

# Summary Report of MWRA Demand Management Program Fiscal Year 2003

This report is organized into five sections, as follows:

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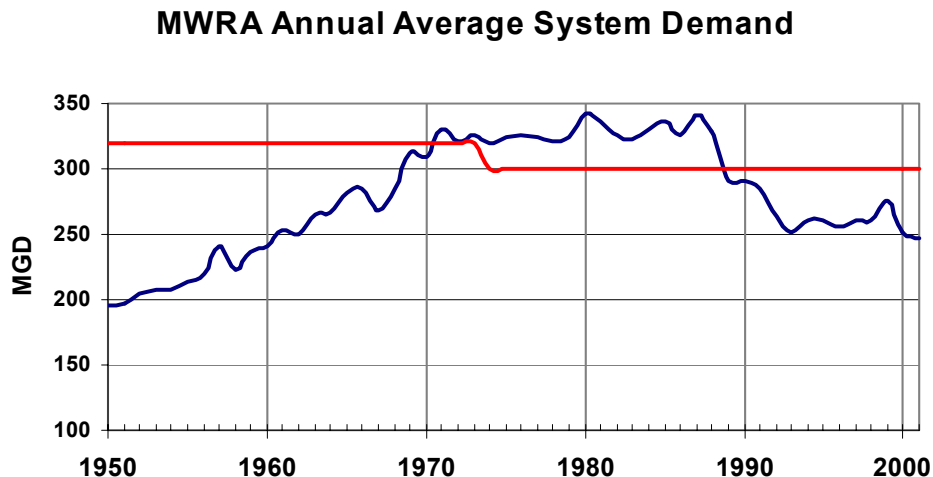
## 1. Report Summary

This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's (MWRA) NPDES Permit MA0103284 - Part I, Item 10.c (page 14 of 32). The purpose of the demand management section (including water conservation) in MWRA's NPDES permit is to help maintain the dry day wastewater flow to the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant below the 436 million gallons per day (mgd) permit limit.

MWRA has maintained the 365 calendar day running average dry day flow well below the 436 mgd limit and well below the 415 mgd trigger (see Part I, Item 10.a and 10.b). For fiscal year 2003 (ending June 30, 2003), the 365-calendar day running average dry day flow to the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant was 330.4 mgd. The dry day flow is reported monthly by MWRA as part of the NPDES Operational Performance Summary.

MWRA continues to maintain effective water demand management programs for both the MWRA-owned distribution system, as well as member community-owned distribution systems. The effectiveness of MWRA's conservation efforts over the past year is demonstrated by the fact that baseline water demand (water withdrawal from MWRA reservoirs) continues to remain stable and comfortably below the system's safe yield of 300 mgd (see Figure 1, below).

Figure 1 – MWRA Reservoir Withdrawal



For calendar year 2002, water demand was 238 mgd. Table 1 provides data on water use and wastewater generation over the most recent six-year period. The data on Water Demand represents the total water withdrawal from MWRA reservoirs. The data on Wholesale Water Sales represents water provided by MWRA to all 45 fully and partially supplied communities (a population of about 2.3 million). Total Wastewater Generation data represents the total flow to the Deer Island Treatment Facility from all 43-member sewer communities (a sewered population of about 2 million). The Dry Day Wastewater Generation data represents flow to the Deer Island Treatment Facility during only dry days as defined in MWRA's NPDES Permit.

Table 1 - MWRA Total Water Demand and Wastewater Generation

| Calendar Year | Water Demand (Withdrawals) | Wholesale Water Sales | Total Wastewater Generation | Dry Day Wastewater Generation |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1996          | 256 mgd                    | 222 mgd               | 426 mgd                     | N/A                           |
| 1997          | 258 mgd                    | 226 mgd               | 353 mgd                     | N/A                           |
| 1998          | 260 mgd                    | 231 mgd               | 412 mgd                     | N/A                           |
| 1999          | 276 mgd *                  | 245 mgd               | 344 mgd                     | 307 mgd                       |
| 2000          | 252 mgd *                  | 229 mgd               | 362 mgd                     | 331 mgd                       |
| 2001          | 247 mgd *                  | 229 mgd               | 346 mgd                     | 305 mgd                       |
| 2002          | 238 mgd                    | 219 mgd               | 340 mgd                     | 309 mgd                       |

\* Total withdrawals included an additional (temporary) demand from Cambridge while it rebuilt its own water treatment plant. For calendar year 1999, 15 mgd; calendar year 2000, 14 mgd; and calendar year 2001, 6 mgd.

## 2. Background and Long Range Water Supply Program

The MWRA, an independent public authority, was established through legislation in 1985 to provide wholesale water and sewer services to more than 2.5 million people in 61 cities and towns. Some of the Authority's goals, purposes and objectives relate directly to water demand management efforts, including:

- Efficient and economical operation of water delivery;
- Programs for leak detection for member communities; and,
- Repair, replacement, rehabilitation, modernization and extension of the delivery of water within the service area of the Authority.

From its inception, MWRA has made demand management/water conservation a high priority. In 1985, MWRA inherited a water system that had been exceeding its safe yield of 300 mgd for almost twenty years. In response to increasing water demand during the 60s, 70s and 80s, several water supply studies were undertaken by MWRA's predecessor agency, the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC). These studies, collectively called the Long Range Water Supply Study EIR 2020, projected the need for 70 mgd of additional supply by 2020 above a base demand of 340 mgd. The studies identified a series of supply development options including diversion of a portion of the Connecticut River flow. Demand management options were also examined. In 1986, the MWRA Board of Directors, through a series of water policy decisions, opted to aggressively pursue demand management strategies rather than pursue options for increasing water supply. This commitment to demand management resulted in the

implementation of a highly successful water conservation program that has been a role model for water conservation efforts both nationally and globally.

### Long Range Water Supply Program

Following the commitment by the Board of Directors in 1986 to demand management, MWRA in 1987 developed and launched its Long Range Water Supply Program (LRWSP). The LRWSP included 30 different recommendations that were anticipated to be completed over the next decade at a cost of tens of millions of dollars. The demand management components of the LRWSP were meant to reduce water use and water losses throughout the service area. During a three-year trial program from 1987-1990, MWRA, along with significant help from its member communities, initiated demand management efforts that reduced average demand from 326 mgd in 1987 to 285 mgd by 1990 (see Figure 1). This reduction put average demand below the water system's safe yield of 300 mgd for the first time in over 20 years. With this success, the demand management components of the LRWSP were continued beyond the trial program. A detailed discussion of the demand management activities developed from the LRWSP, covering the 1991 through 2000 period, was provided in the Fiscal Year 2000 MWRA Demand Management Report.

## **3. Ongoing MWRA Demand Management Programs**

### Long Range Planning

Long range planning was recognized as essential to ensure that MWRA could meet the water needs of its user communities long into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The management and planning programs developed in the 1987 LRWSP are far reaching with respect to conservation. They were designed to make MWRA less reactive and stress more long-term thinking about water supply planning. In the early 1990s, MWRA instituted a concept of water supply planning called Trigger Planning, which focuses on ways of dealing with future water problems. With this plan, the first step is to identify parameters (leading indicators) that can be monitored over time and act to "trigger" a response by the agency. The second step is to analyze what can be done in advance to reduce the time for implementation of projects. Other major components of MWRA's Trigger Planning efforts included periodic analysis of water use trends, economic and demographic conditions, building trends and preparation of demand projections.

In addition to long range planning, the need for a short term response plan, a drought management plan, was made clear after two years of below average precipitation and overuse of the Quabbin-Ware-Wachusett system led to a potential drought warning in the 1988-1989 period. The MWRA Drought Management Plan was reviewed and approved by the state Department of Environmental Protection in 1989. Shortly thereafter, precipitation returned to normal and the reservoirs rose back to normal. In spring 2000, MWRA was involved in the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force's development of a state drought response plan. The plan outlines agency responsibilities during drought and sets drought stage triggers based on hydrologic conditions. The plan is regionally flexible; for example, small water systems may need water use restrictions during a short-term drought while the MWRA service area would avoid restrictions due to the large storage volumes in Wachusett and Quabbin Reservoirs. Only a long-term drought affecting Wachusett and Quabbin would lead to significant restrictions in the MWRA service area. The plan also retains responsibilities for MWRA's direct lines of communication with the member communities and customers during a drought.

A comprehensive review of water supply and demand in the MWRA service area was performed by MWRA during FY02 and is presented in a report entitled “MWRA Water System Supply and Demand”, final May 8, 2002. The report includes basic information about the MWRA/MDC reservoir system and the tools used to evaluate system supply and yield. It also presents information on demand, both from within and outside the MWRA service area. Lastly, the report provides the regulatory and policy framework for consideration of system expansion proposals.

The report concludes that the MWRA/MDC water supply system is sufficient to meet both current and future demand from the existing service area. The annual demand of the MWRA water service area for the last five years has average 251 mgd (without Cambridge usage). The projections of growth in the service area through 2025 are modest; the incremental water demand from new homes and businesses in the service area is projected to be less than 13 mgd. Further conservation, increased efficiencies in water use, and response to price increases could moderate demand, so that demand in the year 2025 could conceivably be less than current levels.

While MWRA encourages all member communities to control demand, for those communities that receive water on a contract basis, MWRA policy requires that each community have aggressive demand management programs in place, protect and use any local water resources, and provide for specific peak and average flow limitations. Detailed regulations were promulgated in 1989 governing all existing and new MWRA/community contracts.

MWRA’s policy “Admission of New Community to Waterworks System” was adopted in June 1997. This policy establishes stringent admission criteria, formalizes the review and approval process (including MWRA, MWRA Advisory Board, MEPA, Water Resources Commission, DEP, General Court, and the Governor), and establishes an entrance fee. Copies of this policy are available from MWRA. A system expansion committee of the Advisory board is in the process of considering what policy revisions, if any, make sense to put in place for the next five years.

#### Leak Detection and Repair of MWRA Distribution System

One of the first conservation activities undertaken by MWRA was to reduce water lost through leaks from the Authority-owned distribution system. The MWRA initiated a leak detection and repair program in 1987 and, by 1990, found and repaired leaks saving more than 5 mgd of water loss. During the early 1990s, MWRA’s leak detection and repair program was established into a routine survey performed by MWRA personnel. All MWRA distribution pipes (286 miles) are checked annually for leaks with repairs made promptly. Over the past ten years, in-house inspections and repairs have annually eliminated about 0.60 mgd of lost water from the MWRA-owned distribution system.

#### Rehabilitation and Replacement of MWRA Distribution System and Covered Storage

Rehabilitation (cleaning and lining), sliplining, and/or replacement of the MWRA’s distribution system (some pipelines are up to 120-years-old) are critical elements of MWRA’s Integrated Water Supply Improvement Program. While these capital-intensive projects are primarily intended to improve water quality and system reliability, reduction of pipeline leakage is an additional benefit. MWRA has established a Business Plan Strategy to rehabilitate 7 to 10 miles

of water distribution pipeline each year. In addition, MWRA's construction of a covered storage facility at Nash Hill will reduce water loss through evaporation from existing open reservoirs.

### Leak Detection and Repair of Member Community Distribution Systems

To help communities identify leaks in their local distribution systems, a program providing a free one-time leak detection survey was established during 1988 to 1990. This program established baseline data on recoverable leakage in the service area. MWRA surveyed 6085 miles of community pipes and detected 2,374 leaks representing 30 mgd of water loss. Each community successfully completed the pipe repairs.

MWRA extended its once through survey in member community systems to include a follow-up survey of areas where leaks had been repaired. These follow-up surveys first determined if the original leak had been successfully repaired, and second, if any background leakage may have been hidden by the original leak. This follow-up project located an additional 0.7 mgd of water loss.

Based on these successes, MWRA developed leak detection regulations that went into effect in July 1991. Under these regulations, communities are required to complete a leak detection survey of their entire distribution system at least once every two years. Communities can accomplish the survey in one of three ways: (1) using their own crews, (2) hiring their own contractor, or (3) using MWRA's on-call task order contractor. MWRA provides assistance for each option. Training sessions on leak detection methods for community staff have been held periodically. MWRA also has provided examples of effective contract specifications to ensure an adequate scope of services for community contract work. MWRA's task order contract provides high quality leak detection firms on an "on-call" basis. Communities simply request the services, and the costs are billed to the community in the following year. Leak detection/repair work is generally cost effective as the value of the saved water often far exceeds the cost of the leak detection/repair work.

Table 4 shows the history of the last eleven years of leak detection on community pipes.

Table 4 - Leak Detection on Community Pipes

| Period    | Miles Surveyed | Number of leaks | Estimated leakage-mgd |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 7/91-6/93 | 6227           | 1988            | 24.75                 |
| 7/93-6/95 | 5924           | 1134            | 14.12                 |
| 7/95-6/97 | 6013           | 1527            | 17.78                 |
| 7/97-6/99 | 5924           | 1257            | 12.44                 |
| 7/99-6/01 | 6650           | 928             | 9.25                  |
| 7/01-6/03 | 6198           | 1046            | 9.20                  |

### Rehabilitation and Replacement of Member Community Distribution Systems

MWRA implemented the pilot Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation Financial Assistance Program in 1997-1999. This program provided \$30 million in 25 percent grants and 75 percent interest-free loans to member water communities for water system rehabilitation projects. Local projects implemented through this program resulted in the replacement of over 22,000 water meters and

rehabilitation of over 80 miles of distribution pipeline. Water loss from both pipeline and valve leakage was reduced.

In November 1999, MWRA approved a new ten-year, \$250 million Local Pipeline Assistance Program established with the primary objective of improving water quality. A secondary benefit of the program will be the reduction of water pipeline leakage. This program builds off the successful two-year grant/loan “pilot” program. In order to be eligible for funding, communities must meet certain baseline requirements in managing their distribution system. If a community needs assistance in meeting these baseline requirements, MWRA has available a Community Technical Assistance Program which provides consulting services on a task order-basis. Communities reimburse MWRA for the cost of these task-orders in the fiscal year following completion of the services.

Quarterly funding distribution under the Local Pipeline Assistance Program began in August, 2000 (FY01). Through the first three years of the program, \$49.9 million has been distributed to twenty-one communities for 69 projects. These projects have provided for a total of 50 miles of new lined water pipe and 38 miles of cleaning and lining of existing water pipe. MWRA staff continue to communicate through meetings and telephone contact on a regular basis with community staff to answer questions and provide assistance for participation in the program.

Table 5 shows the history of the Local Pipeline Assistance Program.

Table 5 – Summary of LPAP Program

| Period | \$ Distributed | Projects Funded | Miles of New Pipe | Miles of Rehabilitated Pipe |
|--------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| FY01   | 17.2 million   | 32              | 17.9              | 22.4                        |
| FY02   | 16.3 million   | 19              | 16.1              | 6.6                         |
| FY03   | 16.4 million   | 18              | 16.0              | 9.0                         |
| Total  | 49.9 million   | 69              | 50.0              | 38.0                        |

### Water Metering and Monitoring

The goal of the water metering project was to better track water use that would allow MWRA to more accurately and fairly charge its users for water. The MWRA metering project, completed in 1993, entailed repairing and replacing the 148 large revenue meters to ensure accurate and reliable meter readings. Following completion of the metering project, routine calibration and maintenance of the 148 revenue meters in the metropolitan system was instituted. MWRA analyzes nighttime low flow data and historical trends from the revenue meters for member communities to help identify potential water leakage in the local systems. MWRA also maintains meters at water withdrawal points at its reservoirs.

### Residential Water Conservation

In 1988, MWRA embarked on a three-year demand management pilot program to test strategies for residential conservation. MWRA’s goal focused on three areas: to educate consumers on the value of water, encourage consumers to accept the installation of water saving fixtures, and

change behavior around water use. Towards this goal, “Operation Watersense” was created which initially tested two methods to encourage home installation of water saving devices. In the pilot program, over 4600 homes participated through a direct installation of water-saving fixtures in selected communities. Another 2400 participants picked up water savings kits from MWRA’s local depots. MWRA also included public housing and non-profit housing communities in its domestic water savings effort. Under the public housing component, 5000 water saving device kits were distributed to community development corporations and housing authorities.

In 1990 an expanded program was initiated, Operation Watersense was offered to the 730,000 households of the MWRA service area. Basic services included installation of water saving fixtures and a report to the customer of household leaks. A customer service line was also made available to report problems and schedule new fixture installation. Over the next three years, Operation Watersense teams installed 1.3 million water-saving fixtures in 348,871 households in 42 communities. This work included both single family households and multi-family units. In addition, about 13,000 households received more than 86,000 fixtures at pickup depots held at the conclusion of field operations in each community. The program received strong support from municipal leaders, which helped to create awareness and foster support in the communities.

Direct installation of water-saving devices by MWRA was discontinued in 1993 following the completion of Operation Watersense. MWRA continues to provide low-flow device kits to member communities, housing authorities, development corporations, and individual customers at no cost. The low-flow device kits include: 2.5 gallon per minute (gpm) showerheads, 1.5 gpm bathroom faucet aerators, 2.2 gpm kitchen faucet aerators, toilet dams, and leak detection dye tablets. MWRA also maintains its water conservation hotline ((617) 242-SAVE).

### Public Education Outreach

As a component of MWRA’s residential demand management program (Operation Watersense), the Authority initiated a broad-based public information outreach campaign to raise awareness in the community of water as a valuable, limited resource. This program was designed to compliment the distribution and installation of water saving fixtures. The public information program used a multimedia approach to capture the interest of the consumer and provide economical and practical ways to conserve water. Materials were tailored to different audiences and different situations. Print materials were developed for use as bill inserts by water departments and for distribution to customers at local events. Other outreach methods included public service advertising on radio and television, bus and subway posters, and establishment of a dedicated informational telephone hotline (242-SAVE). During the system-wide Operation Watersense program, over 600,000 pieces of public education literature were printed and distributed.

Following the completion of Operation Watersense, MWRA continues to provide public education material to communities and individual customers at no cost. Member communities are encouraged to distribute the water conservation information to retail customers. During the period of 1995-2000 over one million bill inserts, fact sheets, and brochures were distributed by mail and through public outreach activities to residential customers in the service area. In 2000 alone, the MWRA provided the City of Boston 90,000 bill inserts for distribution to their retail customers. MWRA has also maintained the dedicated informational telephone line (242-SAVE)

to allow community representatives and the public easy access to MWRA staff as a technical resource.

Beginning in 1999, MWRA began new conservation outreach activities specifically focused on outdoor water use. Several new items, including a lawn and garden fact sheet, a poster, and a handbook on irrigation controllers were distributed to local water departments and retail customers. The fact sheet information has also been included on the MWRA web site. MWRA has participated in the work of an advisory group that meets periodically to develop statewide goals and policies for outdoor water use.

The following materials are available from MWRA:

- Water Conservation (Ducks) Bill Insert
- Home Water Conservation Guide
- Low Flow Toilet Fact Sheet
- Outdoor Water Conservation Fact Sheet
- Stop Leaks, Save Water Fact Sheet
- Irrigation Controllers for the Homeowner
- Water-Saving Fixture Installation Guide

### School Education

A major component of MWRA's water conservation education and public outreach program focuses on promoting water conservation awareness for young people. The School Education program, initiated in 1993, is designed to provide a science-based curriculum using a four step process: educational curriculum development, testing, wide-spread teacher training and continual follow-up, and support to educators. Educational materials have been designed for students from the elementary level to the high school level. Within the first three years of the program, this curriculum was used in 39 of 46 cities and towns the MWRA serves. Additionally, MWRA staff conduct dozens of teacher training workshops annually reaching hundreds of teachers. Along with teaching curriculum and teacher training workshops, the School Education program has created an annual student poster contest and writing contest. During the first year of the program (1993), 3,800 students submitted posters on water conservation and 1,500 essays were submitted on the Boston Harbor Project. School Education activities grew to include more than 27,000 student participants in the 2001/2002 school year. Along with a counterpart wastewater education program, the School Education program for water conservation is offered in both water and sewer member communities.

### Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Audits and New Technologies

Concurrent with the development of domestic conservation program (Operation Watersense) during the late 1980s, MWRA applied the same philosophy to the non-domestic water use sector. MWRA targeted hospitals, large commercial buildings, biotech, manufacturing, food processing, hotels, recreational facilities, universities, etc. to tailor water conservation strategies that could be implemented for a specific user. By the early 1990s, over thirty industrial, commercial, institutional water audits had been completed. The changes recommended from these initial audits represented 0.7 mgd in water savings. The knowledge gained from the water audits was then shared with other similar users through workshops and guidance materials. MWRA utilized

technical assistance consultants to conduct the water audits, provide training, and conduct workshops.

During this program, MWRA worked extensively with health care institutions. MWRA found that typical per capita water use in hospitals ranging widely between 40 and 350 gallons per day. For example, in 1991 Norwood Hospital used 51.2 million gallons of water. MWRA conducted a water audit and found that a \$19,500 investment to eliminate seal and cooling water on medical air compressors and removing a vacuum pump resulted in an annual water reduction of 8.5 million gallons. This and other water saving projects were implemented by the hospital. Three years later, its water use came down to 36.6 million gallons.

MWRA has found that conservation initiatives for industrial, commercial, and institutional water users are widely available through consulting firms. With this availability, MWRA has scaled back its industrial, commercial, and institutional conservation program. MWRA has developed and offers at no cost a 52-page Guide To Water Management that contains detailed information to help facility managers reduce overall water use. In addition, detailed fact sheets on industrial, commercial, and institutional water users are available at MWRA's web site at <http://www.mwra.state.ma.us/water/html/indust.htm>. These include specifics on hospitals, schools, colleges and athletic facilities; restaurants; and commercial buildings.

Another area where MWRA focused its energies was in promoting technologies that create water savings. Under the auspices of the nonprofit organization Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, Inc. (NEEP), MWRA in partnership with several electricity and gas utilities in the northeast region joined a clothes washer-working group. This working group has developed a market transformation program for water efficient clothes washers with the goal of creating awareness and increasing demand for these appliances. The TumbleWash program is one example of this effort. TumbleWashers are horizontal axis or front-loading machines that operate on 35% less water and 50% less energy. The energy partners have invested several million dollars in a public relations/advertising campaign and rebate program to accomplish this goal. To create an incentive to invest in a TumbleWasher, which is slightly higher priced than a conventional washer, Massachusetts customers received a rebate of \$75 in 2000. The \$75 cash incentive aided in the sale of these machines. Since the inception of the program, a total of 50,378 washers have been sold in Massachusetts. The utility partners have integrated the TumbleWash program with the Energy Star Appliance program for even broader product recognition and support.

Evidence of the substantial water and energy savings from the high efficiency appliances was documented last year through the Boston Washer Study conducted in Reading, Massachusetts. Under this pilot project, all the washers and dryers in a 68 unit condominium complex were replaced. Water and energy use, both before and after the equipment replacement, was monitored and analyzed. Results of the study indicated 44 percent water savings, 50 percent energy savings, and 24 percent detergent savings.

#### Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee

MWRA's 1986 decision to aggressively pursue water conservation rather than look for additional sources of water was strongly advocated by the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee (WSCAC). This unique citizen's group was formed in 1977 to review a proposed Connecticut River diversion plan to supply water to the metropolitan Boston area. From its

beginning, the group has been a strong supporter of water conservation measures. It helped formulate the water conservation language in MWRA's enabling act legislation. In 1986, WSCAC encouraged MWRA to pursue demand management rather than look for new water supplies. During the late 1980's and early 1990's, the citizen's group took a lead role promoting trigger and drought management planning. With its long commitment to the water supply system, WSCAC continues to provide invaluable and independent citizen input on MWRA's policies and programs, while voicing public support of source protection and conservation. MWRA provides funding for WSCAC staff and office expenses as well as travel reimbursement.

#### Massachusetts Plumbing Code

MWRA was at the forefront of promoting water conservation through its support of changing plumbing code regulations in Massachusetts. In 1989, Massachusetts was the first in the nation to change the state plumbing code that led to the production and utilization of 1.6 gallon/flush toilets. National legislation instituting plumbing code regulations followed in 1994. As a result of this state and national legislation, large-scale changes in toilet fixtures began to take place throughout the MWRA service area. Each year, in thousands of homes, older toilets are replaced with new more efficient ones, yielding permanent long-term water use reductions without direct MWRA intervention.

### **4. Demand Management Activities During Fiscal Year 2003**

#### Long-Range Planning

Two MWRA sewer-only communities (Reading and Wilmington) are seeking to receive supplemental water from MWRA. The Town of Reading is in the environmental review process, with their final environmental impact report due in September 2003. The Town of Wilmington is working with a consultant to determine their long-range water needs. These communities would maintain their existing local water supplies and use MWRA water to supplement their supply during peak months. The potential demand from these communities is small, probably in the 1.5-2.0 mgd range. The Dedham-Westwood Water District is also working with a consultant to determine the long-range water needs of the two communities. They are currently considering various options, including supplementing their water supply with MWRA water during periods of high demand.

During the past year, MWRA has continued to work cooperatively with the proponent communities and reviewing agencies.

#### Leak Detection and Repair of MWRA Distribution System

Leak detection and repair efforts have continued. During FY03, MWRA inspected 229.2 miles of pipe and detected and repaired 26 leaks accounting for the saving of about 1.0 mgd of lost water.

#### Rehabilitation and Replacement of MWRA Distribution System and Covered Storage

MWRA's Integrated Water Supply Improvement Program includes the Walnut Hill Water Treatment Plant, the MetroWest Water Supply Tunnel, covered storage facilities, and pipeline replacement and rehabilitation projects. Individual projects are detailed in MWRA's Capital

Improvement Program (CIP). In the FY04-06 CIP, MWRA has budgeted expenditures in excess of \$2 billion to improve regional drinking water quality and upgrade the Authority's water transmission, distribution, and pumping systems. Some highlights include: the \$357 million, 405 mgd Walnut Hill Treatment Plant; the \$15 million Quabbin Water Treatment Plant, serving the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct Communities; the \$107 million, 115 million gallon Norumbega covered storage facility; the \$32 million, 25 million gallon Blue Hills covered storage facility; the \$659 million, 17.6 mile, 14 foot diameter Metrowest Water Supply Tunnel; the \$24 million Boston Low Service pipe and valve rehabilitation project (20 miles of 36 to 48-inch diameter cast iron pipe); and the \$105 million rehabilitation of Weston Aqueduct Supply Mains (34 miles of 48-60-inch diameter pipe).

#### Leak Detection and Repair of Member Community Distribution Systems

During FY03, a total of 2976 miles of local water pipeline were surveyed for leaks. A total of 463 leaks were detected and repaired in community distribution systems, which accounted for about 4 mgd of water savings.

#### Rehabilitation and Replacement of Member Community Distribution Systems

During FY03, \$16.4 million was distributed to thirteen communities for 18 projects under the Local Pipeline Assistance Program. These projects have provided for a total of 16 miles of new lined water pipe and 9 miles of cleaning and lining of existing water pipe. MWRA staff continue to communicate through meetings and telephone contact on a regular basis with community staff to answer questions and provide assistance for participation in the program.

#### Water Metering and Monitoring

During FY03, MWRA continued its ongoing program for operation and maintenance of the water metering system. All meters received routine calibration on a regular schedule.

#### Residential Water Conservation

During FY03, MWRA continued its program to distribute household water savings devices. A total of 13,036 water saving fixtures (3,095 showerheads, 3,110 toilet dams, 6,831 faucet aerators) were distributed to MWRA households and member community water departments. Along with the fixtures, homeowners and water departments were also provided with 613 rain gauges and 15,970 leak detection dye tablets. Requests from retail customers are generated through the water conservation hotline (617-242-SAVE) and MWRA's website. Many of the water saving kits were provided to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission for use in the City of Boston.

#### Public Education Outreach

This past year, MWRA continued to target water conservation outreach to member communities including: water saving fixtures, household water leak prevention, low flow toilets, etc. Staff sent letters to 60 member communities (including sewer only communities) outlining the availability of these items and other free materials and water conservation kits. Communities were asked to return a request form indicating the quantities they needed. Most forms were returned promptly and follow-up telephone calls were made to communities who did not initially

respond. About 50 percent of the member communities took advantage of this offer. In all, 185,525 pieces of printed materials were distributed.

In August 2002, Authority staff were requested to attend a Revere City Council meeting to discuss water conservation methods. As a result of the meeting, which was televised on Revere's local cable channel, and notices in local newspapers, nearly 300 water saving kits were distributed to Revere residents.

### School Education

During the FY03 (2002/2003) school year, MWRA's School Educational outreach programs for water conservation made 572 classroom presentations reaching more than 14,000 students in pre-kindergarten through high school classes in 37 communities. In addition to classroom visits, MWRA held a poster and writing contest. The writing focused on Boston Harbor and the posters in all three categories (K-2, 3-5, and 6-8) focused on water conservation. Nearly 1,500 posters (and 500 essays) were submitted. The Awards Ceremony was held at Deer Island.

### Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Audits and New Technologies

MWRA 52-page Guide To Water Management remains available at no cost. Selected case studies and audits for industrial, commercial, and institutional water users also remain available on the MWRA web page and can also be obtained by calling the water conservation hotline (617-242-SAVE).

### Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee

During FY03, the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee has continued to strongly support MWRA's water conservation efforts. The committee has been active providing review and independent citizen input on water system expansion issues.

### Massachusetts Plumbing Code

During FY03, no new work on changes to the Massachusetts State Plumbing Code was undertaken.

## **5. Demand Management Plans for Fiscal Year 2004**

MWRA plans to continue its demand management efforts at a similar level as FY03. The Authority's long-range planning, leak detection, system rehabilitation, water conservation and educational outreach programs have long been established as essential components of demand management. As initiated in FY03, MWRA's Community Support Program will continue to work with sewer only communities to include them in water conservation activities.

During FY04 and beyond, Authority staff will be providing technical assistance to the Town of Reading in the development of a community water conservation program. The Town has recently contracted with CDM to initiate various water conservation activities, including energy-efficient appliance rebates, water saving fixture installation, and discounted outdoor conservation products.

Authority staff are also considering a program to promote the purchase and use of rain barrels within the service area. In exchange for assistance in promoting their product, The New England Rain Barrel Company may be willing to provide rain barrels at a reduced cost to MWRA customers. Staff will evaluate the level of involvement and coordination required to institute a program and determine if it is feasible for MWRA to pursue this activity.