

CHAPTER IV
DEVELOPING A LOCAL WATER CONSERVATION PLAN^{*}

During 1979 the New England River Basins Commission (NERBC), in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey, Resources and Land Investigations Program, developed a planning procedure for local water conservation. The project included an extensive literature search, development of local case studies, interviews with water supply engineers and policy makers and an evaluation of the effectiveness of alternative water conservation measures. From the information gathered and analyzed, NERBC developed a seven-step procedure designing a local conservation plan. The information contained in this chapter summarizes the data included in their February, 1981 report.

Even though the report was originally addressed to New England, the procedure outlined here is just as applicable to the State of Oklahoma. It is a flexible procedure which can be used by any type of water utility to meet a variety of goals.

Seven steps which were identified by the NERBC as essential to the formulation of an effective water conservation program at the local level are as follows:

1. Identify the problem/establish conservation goal;

^{*} SOURCE: New England River Basins Commission, Before the Well Runs Dry, Federal Emergency Management Agency, February, 1981.