

2026

WATER USE EFFICIENCY REPORT

FOR CUSTOMERS OF ASOTIN COUNTY PUD — MAY 2026

WATER USE EFFICIENCY—WATER CONSERVATION REGULATION

This is the annual edition of the Asotin County PUD Water Use Efficiency Report. In 2003 the Washington State Legislature passed a law commonly called the Municipal Water Bill. One of the provisions of the law was to direct the State Department of Health to develop and adopt rules governing water use efficiency and water conservation by public water system throughout the state. The Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule was adopted in January 2007. The WUE Rule requires that public water systems develop water use efficiency - water conservation goals and report annually to their customers on the progress they are making toward reaching the goals. The PUD developed the original goals in 2008. In 2025, the PUD completed an update of the WUE Program goals as a part of the update of their Comprehensive Water System Plan. The goals established in 2008 continue to guide the PUD's Conservation Program today. These goals emphasize efficient water usage and public education. In this Report we will detail the goals adopted and demonstrate how we are meeting them.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY— WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Along with continuing our successful program of finding and repairing leaks and looking for opportunities to conserve water, the WUE Program outlines customer educational and conservation measures that will assist our customer-owners in saving water and money. The PUD adopted program goals selecting the following objectives for its water conservation program for the 2026-2035 period:

- **Water Use per ERU Goal:** Decrease the Average Day Demand (ADD) one tenth of a (.1) percent per year from the forecast planning ADD with a cumulative reduction of 2.0 percent by the year 2035. Reevaluate the goal when the planning ADD value reaches less than AD goal.
- **Distribution System Leakage:** Maintain three-year average DSL under ten percent to minimize water waste.
- **Customer Support:** Provide the service and support necessary to those water customers expressing a desire to conserve water as a means of minimizing water bills.

Water Use Efficiency Program Measures

The PUD conservation program is driven by the desire to reduce system leakage both in the PUD distribution system and the customer's water system, to reduce operating costs, to educate and provide opportunities for customers to reduce their water consumption and to meet regulatory requirements.

Supply-Side (PUD) Water Use Efficiency Measures

The Asotin PUD Supply-Side (PUD) conservation program consists of the two (2) measures listed below.

Distribution System Leakage of 10% or less of production

It is the goal of the PUD to perform annual leak detection surveys and to repair leaking distribution mains in a timely manner. This will ensure that we keep our water system leakage below 10% of production. 2025 distribution system leakage was 6.71%. The ten year average is 6.47%. **We are currently meeting the goal of keeping our water system leakage below 10% of production.**

Replace Customer Service Meters and Source Production Meters

The PUD initiated an Automated Meter Reading program in 2004 which provided for the replacement and retrofitting of inaccurate and outdated meters with new electronic meters. In 2021, the PUD began the upgrade of the electronic meter reading devices to take advantage of new meter reading technology. The upgrade retrofitted the entire meter system with new electronic meter reading devices. In addition, the PUD has replaced all propeller driven source production meters with more accurate magnetic meters. Replacing both service and source meters ensures accurate readings and allows for better analysis of water loss resulting in repair of system and customer service leaks. **We have met this goal with the completion of the meter replacement/retrofit program.**

Demand-Side (Customer) Water Use Efficiency Measures

The Asotin PUD Demand-Side (Customer) conservation program for the 2026-2035 period consists of the ten (10) measures listed below. These measures have been selected due to a combination of factors including applicability to the PUD service area, customer acceptance, cost effectiveness, and/or savings potential.

School Outreach: The PUD will continue to participate in programs arranged to educate students on efficient water usage as requested by the Clarkston School District and the Walla Walla Community College.

Speakers' Bureau: The PUD will seek speaking opportunities to discuss efficient water use with a wide audience spectrum. Topics could include water efficient fixtures and appliances, curbing seasonal peak demands, lawn watering practices, etc. The events would include; the Asotin County Fair, monthly and annual Chamber of Commerce events and meetings, and the annual Tri-State Hospital Health Fair.

Program Promotion: The PUD will seek opportunities for social media, television, and/or radio public service announcements, on KRLC-AM radio station, for WUE and submit news articles to the Lewiston Morning Tribune on efficient water usage especially during the spring and summer months.

Water Audits: The PUD will conduct a water audit upon the request of a customer, including industrial, commercial, and institutional customers. The audits will review items such as: recirculation of cooling water, reuse of cooling and process water, reuse of treated wastewater, efficient landscape irrigation, low water using fixtures, fixing leaks, and process modifications. Customers will be notified of the water audit opportunity through a utility bill insert, PUD newsletter and on the PUD website.

Customer Leak Detection: The PUD identifies potential leaks through investigation of the water meter upon request of customers. The PUD runs multiple reports in the AMI system to analyze data and investigate water meters to identify leaks.

Bills Showing Consumption History: The PUD will continue to provide customer bills showing the previous year's water usage.

Water Saving Device Kits: The PUD will participate in distribution of water use efficiency kits through education events and through bill insert notifications.

Low-Flow Shower Heads Giveaways: The PUD gives away free low-flow shower heads at the PUD office. Customers will be notified of giveaways through a utility bill insert, PUD newsletter and on the PUD website.

School Outdoor Water Use Reduction: The PUD will target the Clarkston School District and the Walla Walla Community College to reduce their outdoor water consumption. Water audits and education on the benefits of replacing inefficient irrigation systems or landscaping (including turf) will be conducted.

PUD and Municipal Water Use Reduction: The PUD will audit the water use of PUD and municipal accounts to identify both indoor and outdoor water saving opportunities. The Water Utility staff will help educate PUD and Municipal account holders on WUE.

The PUD has and will continue to work towards meeting the WUE Program goals. The PUD has provided nearly 7,500 water conservation kits to customers. Assuming installation, the estimated water savings from faucet aerators and showerheads, provided in these kits, is 30,000 gallons per day.

A full copy of the Asotin County PUD Water Use Efficiency—Water Conservation Plan can be found on our website at asotinpod.org. Just click on the tab “Water Conservation” and click on “Water Use Efficiency.”