

Environmental Stewardship: Policy Choices

This board outlines policy choices that the City may consider concerning water conservation and meeting water conservation goals.

Water Conservation

BACKGROUND

Water conservation is an important aspect of environmental stewardship for communities situated in the arid west, like Lafayette. As our water supplies become more strained, using water efficiently and effectively to accommodate new growth is a crucial responsibility of Lafayette's Comprehensive Plan.

In 2018, Lafayette's residential water use was approximately 82 gallons per person per day. System-wide water use, which includes industrial and commercial, was 126 gallons per capita per day.

Land use has a significant impact on a community's overall water use, thus the Comprehensive Plan can help to determine the foundation of water conservation for Lafayette. Both the type and design of development can impact a community's water use. Residential units developed at moderate densities focused on low-water landscaping, have the greatest impact on water savings.

POLICY OPTIONS

The Comprehensive Plan could support these goals by:

- Emphasizing water efficiency and conservation as a focus for new development projects
- Implementing the recommendations in the Water Conservation Master Plan (includes a mix of measures and programs focused on new and existing development)
- Expanding and reinforcing water conservation planning and practices for existing development

