

Taking Stock: How Does Texas Measure Up in the 2017 AWE State Scorecard?

Mary Ann Dickinson
President and CEO
Alliance for Water Efficiency



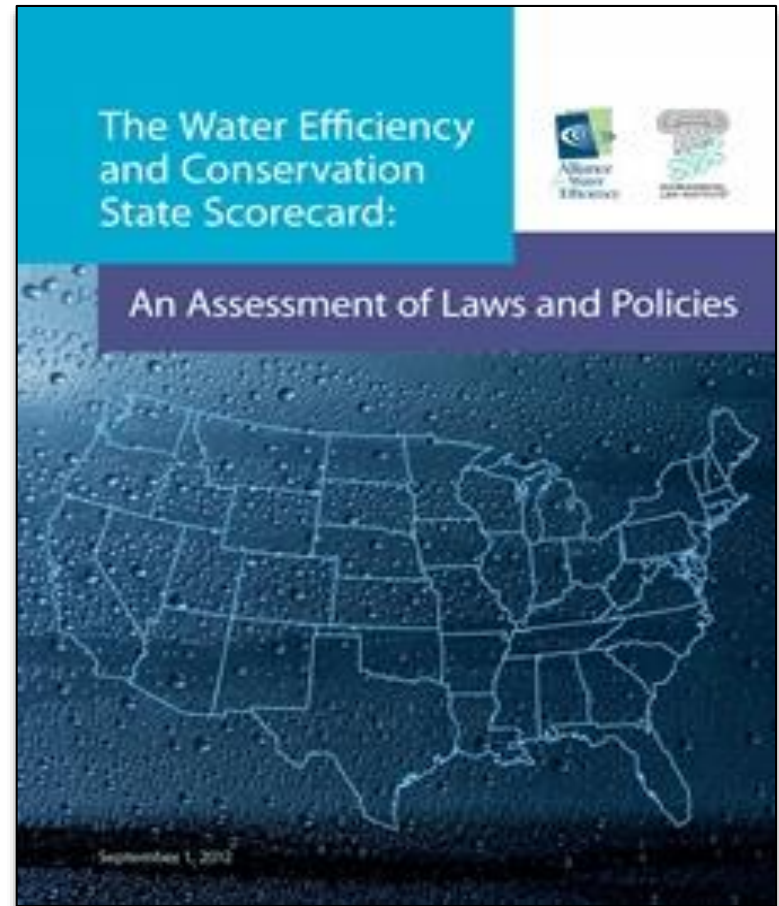
Alliance *for* Water Efficiency

A VOICE AND
A PLATFORM
PROMOTING THE
EFFICIENT AND
SUSTAINABLE
USE OF WATER



State Laws and Policies Review

- In 2012, the AWE State Scorecard Report inventoried state laws and regulations regarding water efficiency
- Funded by the Turner Foundation
- No state earned an “A”
- Overall the US earned a “C”
- Texas and California earned an A-



Changes to the 2017 Scorecard

- Greatly expanded the survey!
- Example: Water loss control question in 2012 vs. 2017
- New Climate resiliency preparedness section
 - ✓ With focus on implications for suppliers/utilities

8. Does a state statute(s)/regulation(s) limit water loss in utility distribution systems?

Yes No

a. If yes, is it a:

- Requirement
- Requirement only in order to receive state funding
- Voluntary target

b. To what water suppliers do the laws apply?
[Click here to enter answer](#)

c. If there is a numeric limit on leakage or a formula for calculating acceptable levels of leakage, what is it?
[Click here to enter answer](#)

d. Is submitting audit information required?

Yes No

i. If yes, at what frequency must it be submitted?
[Click here to enter answer](#)

ii. If yes, is audit data validation required?
[Click here to enter answer](#)

e. Is leak detection required?
 Yes No

f. Is leak correction required?
 Yes No

g. Where in state law are these details located?
[Click here to enter answer](#)

Efficiency and Conservation Grades

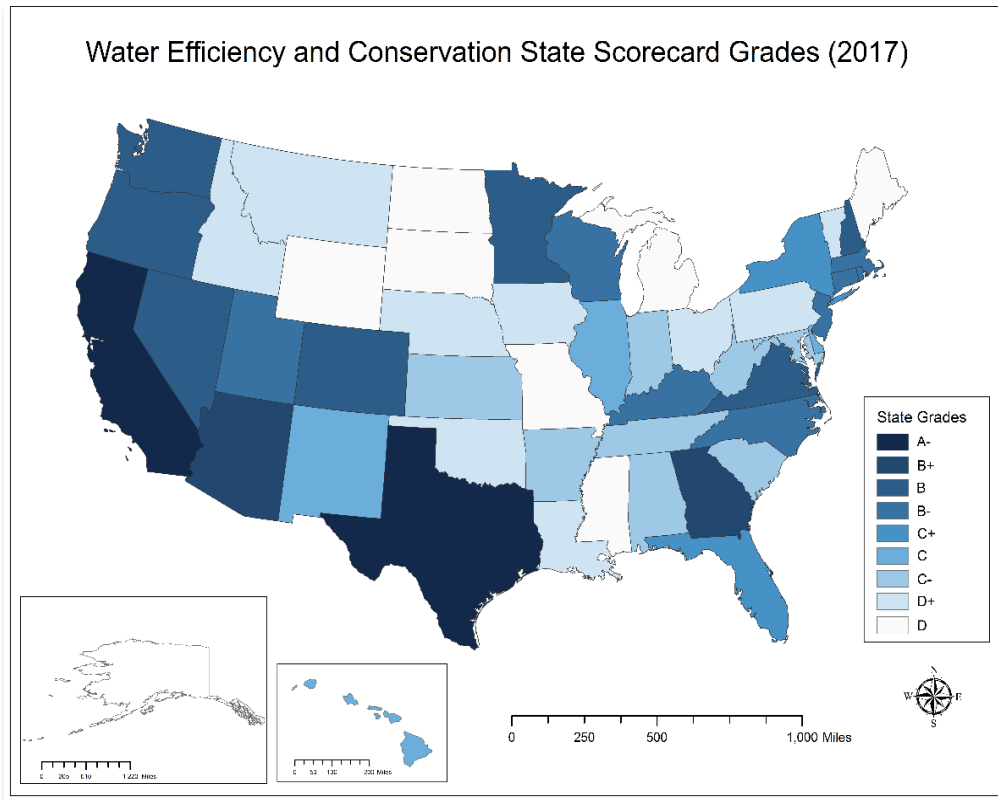
Table 2 – Change in Efficiency and Conservation Grades

| EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION GRADE CHANGES* | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| STATE | 2017 GRADE | 2012 GRADE | STATE | 2017 GRADE | 2012 GRADE |
| Alabama ↑ | C- | D | Montana ↑ | D+ | D |
| Alaska | D | D | Nebraska ↑ | D+ | D |
| Arizona | B+ | B+ | Nevada ↑ | B | B- |
| Arkansas | C- | C- | New Hampshire ↑ | B | B- |
| California | A- | A- | New Jersey | B- | B- |
| Colorado ↑ | B | B- | New Mexico | C | C+ |
| Connecticut ↑ | B- | C+ | New York ↑ | C+ | C+ |
| Delaware ↑ | C | C- | North Carolina ↑ | B- | C+ |
| Florida ↑ | C+ | C | North Dakota | D | D |
| Georgia ↑ | B+ | B | Ohio ↑ | D+ | D |
| Hawaii ↑ | C | D | Oklahoma ↑ | D+ | D |
| Idaho ↑ | D+ | D | Oregon ↑ | B | B- |
| Illinois ↑ | C | C- | Pennsylvania ↑ | D+ | D |
| Indiana | C- | C- | Rhode Island | B- | B- |
| Iowa | D+ | C | South Carolina | C- | C- |
| Kansas | C- | C | South Dakota | D | D |
| Kentucky ↑ | B- | C+ | Tennessee ↑ | C- | D |
| Louisiana ↑ | D+ | D | Texas | A- | A- |
| Maine | D | D | Utah ↑ | B- | C+ |
| Maryland | C- | C | Vermont | D+ | C- |
| Massachusetts ↑ | B- | C+ | Virginia ↑ | B | B- |
| Michigan | D | D | Washington | B | B- |
| Minnesota ↑ | B | C+ | West Virginia ↑ | C- | D |
| Mississippi | D | D | Wisconsin | B- | B- |
| Missouri | D | D | Wyoming | D | D |

*A ↑ indicates that the state's grade went up.

- Aligned grading scale for easier cross-year comparison
- Grades improved in 27 states
- 7 rose by more than 1/3 step
- 6 states were downgraded

Efficiency and Conservation Grades



- Some geographic trends
- Little movement in new laws for fixtures and appliances
- Gains in water loss control initiatives (uptick M36 Use)
- Gains in drought planning (esp. southeast)
- Changes and overall decrease in non-SRF funding support
- More technical assistance
- Volumetric billing improved in 3 states

Texas Summary Review for 2017

| Topic Area | Exemplary Laws/Resources | Potential for Improvement |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Fixtures/Appliances | More stringent than federal standards for toilets and urinals | Expand to other appliances/fixtures |
| Building Codes | Conservation elements in codes for state buildings | Could expand to more structures |
| Water Loss | | Define acceptable leakage volume, require validation |
| Conditional Use Permits | | Use stakeholder input, evaluate plan for sufficiency, condition the permit on the plan |
| Drought Planning | Drought contingency plans for public suppliers | Evaluate the plan |
| General Conservation Plans | | Use stakeholder input, require implementation action |
| Non-SRF Funding Options | SWIFT mechanism (unique in the U.S.) | |
| Technical Assistance | Offers direct assistance and resources | Can always offer more! |
| Meters, Billing and Rates | Metered customer connections required, volumetric billing, and rates that do not “encourage the excessive use of water...30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 288.2(a)(1).” | |

Texas: Still work to do!

- Texas' population is expected to grow from 29.5 million to 51 million (70%+) between 2020 and 2070.
- 50%+ of that growth is expected to occur within Regions C and H (Dallas and Houston).
- Water demand is projected to increase by 17%.

What does this mean?

- Texas is a leader, but needs to continue advancing efficiency and conservation
- It could beat CA in the 2022 Scorecard!

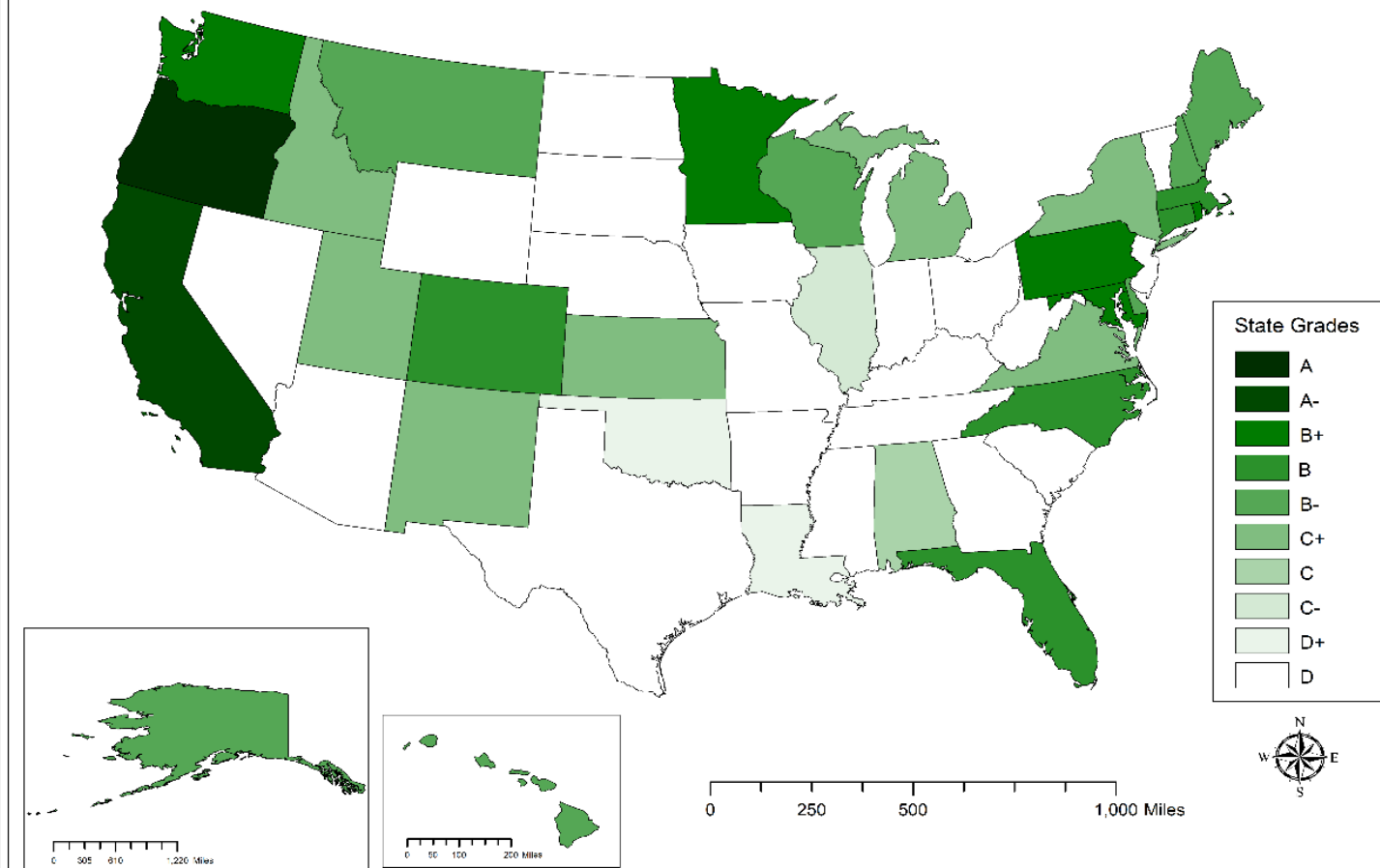
| | EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION | |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| STATE | POINTS | GRADE |
| California | 52.5 | A- |
| Texas | 51.5 | A- |

Climate Resiliency Grades

- Considered climate preparedness regardless how called
- 6 states with plans require updates every 5 years or less
- 4 states have measurable goals or benchmarks
- Climate impact concerns varied
 - ✓ Three states had some kind of guidance or law requiring action on the part of water/wastewater services
- No discernable geographic distinction among states preparing for climate impacts

Climate Resiliency Grades

Climate Resiliency State Scorecard Grades (2017)



Texas Resiliency Summary Review

| Topic Area | Exemplary Laws/Resources | Potential for Improvement |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Existence of a climate action, adaptation or resiliency plan OR laws providing legal authority regarding climate resiliency planning | | Find avenues to be more overt in addressing the impacts of climate change |
| Climate change-related actions required of the water and/or wastewater industry(s) | | Explore requirements that will help these industries mitigate against climate change challenges—check out the report’s Policy Highlight section for examples! |
| Specific benchmarks or goals to measure progress toward water resource resiliency | | Create defined benchmarks or goals that will enable the state to actively measure progress across years. Implementation strategies for resiliency planning would also be useful in measuring progress toward climate preparedness and the ability to mitigate against climate change related impacts |


Resiliency in Texas: Work to do!

- Drought, storms and other severe and unpredictable weather is likely to continue
- Need to do more to address the impacts of climate change on water resources, infrastructure -- regardless of what is called or how those challenges are framed

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

FEMA director says Harvey is probably the worst disaster in Texas history

Hurricane Harvey makes landfall, slams South Texas



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Post Nation

Crippled water system, chemical plant blaze, vivid examples of Harvey's cascading effects

By Abigail Hauslohner, Todd C. Frankel and Joel Achenbach September 5, 2017

EPA Environmental Protection Agency
What Climate Change Means for Texas
August 2016
EPA 430-F-16-045

Water Resources

Despite the increase in heavy storms, changing climate is likely to make water less available overall. As warmer temperatures increase evaporation and water use by plants, soils are likely to continue to become drier. Average rainfall is likely to decrease during winter, spring, and summer. Seventy years from now, the longest period without rain each year is likely to be at least three days longer than it is today. Increased evaporation and decreased rainfall are both likely to reduce the average flow of rivers and streams.

Drier soils will increase the need for farmers to irrigate their crops, but sufficient water might not be available. Approximately 14 percent of the farmland in Texas is irrigated; in the Panhandle and the plains to the south, most irrigation water is ground water from the High Plains Aquifer System. As a result, this aquifer is becoming depleted. Since the 1950s, the amount of water stored in the aquifer has declined by more than 50 percent in some parts of the state.



The people in this line are searching for some... (See Photo: Araga Wilson/The Washington Post)

E&C and Climate Resiliency Grades

Table 1 – Summary of Efficiency and Conservation Grades and Climate Resiliency Grades

| EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION | | CLIMATE RESILIENCY | | EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION | | CLIMATE RESILIENCY | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------|--------|-------|
| STATE | POINTS | GRADE | POINTS | GRADE | STATE | POINTS | GRADE | POINTS | GRADE |
| Alabama | 10.5 | C- | 5 | C | Montana | 8 | D+ | 11.5 | B- |
| Alaska | 2 | D | 10.5 | B- | Nebraska | 7 | D+ | 0 | D |
| Arizona | 41.5 | B+ | 0 | D | Nevada | 37.5 | B | 0 | D |
| Arkansas | 12.5 | C- | 0 | D | New Hampshire | 35.5 | B | 10.5 | B- |
| California | 52.5 | A- | 19 | A- | New Jersey | 29 | B- | 0 | D |
| Colorado | 32.5 | B | 13 | B | New Mexico | 16 | C | 8.5 | C+ |
| Connecticut | 26 | B- | 12.5 | B | New York | 23.5 | C+ | 8.5 | C+ |
| Delaware | 16.5 | C | 11 | B- | North Carolina | 26 | B- | 13 | B |
| Florida | 24.5 | C+ | 13.5 | B | North Dakota | 5 | D | 0 | D |
| Georgia | 40.5 | B+ | 0 | D | Ohio | 9 | D+ | 0 | D |
| Hawaii | 16 | C | 11.5 | B- | Oklahoma | 7 | D+ | .5 | D+ |
| Idaho | 7 | D+ | 9 | C+ | Oregon | 37.5 | B | 21 | A |
| Illinois | 18 | C | 2.5 | C- | Pennsylvania | 6 | D+ | 16 | B+ |
| Indiana | 13 | C- | 0 | D | Rhode Island | 29.5 | B- | 16.5 | B+ |
| Iowa | 8.5 | D+ | 0 | D | South Carolina | 12.5 | C- | 0 | D |
| Kansas | 10.5 | C- | 8.5 | C+ | South Dakota | 5 | D | 0 | D |
| Kentucky | 30 | B- | 0 | D | Tennessee | 13 | C- | 0 | D |
| Louisiana | 9 | D+ | .5 | D+ | Texas | 51.5 | A- | 0 | D |
| Maine | 4 | D | 11.5 | B- | Utah | 26 | B- | 8 | C+ |
| Maryland | 14 | C- | 16 | B+ | Vermont | 8.5 | D+ | 0 | D |
| Massachusetts | 26.5 | B- | 13 | B | Virginia | 33.5 | B | 9.5 | C+ |
| Michigan | 3 | D | 9 | C+ | Washington | 35 | B | 16.5 | B+ |
| Minnesota | 34 | B | 16 | B+ | West Virginia | 12 | C- | 0 | D |
| Mississippi | 4 | D | 0 | D | Wisconsin | 27 | B- | 11 | B- |
| Missouri | 3 | D | 0 | D | Wyoming | 1 | D | 0 | D |

- Only 11 states received some combination of “A”s and “B”s for both conservation and efficiency laws and climate resiliency plans and/or laws

Conclusions

- Overall, we see national improvement in most E&C topic areas from the survey, but:
 - ✓ There's still lots of work to do, especially around non-SRF funding options
- Texas is a leader in the country in E&C, and needs to continue leading the way!
- Texas also needs to begin addressing climate change related impacts more directly
 - ✓ Especially concerning how climate change impacts water supplies and water/waster systems

National Policy and Advocacy

- WaterSense® authorization
- Tax-free water conservation rebates
- Eliminating accounting barriers to efficiency investments
- Water/energy nexus research
- Standards and codes
- Testifying in Congress
- Assisting states with their legislative priorities on efficiency

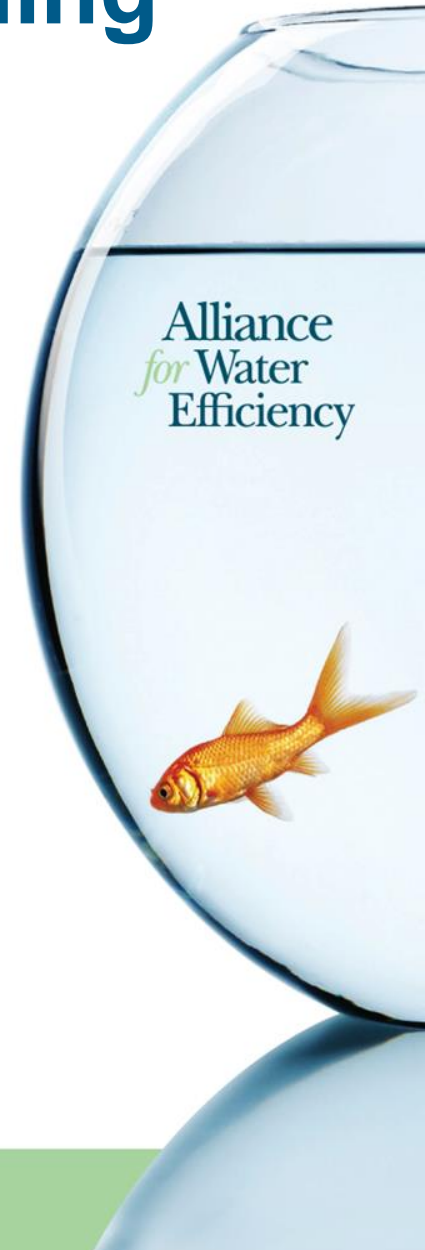


SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING: Nexus of Energy and Water for Sustainability Act of 2014

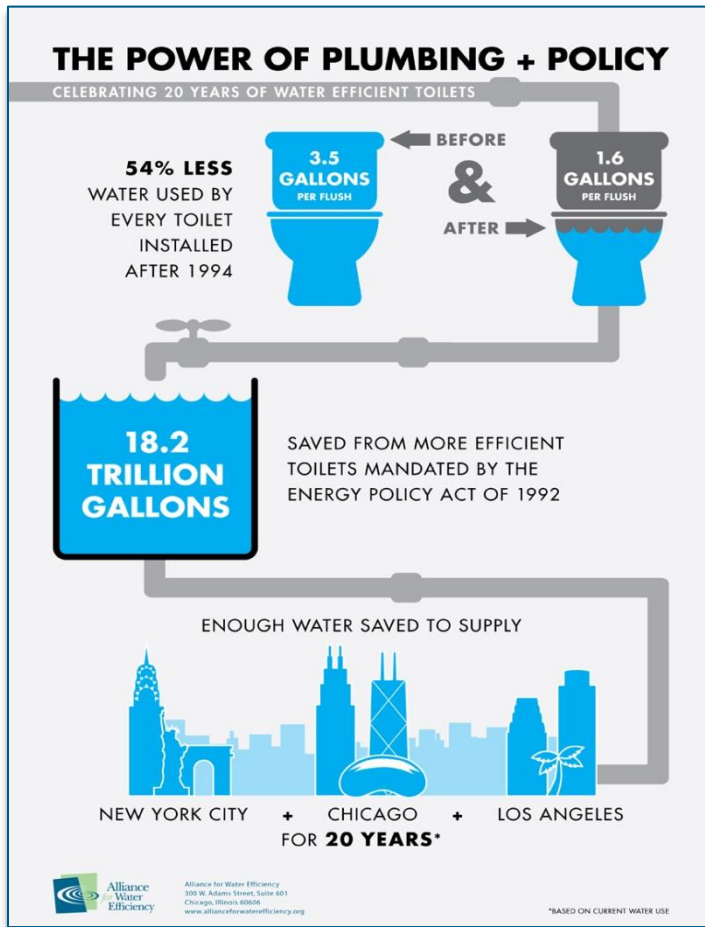


WaterSense: From the Beginning

- The 1992 Energy Policy Act: standards for plumbing fixtures for the first time
- Toilets, Urinals, Showerheads, Faucets
- Plumbing standards then embedded in national codes (UPC, IPC)
- 4 States have enacted more stringent state water efficiency standards:
 - California
 - Texas
 - Georgia
 - Colorado



Savings From National Standards



- Toilets alone, assuming a 4% change-out rate
- Free savings occur without cost to the water utility
- Savings are permanent over the life of the fixture
- **18.2 trillion gallons**
- Enough to supply New York City, Chicago, and Los Angeles for 20 years

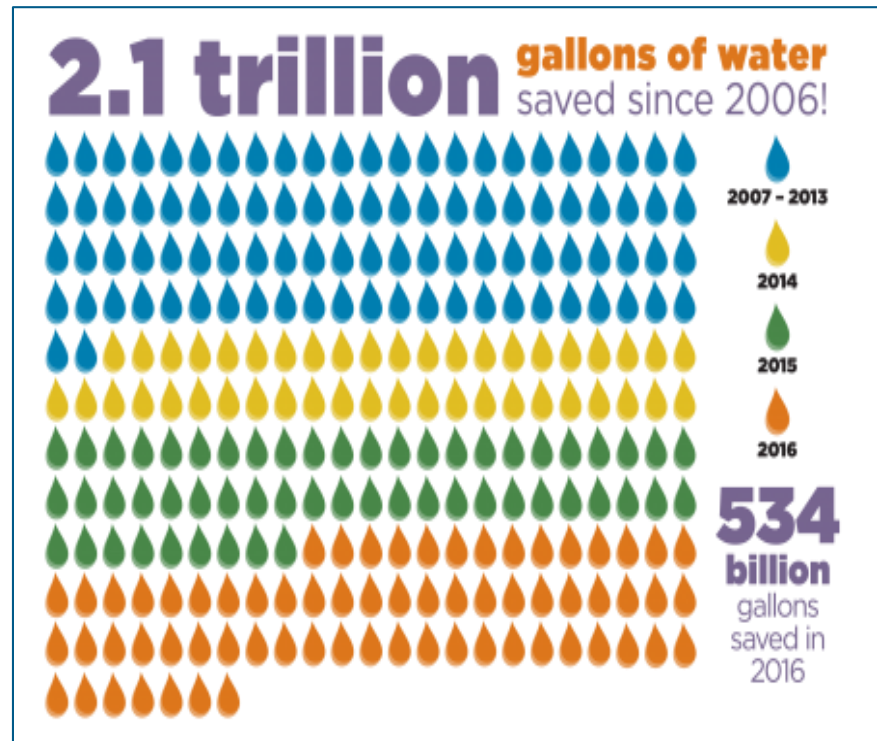
Launching the WaterSense Program

- We had Energy Star Envy and lobbied EPA for a water labeling program
- Announced in San Antonio in June 2006
- Voluntary program, not regulatory
- Despite minimal funding, it has transformed the market and been remarkably successful
- How much has it saved?



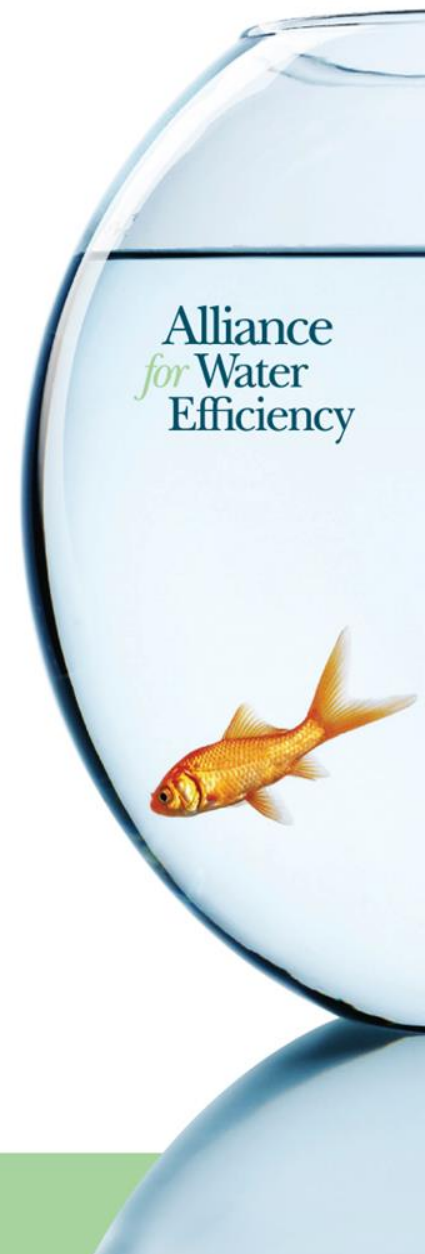
WaterSense Benefits

- 2.1 trillion gallons of water saved
- \$46.3 billion in water & energy bills saved
- 284 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity saved
- 1700 Partner organizations participating



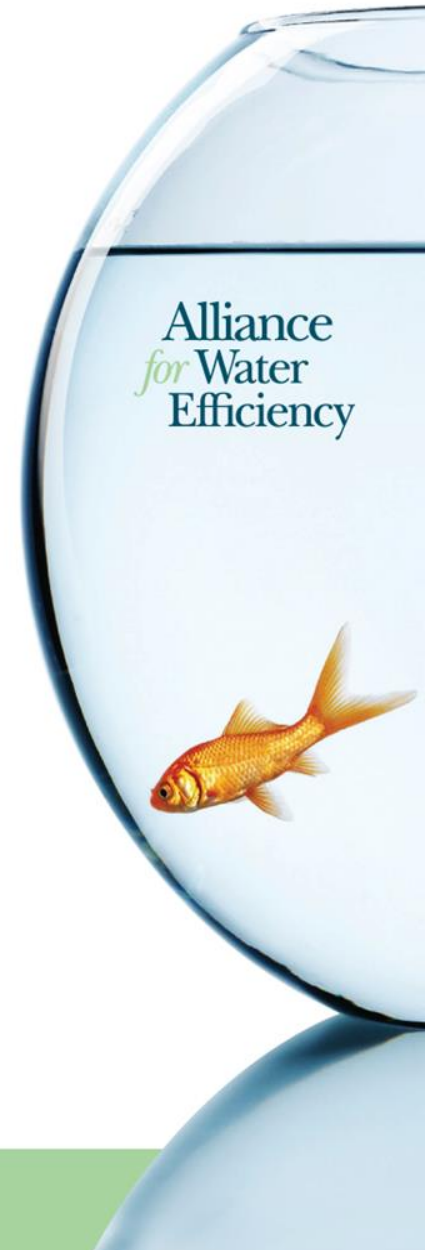
March, 2017

- WaterSense program suddenly in jeopardy
- Has never been authorized by Congress, despite 10 years of attempts
- Funding only discretionary in the EPA Administrator's budget
- The Trump administration's FY2018 "skinny budget" listed 50 programs to be zero funded
- EPA's CFO memo proposed to cut all 8 FTE positions in the WaterSense program as well as \$1.9 million in extramural funding



April, 2017

- AWE sent letter to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt urging continued funding of the WaterSense program and outlining its numerous benefits
- Letter signed by 187 manufacturers, businesses, water providers, academic institutions, and efficiency advocates
- Response back from Administrator Pruitt:
“The President’s budget also reflects the EPA’s priority to ease the burden of unnecessary federal regulations that impose significant costs for workers and consumers without justifiable environmental benefits.”



May, 2017

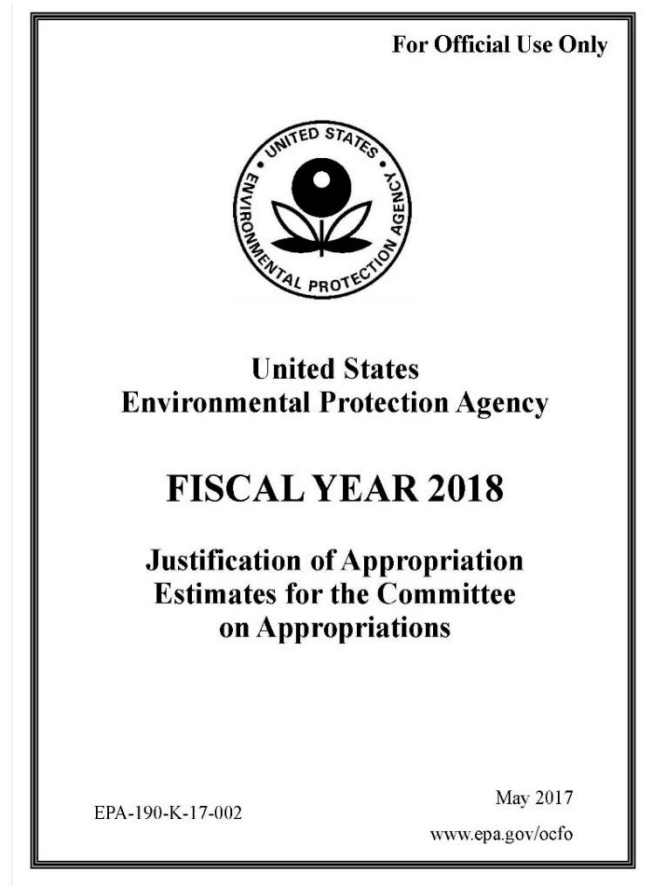
- EPA released “Justification of Appropriation Estimates for the Committee on Appropriations”

- Page 303:

***FY 2018 Change from FY 2017
Annualized Continuing Resolution
(Dollars in Thousands):***

(-\$24,900.0 / -86.8 FTE)

This streamlines the Surface Water Protection program, including the elimination of the \$3.075 million WaterSense program and also activities under the Urban Waters program.







Coalition!

- AWE and numerous industry partners (PMI, IAPMO, Kohler, IA, AWWA) begin launching advocacy efforts on the Hill
- AWE created Fact Sheet, Infographic, and social media messages

SAVE WATERSENSE!




The Trump Administration wants to eliminate the EPA WaterSense® program, a vital part of our strategy to achieve a sustainable water future! Here are six reasons to save it:

- 1. IT SAVES TAXPAYER MONEY**
U.S. households have saved **\$32.6 billion** on utility bills thanks to WaterSense labeled toilets, showerheads, faucets, and irrigation products 
- 2. IT SUPPORTS JOBS**
More than **2,200 WaterSense-certified irrigation pros** can help design a water-wise landscape
- 3. ITS GOOD FOR BUSINESS**
1700+ partners rely on WaterSense to help them differentiate their products, innovate through efficiency, and pursue sustainability goals
- 4. IT PROVIDES CHOICES**
Consumers can choose from **16,000+ labeled products** to help save up to \$350 per year 
- 5. ITS A SMART INVESTMENT**
 Annual budget of **less than \$2 million** makes it cost-effective
- 6. IT PROTECTS OUR WATER FUTURE**
1.5 trillion gallons saved for our communities, businesses and the environment! 

What Can YOU Do to Save WaterSense?

1. Share this graphic and spread the word!
2. Join our email list to be a WaterSense Ambassador
3. Tell your members of Congress you support WaterSense
4. Get your organization to sign our letter to Administrator Pruitt
5. Donate to the Alliance for Water Efficiency to support our efforts



Start now at www.a4we.org

Toilet made by Nikita Golubev from www.flatiron.com
Faucet made by MadebySilver from www.flatiron.com
Showerhead and plant made by Freepik from www.flatiron.com

June 8, 2017

- AWE published Op Ed in The Hill, a top US political website, read by the White House and lawmakers
- Island Press assisted us getting it placed
- Subsequently entered in the Congressional Record by Congressman Jared Huffman

The screenshot shows a news article on The Hill website. The article title is "Trump cutting the EPA WaterSense program makes no sense at all" by Mary Ann Dickinson, dated 06/08/17 11:20 AM EDT. The article features a large image of a water faucet with a single drop of water falling. The article text discusses President Trump's promise of clean water and the impact of the 2018 budget cuts on the WaterSense program. The article has 326 shares and is accompanied by social media sharing buttons for Facebook, Twitter, and Google+. The website header includes trending topics like Donald Trump, North Korea, and Russia, and sponsored content from Peloton. The sidebar contains a "Just In..." section with links to other news items, a "Contributor's Signup" button, and a "Ready Pac" advertisement.

THE HILL

Trump cutting the EPA WaterSense program makes no sense at all

BY MARY ANN DICKINSON, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR · 06/08/17 11:20 AM EDT · 68 COMMENTS

326 SHARES

f SHARE | t TWEET | + PLUS ONE

Just In...

- Trump relationship with Tillerson has been tense for months: report
BLOG BRIEFING ROOM · 3H 7M AGO
- Inspector general: IRS may have targeted liberal groups
BLOG BRIEFING ROOM · 3H 42M AGO
- Ivanka Trump pens op-ed on kindergartners learning tech
ADMINISTRATION · 3H 11M AGO
- Man injured in Las Vegas shooting stands to meet Trump despite injuries
ADMINISTRATION · 3H 20M AGO
- House rejects Democratic budget alternatives
FLOOR ACTION · 3H 40M AGO

CONTRIBUTOR'S SIGNUP
Sign up to become a Contributor

See The Shockingly Affordable New Subaru Forester

Ready Pac
Your day is packed, so we packed you lunch.

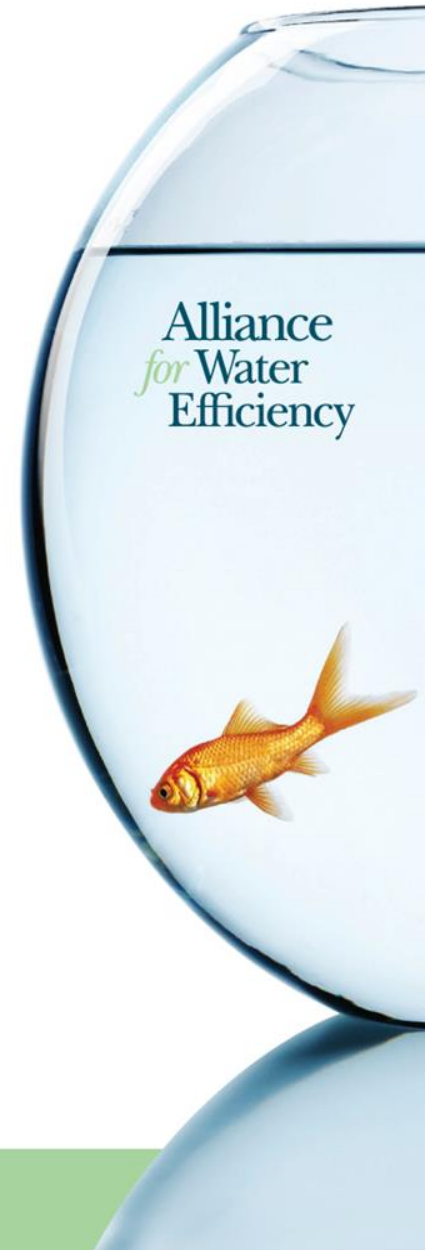
In just ten years since its launch, the

July, 2017

- U.S. House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee oversees funding for EPA
- In July issued its Fiscal Year 2018 agency funding report, rejecting the proposed elimination of the WaterSense program on page 58:

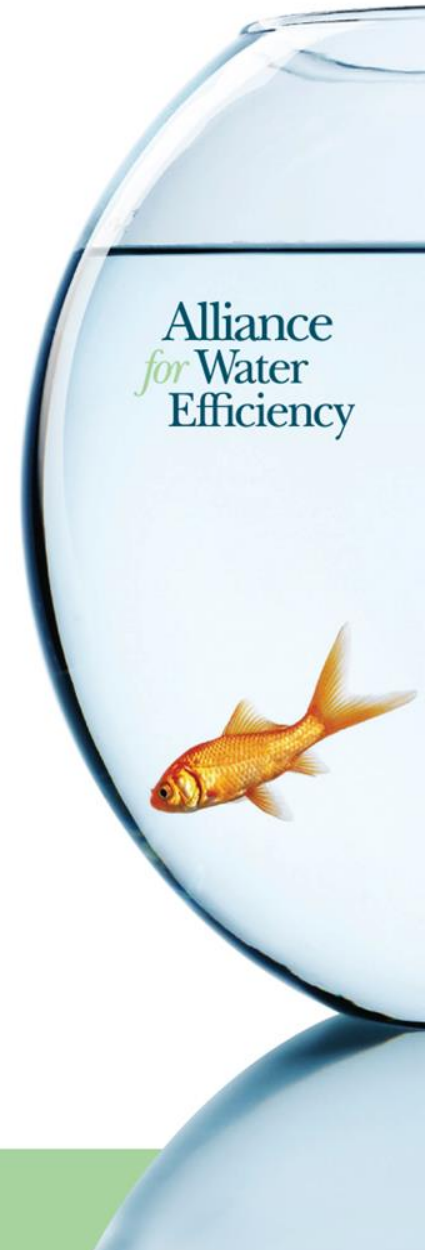
“Water Quality Protection: The Committee recommends \$178,855,000 and rejects the proposed elimination of the WaterSENSE program.”

The U.S. House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS



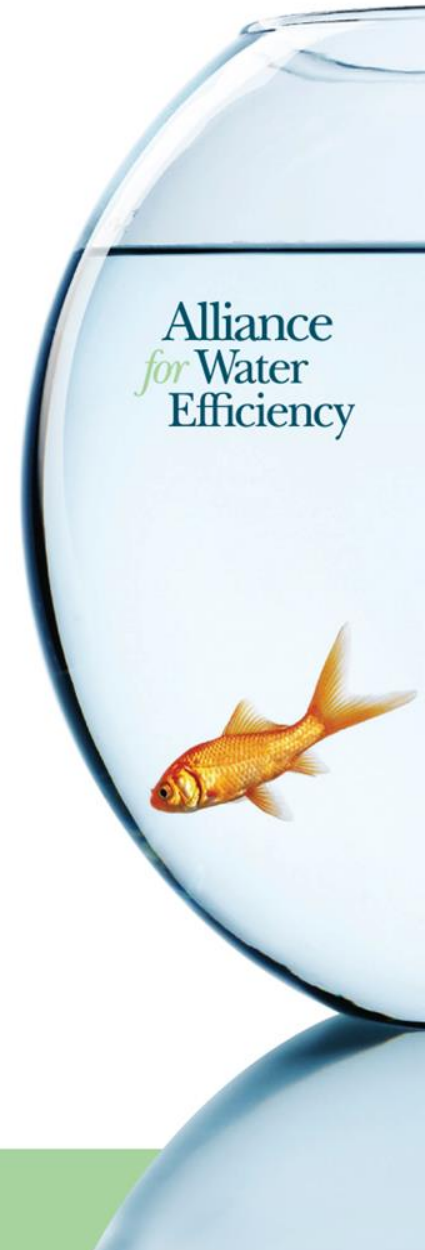
September, 2017

- Congress passed HR 601, a short-term continuing budget resolution for the FY2018 budget
- President Trump signed it on September 8
- Funded the government through Friday, December 8 when a new CR or budget was ultimately passed
- Meanwhile, bills for WaterSense authorization were introduced



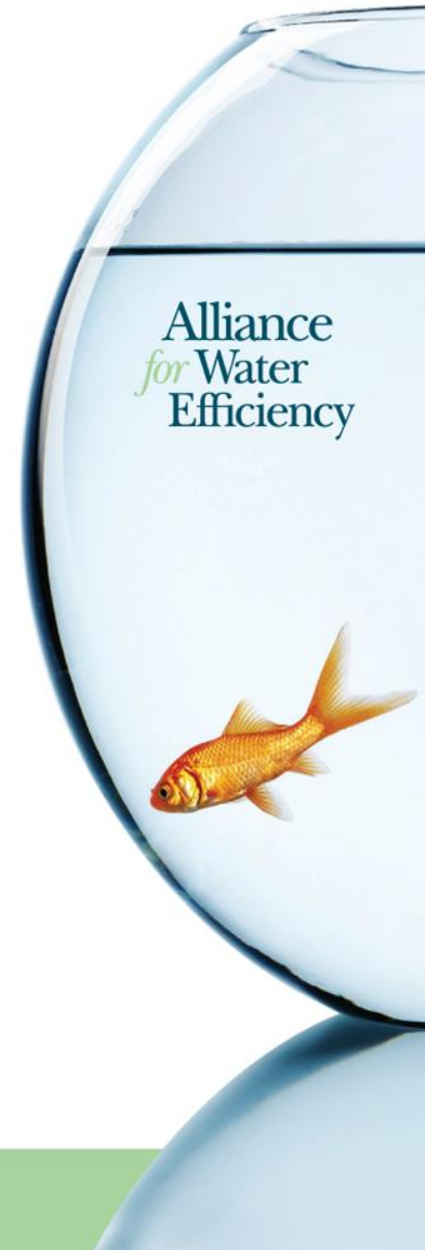
November, 2017

- Senate Appropriations Committee issued FY18 budget report, which states:
- “The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the WaterSense program, and provides not less than the fiscal year 2017 level.”
- The language sends a strong message to EPA from Congress
- But funding by Congress directly cannot occur without authorization



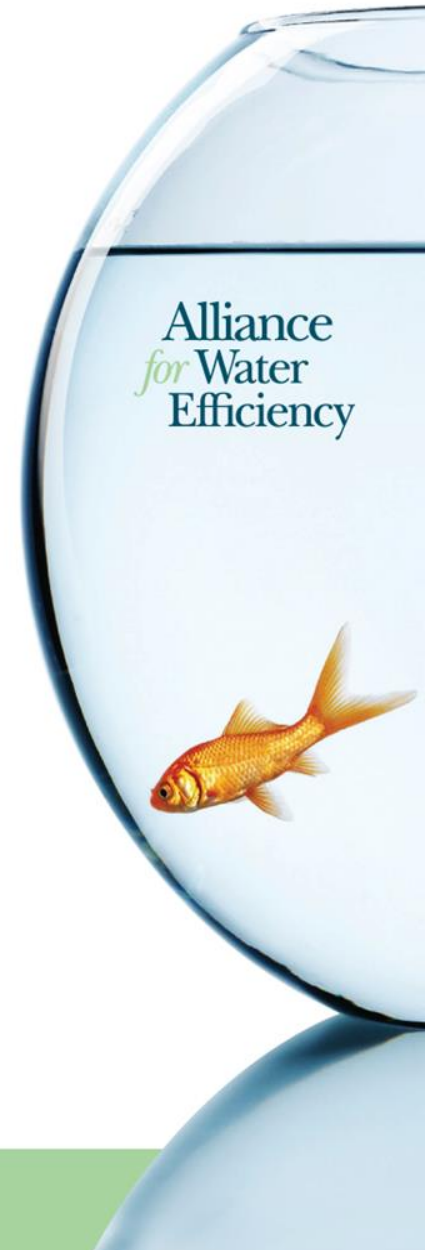
January, 2018

- Another continuing budget resolution for the FY2018 budget passed
- President Trump signed it on January 22
- Funds the government through Thursday, February 8
- Will a budget for FY18 ever get passed?
- WaterSense funding may not last much past March
- Meanwhile, bills for authorization stay stalled



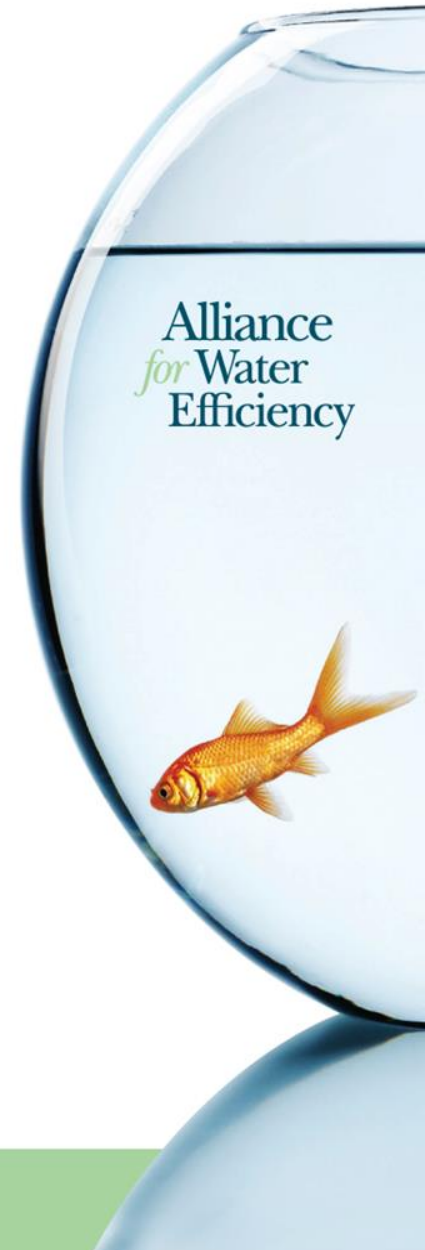
AWE Authorization Effort

- Three WaterSense letters sent
 - ✓ HR 3248: 64 signers
 - ✓ S 1137: 87 signers
 - ✓ S 1700: 51 signers
- AWE Support Letter on S 1460 (Murkowski)
- Cece Kremer hired to work on getting WaterSense authorization
- Work with WaterSense Coalition Partners



What's Next?

- Meet with David P. Ross, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water
- Find a bill to attach WS authorization as an amendment, such as an infrastructure bill
- Attempt to get movement on the other bills
- Sorry, no Texas Members on Senate Appropriations Committee
- But Kay Granger of Fort Worth now a serious contender for the chair of the House Appropriations Committee
 - ✓ Other Texas Members: John Abney, John Carter



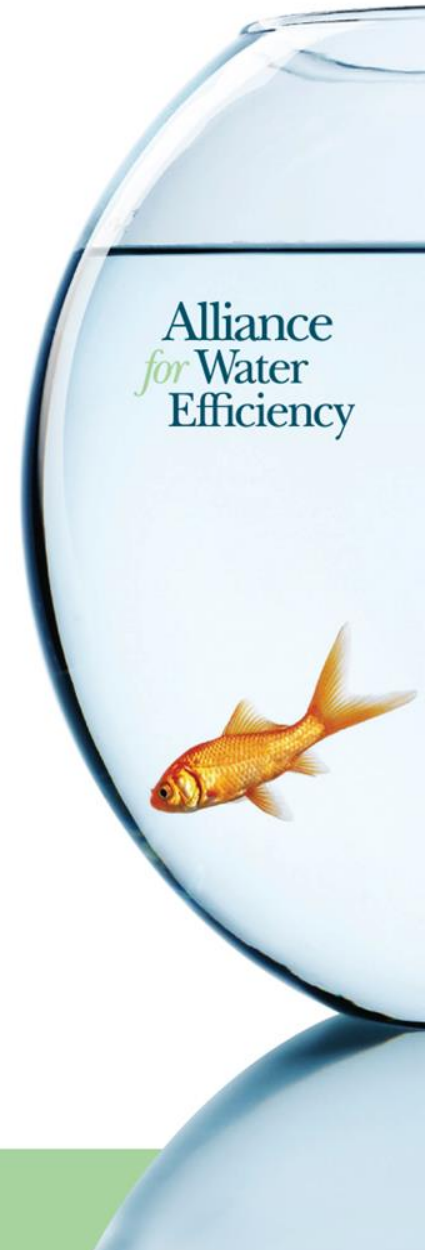
Tax Exemption for Rebates

- Water efficiency and conservation rebates not federally tax exempt
- Consumers angry, getting 1099's
- Coalition created to fix this
- House Bill 4615, Senate Bill 1464
- AWE Support Letters with 98 organizations
- Democratic bills going nowhere!
- Kevin Brady key to fixing this



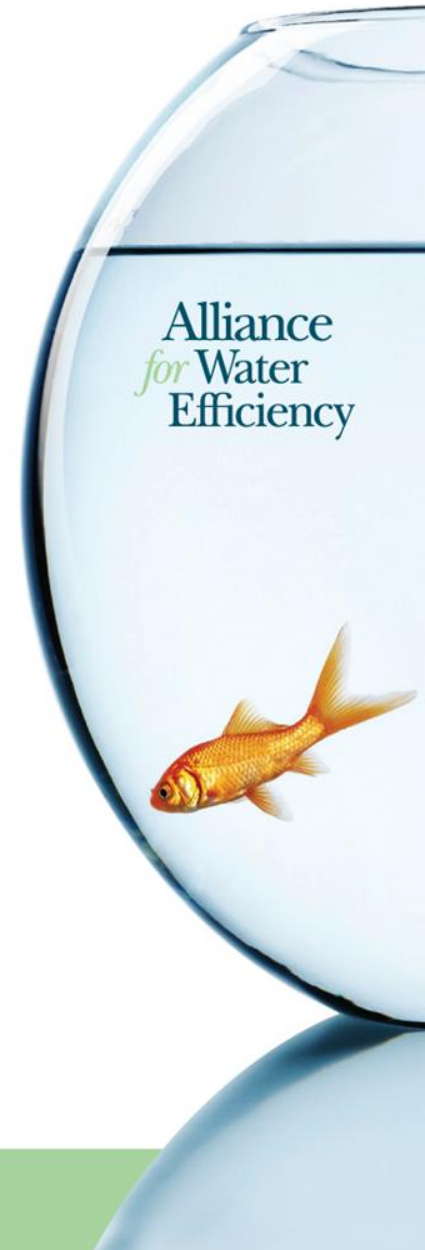
CPWC

COALITION TO PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION



So What Can You Do?

1. Watch for news from AWE
2. Sign on to letters as requested
3. Distribute Saving WaterSense Fact sheets
4. Talk about Saving WaterSense on social media
5. Send your own letters to your Congressional delegation explaining the benefits of the WaterSense program and tax exempt rebates
6. Send us a copy of your letters



Sign on to Request Tax Exemption for Water Conservation Rebates

The Alliance for Water Efficiency is seeking supporters of two Congressional Bills that would make water conservation rebates exempt from federal tax. S. 1464 and H.R. 448 are bills that have been introduced that will make water conservation rebates exempt. [Click here](#) for more information, and to sign on to the letters of support.



Register for AWE Webinar

Register now for AWE's webinar on November 15 on "Death Knell Barriers to Water Conservation." This webinar will cover some unintended consequences to your water conservation programs that can end up being the "death" of your programs if not addressed properly: utility revenue loss from water efficiency and conservation programs; lack of a federal tax exemption for water efficiency and conservation rebates; utility inability to debt finance conservation programs; slowdown in distribution system pipe flows causing the need for greater system flushing; and pathogen growth in efficient premise plumbing systems. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register.

Webinar

Web-based seminar
live online educational pro-
viewers can submit questions
see slides while the speaker
interactive elements - the a

Cooling Tower Research Study

The Alliance for Water Efficiency is excited to announce the launch of its



Calendar of Events



- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 11/6/2017 | CWWA National Water & Wastewater Conference |
| 11/6/2017 | IA 2017 Irrigation Show & Education Conference |
| 11/6/2017 | Modernizing North American Water Systems in the Digital Age |
| 11/7/2017 | Onsite Non-Potable Water Systems Workshop (San Fran, CA) |
| 11/9/2017 | Onsite Non-Potable Water Systems Workshop (Sacto, CA) |

How Much Water Do You Use?



[Click Here to Learn More](#)

Important Information



Water Efficiency Watch Newsletter
October 2017



Business Guide



Webinar Archive Page



Jobs, Internships, and RFPs Board



AWE/Dickinson Keynote @ WSI '15



Alliance *for* Water Efficiency

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