



# Water Use Efficiency Changes

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On January 13, 2021, the Office of Drinking Water (ODW) will add new questions to the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) report. This fact sheet is designed to explain new reporting requirements. As with all changes, these require time for systems to implement and incorporate into their operations. Consequently, it is anticipated that not every system will be able to provide all the requested information in the first year.

The new questions relate to water level measurements, monthly demand, and implementation of a water shortage response plan in the previous year. The questions will help us better understand water usage, water resources management, and drought response. We will use the information to provide technical assistance, not for regulatory purposes.

## Water Level Measurements

The first new question relates to water level measurements. Please report data only for your **primary well**. If you do not have information for your primary well, please provide the best data available for another of your operating wells. On the reporting form, the field will look like this with one row for each month.

Month	Date of Measurement	Static Water Level Depth Below Measuring Point	Dynamic Water Level Depth Below Measuring Point

Report data in the Static Water Level column if measurement is taken and the pump has not been on for at least 24 hours. Report data in the Dynamic Water Level column if the pump is operating or has been on within the past 24 hours.

If you are unsure of the operation of the pump it is recommended that three measurements be taken at ten-minute intervals. If there is no significant difference in water level measurements, report the value in the Static Water Level column. If the measurements are different, report the value in the Dynamic Water Level column.

There are fields available for each month.

You can find additional information on water level measurements in [Measuring Water Levels in Wells 331-428](#).

Below this table are questions related to the well. You can find this information on your well log if it is available to you. You can find well logs at the [Department of Ecology's website](#). If you are unable to locate the well log, leave the questions blank.

Questions include:

2. Well tag ID number—this is found in the upper right column of the well log and has the format XXX-###. For example, ACH-809
3. Well depth—this is found in the left column of the well log
4. Water level accuracy—refers to the device that you are using for the measurement. Examples are given
5. Completion type—this is found in the left column near the top of the well log.
6. Location coordinates—this is found in the upper right column of the well log
7. Water level parameter name—this is relative to how you took the measurement. For example: depth below the top of casing or depth below the ground surface
8. Elevation of top of casing OR elevation of measuring point—if available, this is found on the well log in the top right column.

## Monthly/Seasonal Water Usage

The next section is entitled Monthly/Seasonal Water Usage and will look like this:

Month	Volume of Water Produced in gallons
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This data is **only** being requested for those systems who pump groundwater within the Columbia River Basin. Please report the total monthly volume of water produced for **all groundwater production wells**. This data should be available from your source meters.

## Water Shortage Response

The last new section on the reporting form is the Water Shortage Response section and includes these three questions.

1. Did you activate any level of water shortage response plan the previous year?  
 Yes  No  There was no need to
2. If you activated a water shortage response plan in the previous year, what level did you activate?  
 Advisory Conservation  Voluntary Conservation  Mandatory Conservation  
 Rationing  Other
3. What factors caused your water shortage the previous year? Check all that apply

- Drought
- Fire
- Landslides
- Earthquakes
- Flooding
- Water Supply limitations
- Other

Questions? Contact Sheryl Howe at [sheryl.howe@doh.wa.gov](mailto:sheryl.howe@doh.wa.gov) or 360-507-6108.

## For more information

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