



Smart Water Residential Water Audits

Great Western Institute (GWI) has developed a **whole house residential water audit** based on successful programs being conducted by large municipalities in the Western US, including Denver Water.

Program Goals and Objectives

- Reduce residential water use by promoting and supporting more efficient and wise water use and behavior.
- **Reduce water use in each audited home by an average of about 15%.**
- **Reduce home hot water energy costs by 15%.**



Smart Water Audits will also have the secondary objective of creating a long-term education opportunity for each home visited.

We will be certain to engage individual homeowners using a debriefing process that allows for a technology exchange regarding their specific and unique indoor and outdoor water use patterns and behaviors. A written report will also be provided to each homeowner.

What is a *Smart Water* Residential Audit?

Specifically, the *Smart Water* Audit has been designed to help individual homeowners understand their normal water use patterns and behaviors to help them better manage their indoor and outdoor water use. GWI will help homeowners:

- Identify and repair indoor fixture leaks;
- Replace inefficient showerheads, faucet aerators, and when possible leaky and high water use toilets; and
- Characterize outdoor irrigation system controller problems.

In general, GWI helps homeowners understand how to more wisely use water without sacrificing those benefits and services that water provides.

During the *Smart Water* residential audit, shower, toilet and faucet flow rates will be measured,



and where appropriate, showerheads and/or faucet aerators will be replaced (with homeowner consent) with low flow fittings. In addition, outdoor irrigation controller programming will be checked to determine the adequacy, and legality, of current irrigation timing and intervals. Adjustments and corrections will be recommended, where appropriate.

How Does It Work?

The *Smart Water* Audit will be offered in the summer of 2009. Audits will be scheduled for the 13 week period from June 1 to August 29. GWI's trained team will conduct the audits, track home water use behaviors and characteristics, install new hardware, and make adjustments to irrigation controllers as appropriate. Each homeowner will receive a written report outlining our findings.

The audit will cost between \$60 per home. We can also provide new fixtures at the homeowner's request.

Call 303-355-4057 to schedule yours today.



OVERVIEW OF GREAT WESTERN INSTITUTE'S PROGRAMS

- **Water Conservation Workshops** – GWI has organized and conducted workshops and water policy discussions in conjunction with dozens of partners statewide engaging elected and appointed officials, water resources managers, consultants, environmental groups, realtors, and other interested citizens.
- **Water Conservation Training Seminars** – GWI has organized and lead technical training seminars to teach consultants and water resource managers how to pursue grant funding and develop meaningful water conservation plans.
- **Water Conservation Grant Writing** – GWI has prepared water conservation planning and implementation grant applications for needy water providers pro bono.
- **Water Conservation Planning Support** – GWI has prepared and/or supported the preparation of local water conservation plans for near ½ of those organizations with state approved water conservation plans that meet the newly promulgated state requirements.
- **Water Conservation Audits** – GWI has and will continue to support local water provider efforts to establish sustainable water conservation programs using commercial, industrial and institutional audits. GWI is developing a new program to support residential and commercial audits.
- **Water Education for Teachers** – GWI supports Project WET, which is an international water education program for teachers, with funding, planning and facilitation services.
- **K-12 Education** – GWI conducts in-classroom teaching efforts and assists teachers in developing curriculum, lecture material, and topical field trips.

GREAT WESTERN INSTITUTE

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Visit us at www.greatwesterninstitute.org

