



"Conserving our water to preserve our quality of life."

WaterMatters

WISE H₂O CHOICES

CITY of LONGMONT | Water Conservation Planning and Programs



100% PROGRESS REPORT

CITY OF LONGMONT WATER CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

June 30, 2014 (Revised from August 23, 2013 Submittal)

GOALS:

#1 – REDUCE CUSTOMER AND CITY RAW WATER DEMANDS BY APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT BY BUILD OUT, FOR AN EXPECTED REDUCTION OF ABOUT 3,500 ACRE FEET.

Progress

As part of City of Longmont's 2012 Water Conservation Program Evaluation, numbers show Longmont's gross per capita water use continues to decrease. From 2003 to 2011, the gross per capita water use decreased from 181 gallons per capita per day to 162 gallons per capita per day, a decrease of approximately 10 percent.

#2 – ENHANCE THE CITY OF LONGMONT REUSE PROGRAM WHICH IN PART INCLUDES THE REUSE OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT EFFLUENT.

Progress

One example of City of Longmont enhancing its reuse program is entering into Water Exchange Agreements. Water Exchange Agreements allow Longmont to exchange its reuse wastewater treatment effluent (fully consumable water) for an equal amount of Colorado Big Thompson Project Water and/or St. Vrain Basin Water Rights decreed for municipal use. These exchanged water rights are then delivered to Longmont's Nelson/Flander Water Treatment Plant, treated and delivered to our water customers. Water Exchange Agreements increase Longmont's overall water supply. Early 2013, Longmont finalized a new long term water exchange agreement, whereby Longmont exchanges fully consumable water for an equal amount of Colorado Big Thompson water.

ACTIVITY #1 – PRE-RINSE NOZZLES:

Planned – Installation of 75 pre-rinse nozzles by June, 2013.

Budgeted \$1,875 for this activity.

Progress/Actual

No pre-rinse nozzles were installed.

- 50% Progress Report Invoiced – \$0
- 75% Progress Report Invoiced – \$0
- 100% Progress Report Invoiced – \$0

Obstacles Encountered

Securing a consultant to perform Longmont’s commercial indoor water audits, which include the installation of pre-rinse nozzles.

Findings

Longmont was unable to secure a new contractor/consultant in time to assist with installing the pre-rinse nozzles by June 2013; therefore, Longmont is not including the pre-rinse nozzle program. Longmont is in the process of evaluating the best way to proceed with the pre-rinse nozzle program. Longmont applied the money towards additional toilet rebates (Activity #2) and Slow-The-Flow audits (Activity #3).

ACTIVITY #2 – TOILET REBATE:

Planned – Offer 100 total rebates with the Ultra-Low Flow Toilet rebates at \$50.00 per rebate and Dual Flush Toilet rebates at \$100.00 per rebate.

Budgeted \$5,000 for this activity; an additional \$1,292.3 from Pre-Rinse Nozzle Activity # 1 and \$100 from the Water-Wise Seminar Activity #4 was added, for a total of \$6,392.30 ultimately dedicated to the Toilet Rebate activity.

Progress/Actual

50% Progress Report - September 1, 2012 to November 30, 2012, City of Longmont provided a total of 94 Toilet Rebates: 65 Ultra-Low Flow toilet rebates and 29 Dual Flush toilet rebates. Total charged to this activity \$5,000.

100% Progress Report

Total charged to the Grant for the 100% Progress Report = \$1,392.3: 20 Ultra- Low Flow toilet rebates and 4 Dual Flush toilet rebates. Additional funds were transferred from Activity #1 and Activity #4.

- 50% Progress Report Invoiced - \$5,000.
- 75% Progress Report Invoiced - \$0.
- 100% Progress Report Invoiced - \$1,392.3.

Obstacles Encountered

None

Findings

Toilet rebates continue to be well received by the residents of Longmont. Overall, the Ultra-Low Flow toilet rebate is the most effective for Longmont, in terms of water saved per rebate, returning approximately 0.024 acre-feet per rebate. The Dual Flush (DF) toilet rebate is returning approximately 0.012 acre-feet per rebate. As technology for DF toilets continues to improve, it is expected that future DF toilets will be more robust and therefore create more reliable water savings. For the purpose of this Grant, a total water savings of 2.5 acre-feet per year was calculated.

ACTIVITY #3 – SLOW THE FLOW OUTDOOR:

Planned – Conduct 70 residential and 10 commercial audits in 2013, for an estimated annual savings of 2.4 acre-feet.

Progress/Actual

City of Longmont entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Center for Resource Conservation (CRC) for a cost of \$13,750.00. Large property audit rates are \$50 per hour, plus an additional charge of \$150 per property. Residential audit rates are \$100 per audit, with no impact analysis and \$110 per audit with an impact analysis. For 2013, CRC performed 121 residential property audits and 2 large property audits for City of Longmont.

- 50% Progress Report Invoiced - \$10,895.20.
- 75% Progress Report Invoiced - \$3,437.50.
- 100% Progress Report Invoiced - \$0.

Total reimbursed receipts = \$14,332.70. \$582.70 was transferred from the Pre-Rinse Nozzle (Activity #1) to cover the difference between the estimated and the actual expenditures.

Obstacles Encountered

None

Findings

Residential audits continue to be very well received by the residents of Longmont. The median residential house was built in 1979, and the median sprinkler system was installed in 2001. With the help of CRC, Longmont anticipates increasing the future number of commercial/large audits. In 2013, CRC performed two commercial/large property audits. Attached is Longmont's Center for Resource Conservation 2013 slow the flow report.

ACTIVITY #4 – WATER-WISE:

Planned – conduct two Water-Wise seminars in April/May 2013 budgeted \$3200.

Progress/Actual

City of Longmont entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC) for a cost of \$1,700 for the first seminar and \$1,400 for each seminar thereafter.

City of Longmont hosted two water-wise landscape seminars. The *Edible Xeriscape* seminar showed how to incorporate edible plants into a water-wise landscape. This seminar was held at the Longmont Senior Center at 910 Longs Peak Avenue, Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 6-8pm. As part of the *Creating a Drought Tolerant Landscape* seminar, people learned what plants are hardy in drought conditions and how to care for them to get the best results in beautifying their yard and saving water. This seminar was held at the Longmont Senior Center, 910 Longs Peak Avenue, Monday, April 22, 2013, 6-8pm. A total of 82 citizens attended both 2013 seminars. Both presenters were landscape professionals. Longmont representatives were present at both seminars to provide additional water conservation information.

- 50% Progress Report Invoiced - \$0
- 75% Progress Report Invoiced - \$1,700 (first seminar)
- 100% Progress Report Invoiced - \$1,400 (second seminar)

The total for the two seminars is \$3,100. The difference from the budgeted amount equals \$100 and was transferred to toilet rebates (Activity #2).

Obstacles Encountered

None

Findings

A majority of the attendees at both Water-Wise Seminars were residents of Longmont. A large portion of attendees heard about the seminars from the local newspaper, utility bill insert and Garden-In-a-Box program.

ACTIVITY #5 – GARDEN-IN-A-BOX:

Planned – Prepare and sell 80 gardens between February and April 2013.

Progress/Actual

City of Longmont entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC) for a total program fee of \$4,000. Longmont sold all 80 gardens associated with the 2013 Garden-In-a-Box program. Longmont residents' Garden-In-a-Box pick up day was Saturday May 11, 2013, at Izzak Walton Park. Pick up day was well organized by CRC and City of Longmont. Resident feedback regarding the Garden-In-a-Box program and pick up day was positive and well received.

- 50% Progress Report Invoiced - \$0.
- 75% Progress Report Invoiced - \$4,000.
- 100% Progress Report Invoiced - \$0.

Obstacles Encountered

None

Findings

Water savings for the 2013 Garden-In-a-Box program are not as straightforward as other water conservation programs, given the natural variability of irrigation demands over time. In addition, in the first 2 to 3 years, xeric plants require adequate irrigation to allow root zones to establish so that the mature plants are drought tolerant. Longmont will allow a few years for the gardens to become mature and drought tolerant before calculating a water savings for the 2013 Garden-In-a-Box program.

LONGMONT MATCHING FUND ITEM – PR/MARKETING/ADVERTISING FOR ALL CITY PROGRAMS:

This budget item is part of City of Longmont's matching funds pertaining to this Grant. The budget is \$10,500 for developing/implementing a public relations campaign, ads in local newspapers and an annual newsletter.

For 2013, as part of Longmont's public relations and education strategies, Longmont decided not to do a TV or Web broadcast, and instead focus on finalizing Longmont's water conservation branding efforts. Included as an appendix is Longmont's Water Conservation Informational Packet, which includes Longmont's Water Conservation Branding efforts. In addition, Longmont worked with a consultant to design a set of traveling Water Conservation display banners. These traveling Water Conservation display banners are used by City of Longmont's staff during public meetings, presentations, annual water conservation and City of Longmont events. Longmont created 2 (7x3 foot) water conservation informational and presentation banners.