water treatment systems are being installed across CA, current water quality standards do not address ongoing oversight, management, and monitoring

SB966 directs the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to develop risk-based standards to assist local governments in developing oversight and management programs for onsite non-potable water systems

SWRCB will develop the framework in consultation with the California Building Standards Commission

Passage of SB966 will ensure that innovators can develop technologies to a single, clear standard and that local governments can permit onsite water reuse with the assurance that public health will be protected.



Senator Scott Wiener, 11th Senate District

Senate Bill 966 – Onsite Non-Potable Water System Standards

SUMMARY

Although increasing numbers of onsite water treatment systems are being installed across California for non-potable use, current water quality standards are limited and do not address ongoing oversight, management, and monitoring requirements to protect public health. Senate Bill 966 directs the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to develop risk-based standards to assist local governments in developing oversight and management programs for onsite non-potable water systems in commercial, mixed-use, and multi-family residential buildings.

BACKGROUND/EXISTING LAW

As water supplies become more strained and climate change persists, communities are looking for new ways to develop and manage local water supplies and increase resiliency. Through the Recycled Water Policy, SWRCB encourages communities to enhance water conservation, water reuse, and the use of stormwater. Onsite non-potable water systems collect non-potable source water such as graywater, rainwater, stormwater, and foundation drainage, and treat it so that it can be reused for non-potable purposes such as toilet flushing and irrigation.

Despite the many benefits that can be achieved by implementing onsite non-potable water systems, widespread adoption has been constrained due to institutional and regulatory barriers. Previous proposals, such as SB 918 (Pavley, 2010) and SB 322 (Hueso, 2013), have focused largely on developing regulations governing alternate drinking water sources. Nonetheless, exposure to pathogens in non-potable water can still pose health risks if not treated and monitored correctly.

PROBLEM

As water scarcity in California becomes an increasingly pressing issue, reuse of onsite water can relieve overburdened water districts and negate

the need for costly piping and plant upgrades. Unfortunately, local governments generally lack the expertise to develop regulatory frameworks that allow for the use of treated alternate water sources. In particular, guidance is needed on setting appropriate performance criteria and developing structures to manage, monitor, and permit onsite systems.

SOLUTION

SB 966 directs SWRCB to develop risk-based water quality standards for use by local governments when regulating the treatment of alternate water sources. ("Risk-based" simply refers to standards that require levels of monitoring and protection proportional to the cleanliness of the water: for example, blackwater would be considered to have a higher risk of transmitting pathogens than graywater.) A recent report – *Risk-Based Framework for the Development of Public Health Guidance for Decentralized Non-Potable Water Systems* – lays the foundation for creating these standards. Should local governments decide to permit onsite non-potable water reuse facilities (which would be optional and ineligible for any state funding), attainment of the standards would be mandatory in all systems installed.

SWRCB will develop the framework in consultation with the California Building Standards Commission. Passage of SB 966 will ensure that innovators can develop technologies to a single, clear standard and that local governments can permit onsite water reuse with the assurance that public health will be protected.

STATUS

- Pending referral

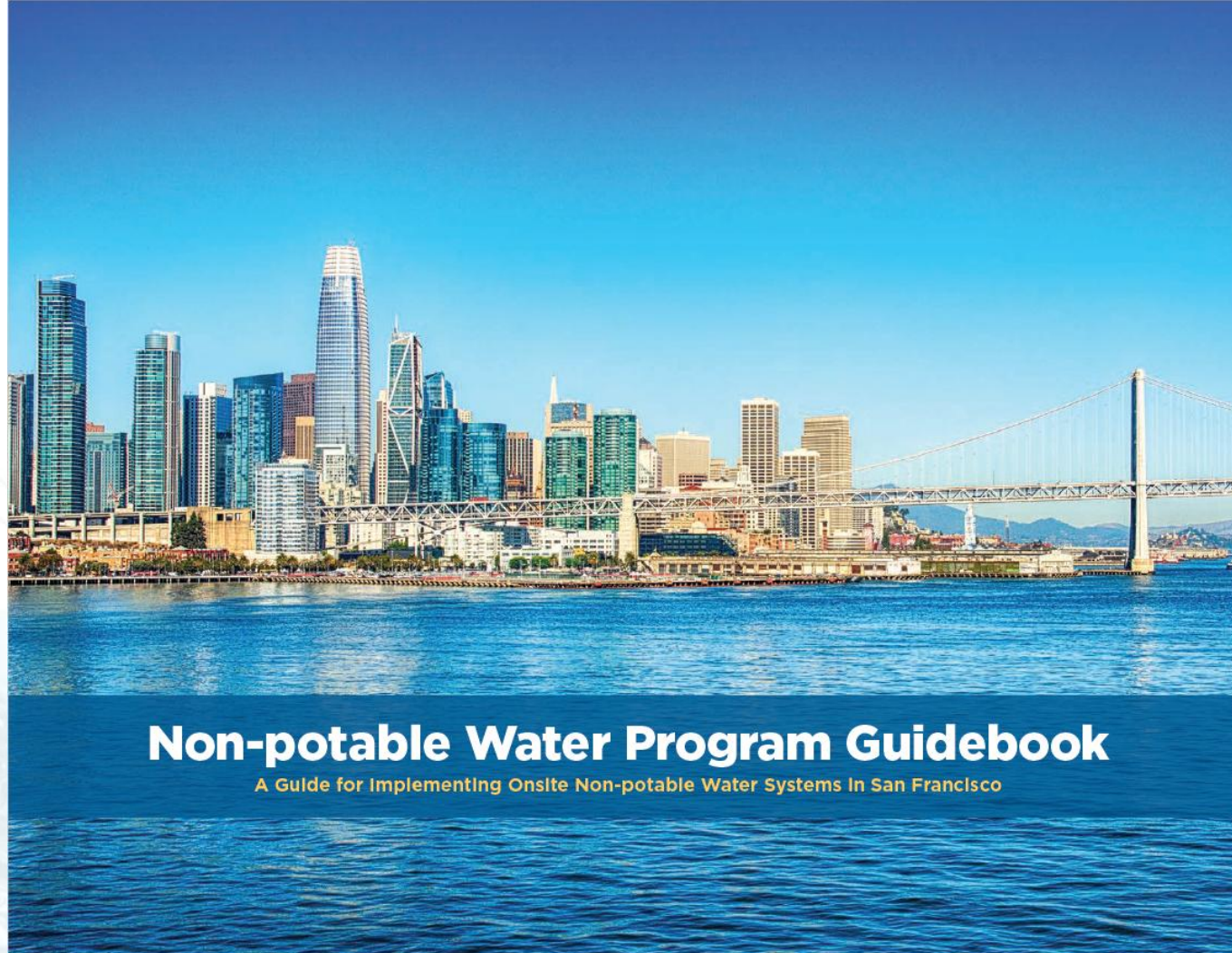
SUPPORT

- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (Sponsor)
- U.S. Green Building Council
- WaterReuse California



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RESOURCES



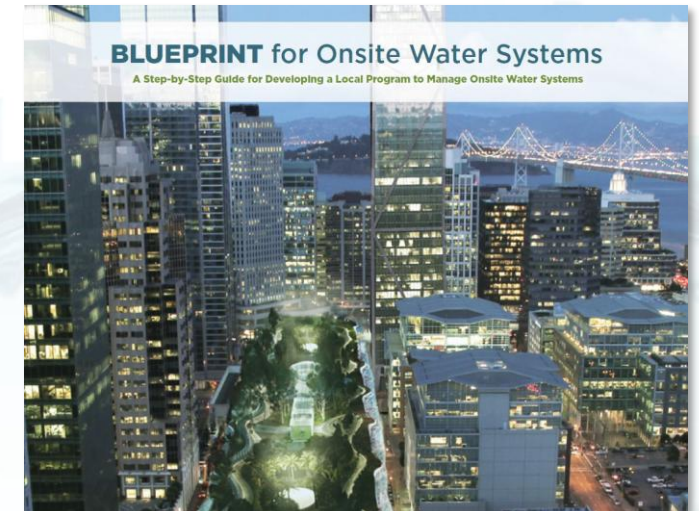
National Blue Ribbon Commission
for Onsite Water Systems



San Francisco
Water
Power
Sewer

Services of the San Francisco
Public Utilities Commission

SFWATER.ORG/NP



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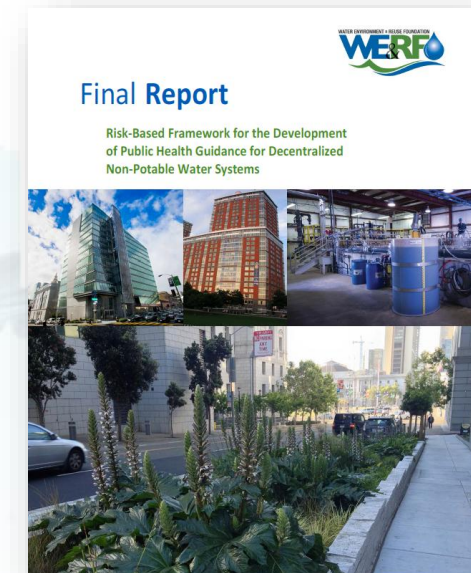
RESOURCES



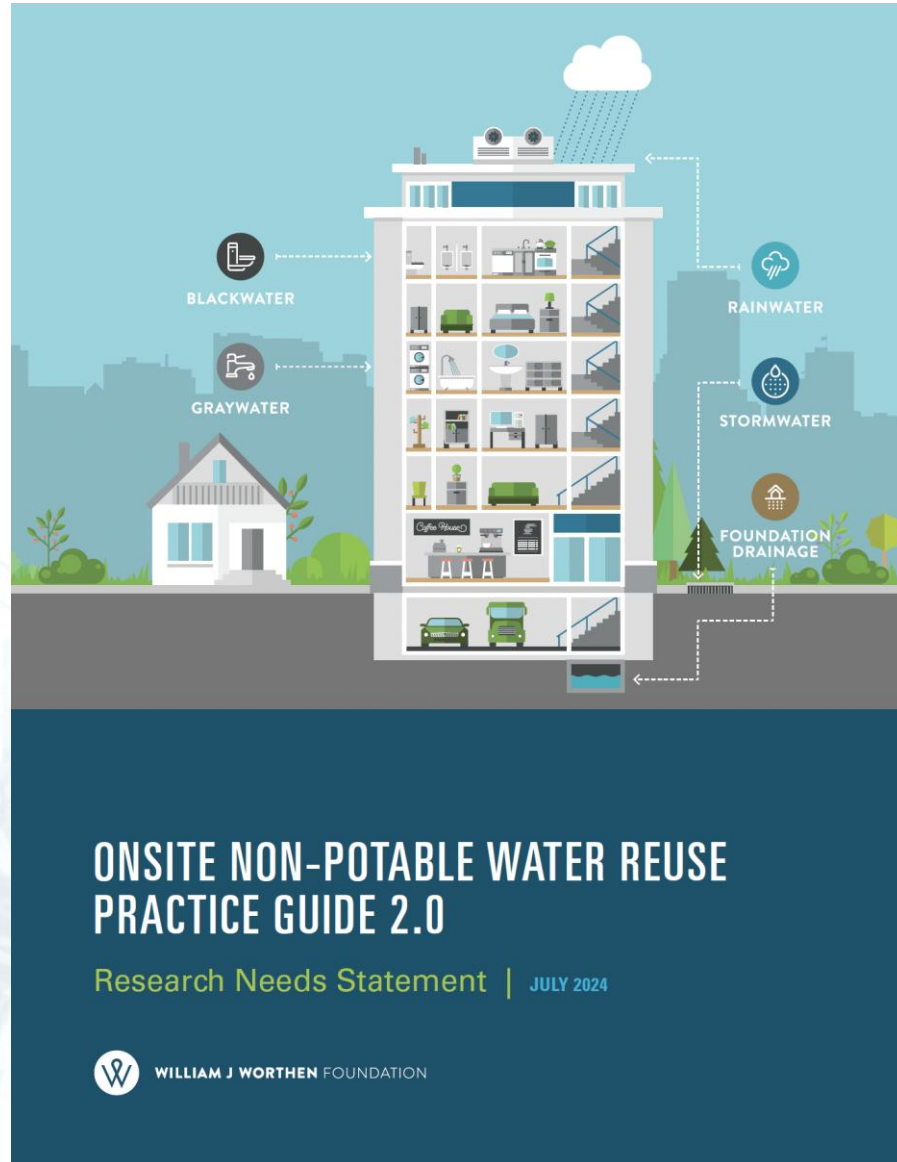
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UPCOMING UPDATES



- ❖ **FUNDING EFFORT UNDERWAY**
- ❖ **AUTHORS WILL BE COMPENSATED**
- ❖ **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**
- ❖ **WATER ENERGY CARBON NEXUS**
- ❖ **TECHNICAL UPDATES**
- ❖ **REGULATORY UPDATES**

kyle@worthenfoundation.org

Schedule

It is anticipated that development of v2.0 of the Guide will take approximately 18 months. Sample schedule below:

PHASE I 2 Months	PHASE II 3 Months	PHASE III 5 Months	PHASE IV 6 Months	PHASE V 5 Months
Key Tasks:	Key Tasks:	Key Tasks:	Key Tasks:	Key Tasks:
Submit research Need Statement (on-going)	Receive Foundation Funding (on-going)	WG Kick-Off Meeting, in SF (Spring)	Guide Peer Review Period (30 Days)	Graphic Designer: E-Book Publication
Receive Preliminary Foundation Review (on-going)	Retain Key Staff & Confirm Schedule	Issue Working Draft and Table of Contents	Compile and Issue PR Comments	Issue E-Book 'beta' Test of Web Page
Finalize Project Phasing & Tasks	Formally Invite Working Group (WG)	Field Research & WG Support	Complete E-Book Style Guide	QC & Fact Check E-Book

THANK YOU!



KYLE PICKETT

Co-Founder / Board Advisor / VP Emeritus - William Worthen Foundation
Senior Advisor, Community Engagement – USGBC California
Director of Special Projects – Verdani Institute for the Built Environment

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DENVER WATER IMPLEMENTING ONE WATER AT DIFFERENT SCALES

June 25, 2025

Austin Krcmarik
Water Efficiency Lead
Denver Water

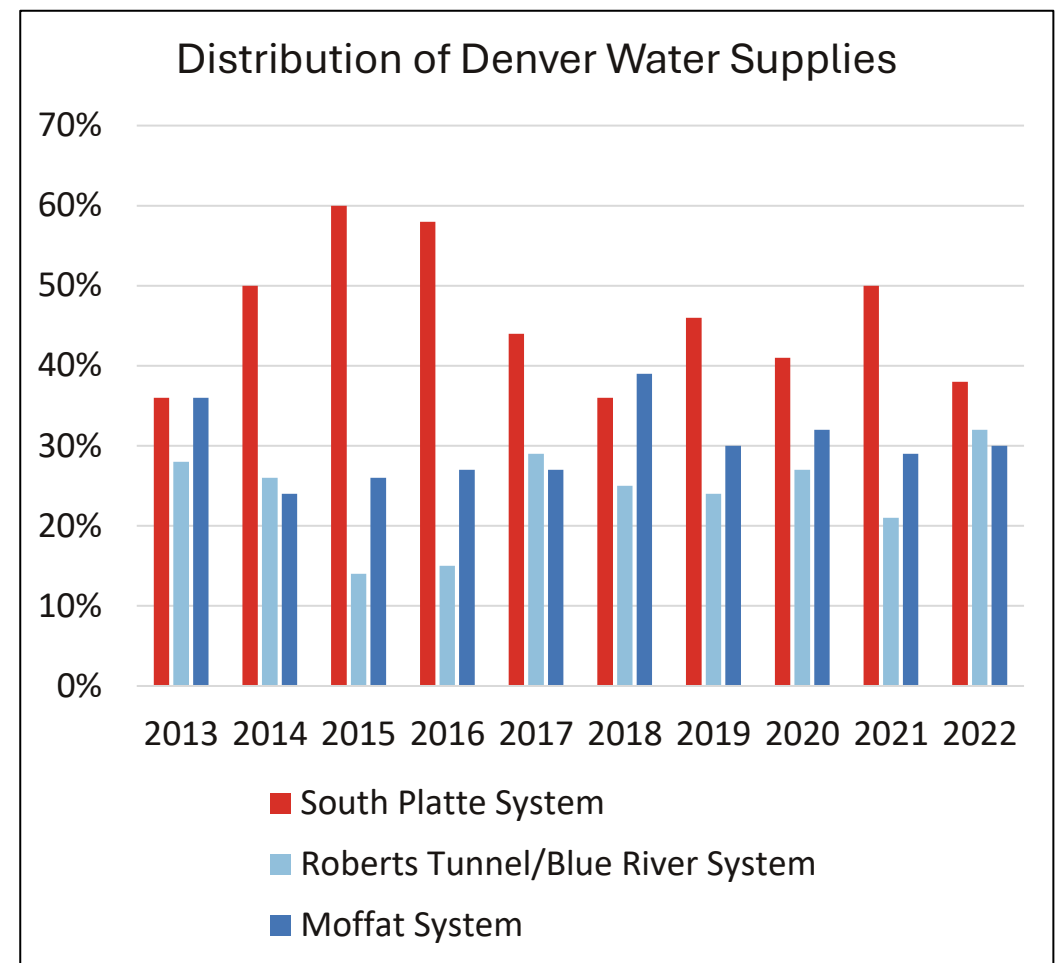
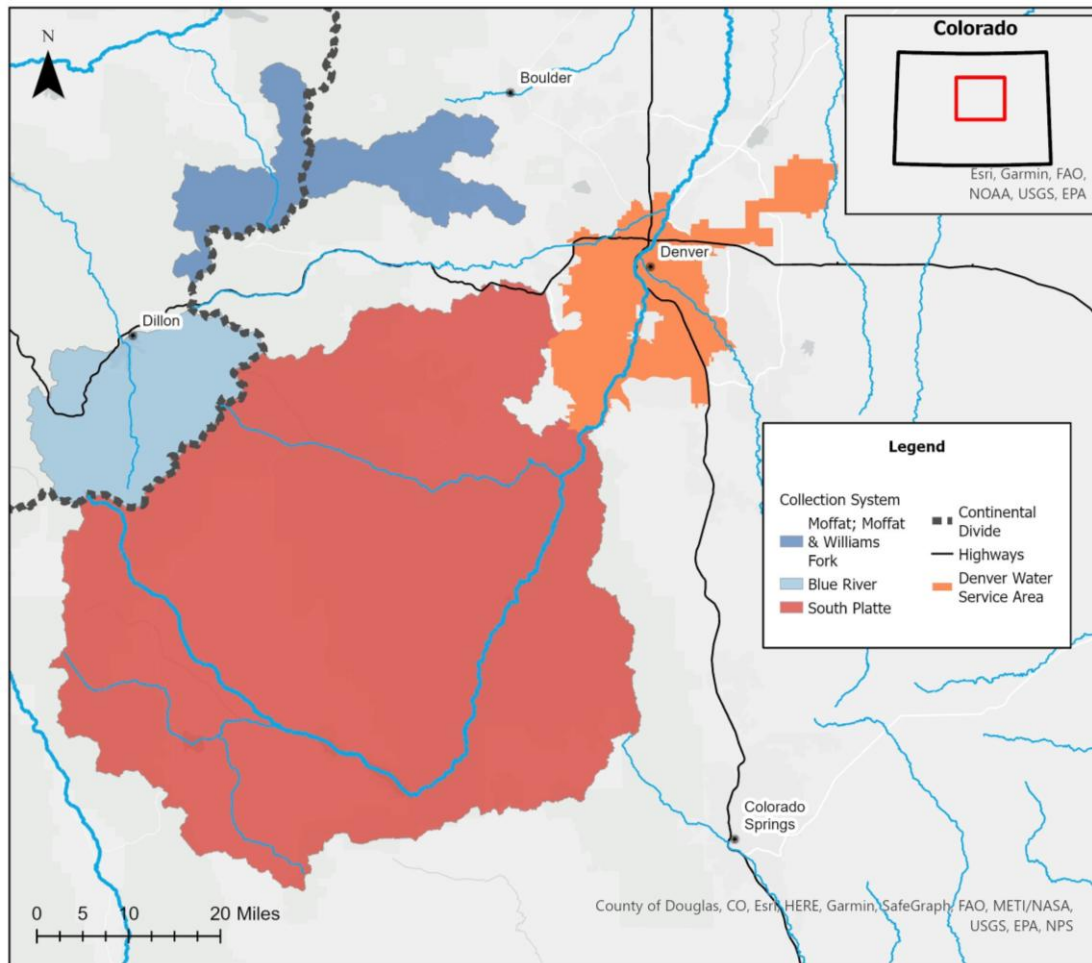


About Denver Water

- Established in 1918
- Governed by the Board of Water Commissioners
- Funded by rates and system development charges
- Serve 1.5 million people
 - Across 18 local governments
 - 25% of the state's population
 - Use less than 2% of water used in the state



Water Supply



- Spans 4,000 square miles
- Denver Water is 3rd largest landowner in CO
- Denver Water only owns 2% of land in the collection system
- On average 80% from South System, 20% from North System
- Only imported Blue River Supplies eligible for reuse

One Water So Far

1955 Blue River
Decree

1980-90s DPR
Demonstration Plant

2004 Recycling Plant

2013 CRCA

2020 Denver One
Water Plan

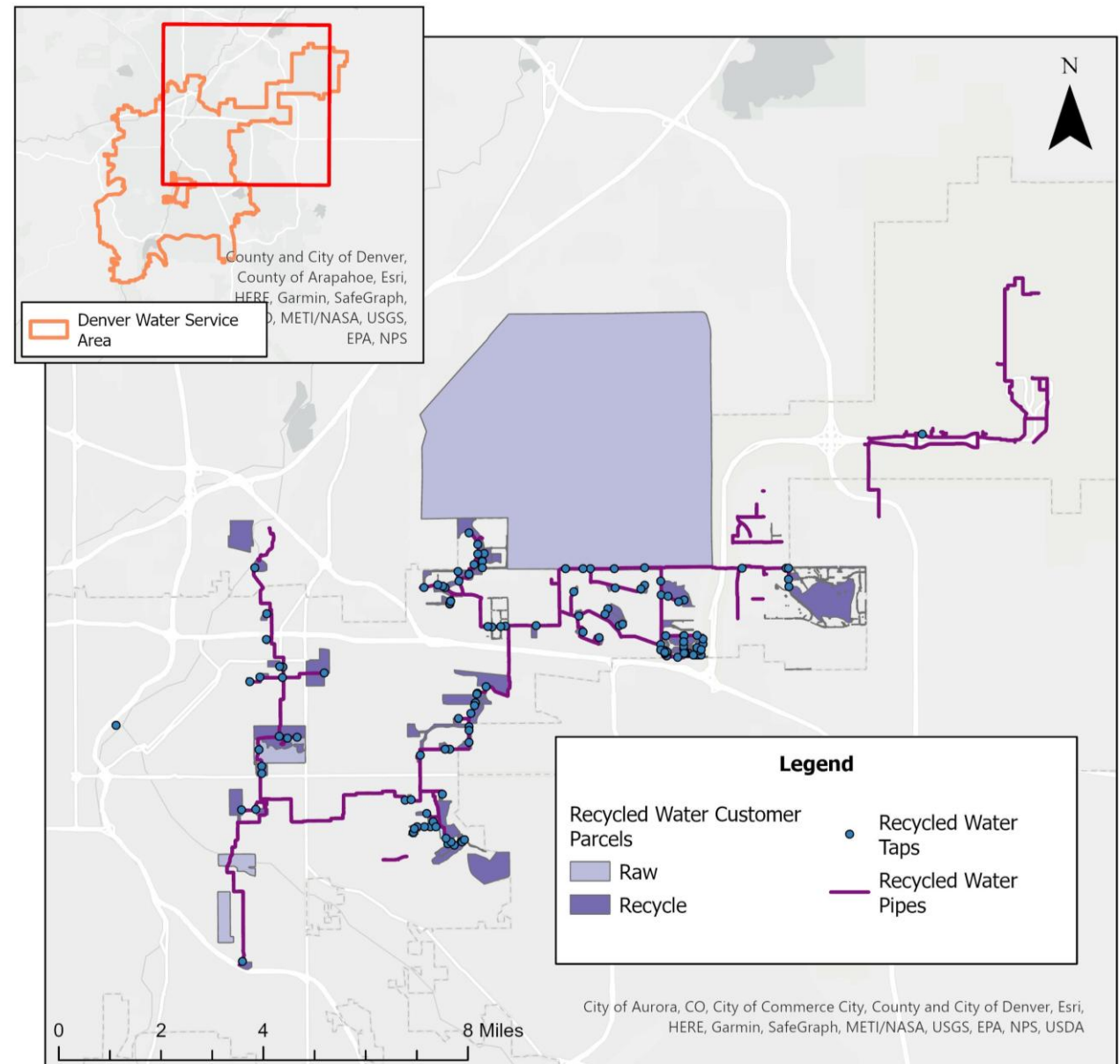
2024 RUFUS Online

What's Changed

- **DRP is more viable**
 - Increased public acceptance
 - Pathway to permitting DRP systems
- **Our customers use water differently**
 - Landscape transformations/changing outdoor water use
 - Densification of development
- **More people ask about decentralized options**
- **Climate change and equity are critical design parameters**
- **We have built strong regional relationships**

Recycled Water at Denver Water

- Commissioned in 2004
- 30 MGD capacity non-potable plant
- Over 100 customers served
- On average, provides 2.6% of total Denver Water supply
 - Could be 6.3% at full build out



Case Study Denver Water Operations Complex

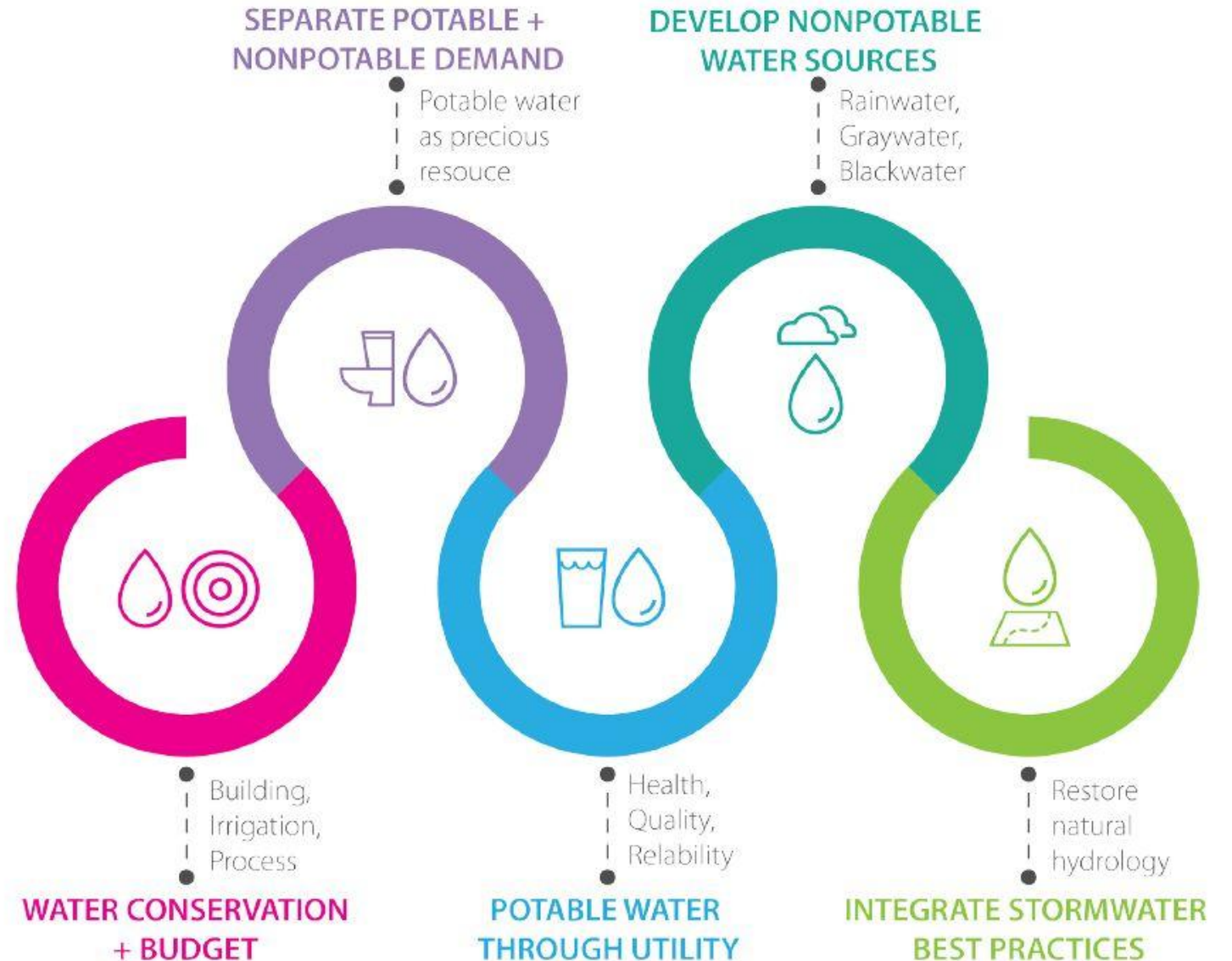
- Highest Sustainability goals in the region
 - LEED Platinum
 - Net Zero Energy
 - One Water design
- Operates on the (B)**LEED**ing edge of water management
 - Overcomes many regulatory barriers
 - On-site water treatment with an Eco-Machine
 - Large scale Rainwater Capture



Image Courtesy of Frank Ooms Photography

Case Study Denver Water Operations Complex

- Highly efficient indoor and outdoor water use
- Separate potable and non-potable demands
- Serve potable water only where it is necessary
- Capture and develop non-potable water sources (stormwater, blackwater, and rainwater)
- Integrate stormwater best practices to maximize benefit of stormwater or wastewater





Rainwater Harvesting



Low-Flow Plumbing



Demonstration Gardens



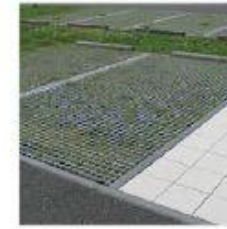
Recycled Process Water



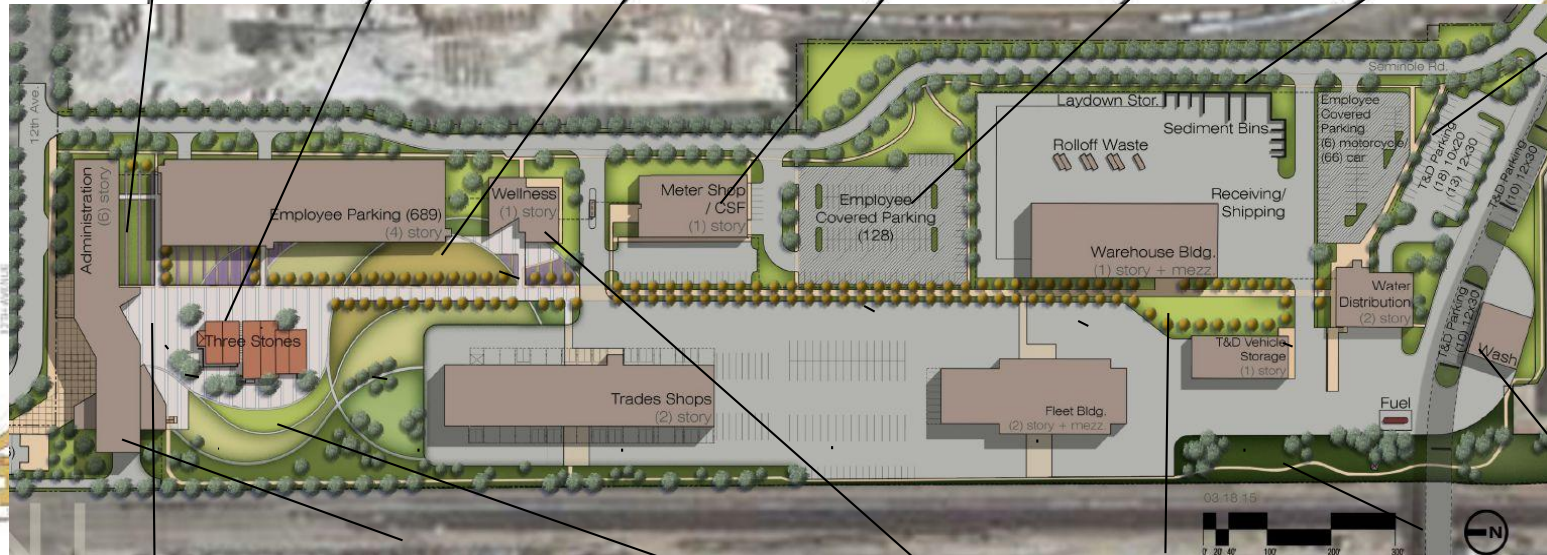
Porous Paving



Shortgrass Prairie



Porous Paving



Eco-Machine OWTS



Water Efficient Cafe



Native Detention Area



Low-Flow Plumbing



Bioswale



Native Detention Area

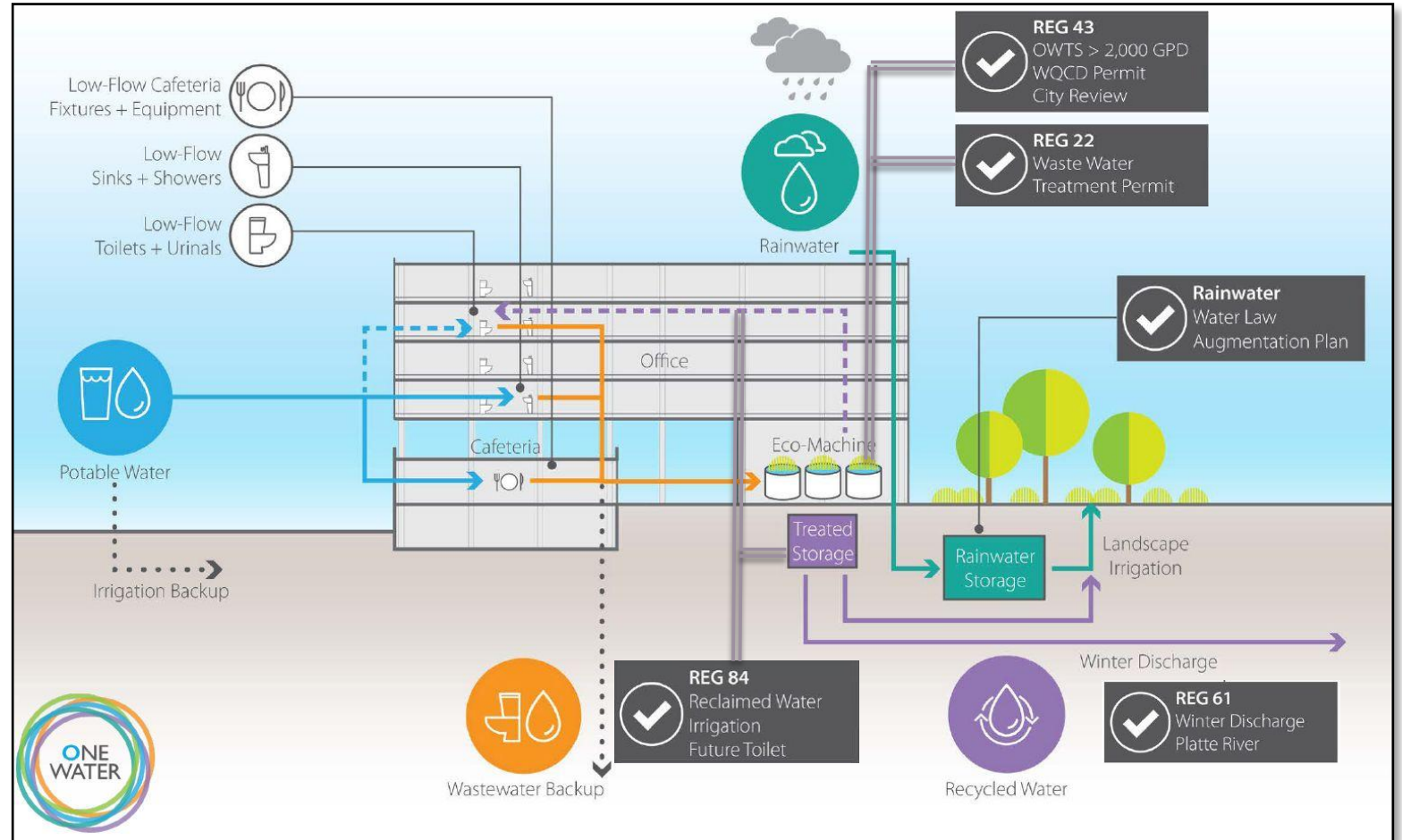


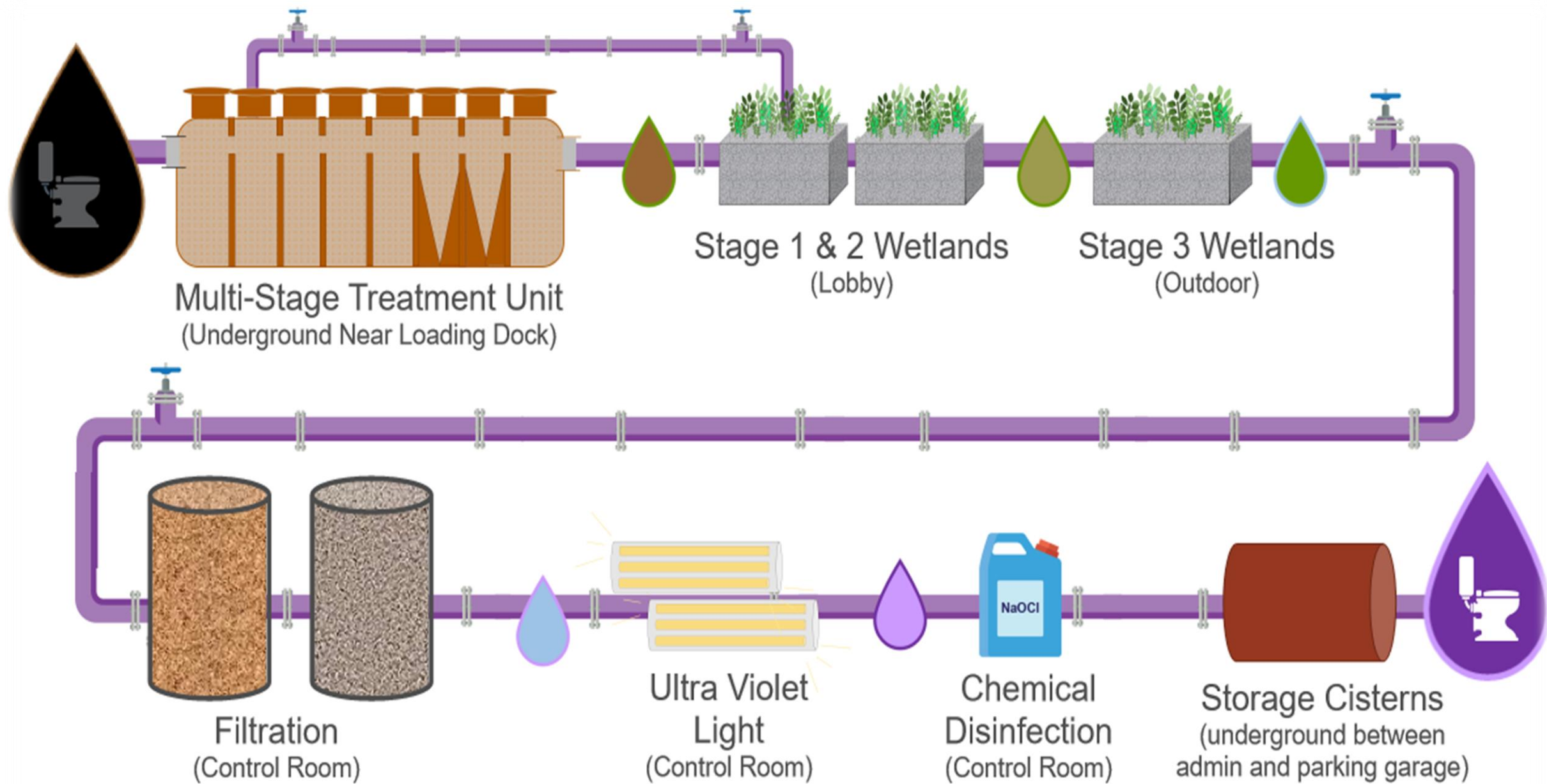
Recycled Wash Water

Case Study Denver Water Operations Complex

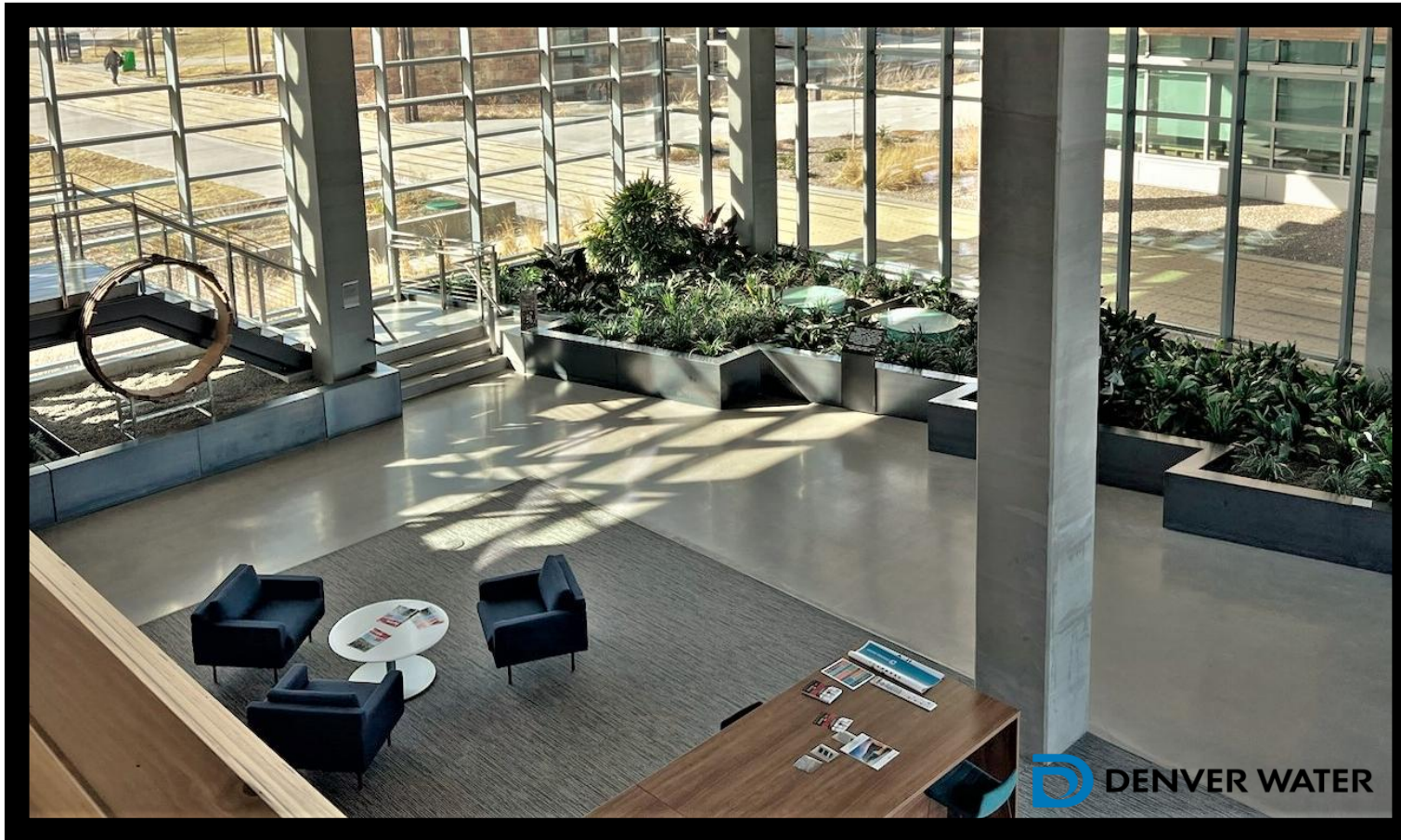
Regulatory Obstacles

- ~~Reg 86 – Graywater~~
- Reg 43 – OWTS
- Reg 22 – Wastewater Treatment Design Standards
- Reg 84 – Reclaimed Water
- Reg 61 – Winter Discharge
- Colorado Water Law – rainwater capture augmentation plan





Wastewater Recycling System - RUFUS



- Location: Denver Water Administration Building
- Receives all wastewater from building (including café)
- Designed for 500 people and 7,000 gallons per day
- Averaging 200 ppl, 2.5 kgal
- Uses: Irrigation & Toilet Flushing
- Requires Class 'B' wastewater, 'C' water operators
- Wetlands Treatment (Indoors & Outdoors)

Water Efficiency System Development Program

- Developer pays full SDC to purchase a water supply license.
- Developer signs a program participation agreement with Denver Water that outlines the requirements of the program.
- 20% of the SDC is held in escrow until project completion.



Water Efficiency System Development Program

- The 20% credit is paid back to the developer when they demonstrate that the project:
 - Used highly efficient fixtures (toilets, faucets, showerheads, etc.).
 - Installed efficient appliances (dishwashers, washing machines, etc.).
 - Installed water-wise landscapes and irrigation controls.



Resources & Updates

ULI Opportunities

- Convening local roundtables and/or focus groups **between public and private sector** land use and water professionals, aimed at supporting water-wise real estate and supportive policies. Reach out if you or someone you know is interested!
- Documenting the **business case for water-wise land uses**. Please let me know if you have case studies that demonstrate the financial ROI for water-wise real estate and built environments!

Interested? Email Marianne.Eppig@uli.org

Generously supported by:



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources



AWE FEDERAL POLICY UPDATES

Federal Water & Efficiency Standards Under Threat

- AWE is working with partners to submit comments and likely file legal appeals to proposals that would weaken or eliminate efficiency standards for plumbing products and appliances.
- Check out this [action alert](#) for ways to get involved and support efficiency standards and programs.

Learn more about AWE's policy work [here](#).

WaterSense & ENERGYSTAR Programs

- WaterSense remains intact – albeit in “neutral” - and is not targeted for elimination in the proposed FY26 budget, but is at risk of reduced funding.
- ENERGYSTAR appears to be slated for a major reduction and possible elimination.
- AWE is part of a broad coalition urging Congress to defend both programs and maintain their funding at full strength.

GET ENGAGED WITH FEDERAL POLICY

Support WaterSMART Funding

- The federal FY26 budget proposes eliminating all funding for WaterSMART programming in the West
- Join this coalition [sign-on letter](#) to support funding for water efficiency, drought resilience, and watershed health across the Western U.S.

Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act

- Introduced with bipartisan sponsors in the House and the Senate. This bill would exempt water conservation rebates from federal taxation and no longer consider these rebates as income.
- AWE is seeking additional Congressional co-sponsors. Please reach out to get involved!

Interested in connecting with AWE's policy work? Please email our Director of Public Affairs at Kelly@a4we.org

AWE'S SYMPOSIUM

Water Efficiency & Conservation Symposium

- Join us for three days of **professional development**, meaningful **networking**, and **actionable research**.
- August 6 – 8, 2025, in Chicago, IL
- **Early Bird Registration** ends June 30th
- Draft program available here:
- <https://allianceforwaterefficiency.org/symposium/>





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INSTITUTE

Sonoran Institute

Est. 1990

Connecting people and communities with the natural resources that nourish and sustain them.

sonoraninstitute.org

Growing Water Smart is a training & assistance program that empowers local leaders to implement plans and policies that support community and regional water resilience.



Impact in the Colorado River Basin

- Held workshops in AZ, CA, CO, UT and the US-Mexico Border
- We have trained over 1,000 local leaders from utilities, cities, counties, and towns since 2017.
- Over 30 have implemented a water and land use integration project with technical assistance support.

growingwatersmart.org

Bridging the Gap Webinar Series

The Bridging the Gap dialogue engaged key partners across Colorado to gather insights from their experiences with water transfer projects. Local leaders and the public can utilize the report to engage in this process, fostering greater dialogue and more nuanced decision-making around water supply planning and water transfer projects.



Partners

- Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Water Quality and Quantity Committee
- Northern Water
- Colorado River District
- Trout Unlimited
- Colorado Water Conservation Board



Mike Bartolo, Retired,
Colorado State University
Arkansas Valley Research
Center



Evanne Caviness, Conservation
Division Director, Colorado
Department of Agriculture



Emily Hunt, Deputy
Infrastructure Director for
Water, City of Thornton

Part 1: From Peppers to Plots: The Transfer of Water from Agriculture to Urban Uses

July 22, 12-1:30 PM MDT

Part 2: Moving across Mountains: The transfer of water from one basin to another

Late September

Programming Brainstorm

Let us know what you want for coalition meetings!

Cohort Programming Agenda	Subject Brainstorm
July/Aug/Sept 2025	Where are we with policies? (water reuse, non-functional turf, etc) One Water Approach + land use (US Water Alliance, Denver One Water, Tucson)
Oct/Nov/Dec 2025	Update on CO River Compact negotiations and impacts on land use? Colorado Water Wise guidebook on best practices? (Colorado WaterWise, Brendle Group, Peter Mayer, Victoria, Lindsay)
Jan/Feb/March 2026	Agriculture/development interface? (Robert Sakata)
April/May/June 2026	Water Demand Calculator? (IAPMO)
July/Aug/Sept 2026	Development review process and developer/government interface?
Oct/Nov/Dec 2026	MLS listings and water use/efficiency?



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

You can reach me at Marianne.Eppig@uli.org