

key community leaders as soon as possible. It is hoped these officials will then assist in establishing a conservation goal.

Conservation can usually solve problems of inadequate supply, excessive energy consumption, and excessive waste water flows. The cause of the problem determines the conservation goal. The major causes of inadequate supply are drought, supply contamination, inadequate storage and/or distribution facilities, and excessive user demands.²⁹

The percentage reduction should be expressed numerically. Consider that a range of one to ten percent reduction is low and a range of ten to twenty percent and over is high.³⁰

STEP 2: ASSESS POTENTIAL OF SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

In any conservation plan, supply management should be considered first. Designed to improve the efficiency and reduce waste within the production and delivery systems, supply management can reduce water loss and waste without dependence on water users.

If supply management is not adequate, then demand management should be considered.

STEP 3: COST ANALYSIS AND IMPACT

The NERBC identified five supply management programs:

1. Metering;
2. Leak detection and repairs;
3. Pressure reduction;
4. Watershed management; and
5. Evaporation suppression.

The following demand management programs were noted: