



Water Resources Review Committee
Municipal Outdoor Water Conservation
Barriers and Opportunities

August 6, 2014

Chris Piper



DENVER WATER

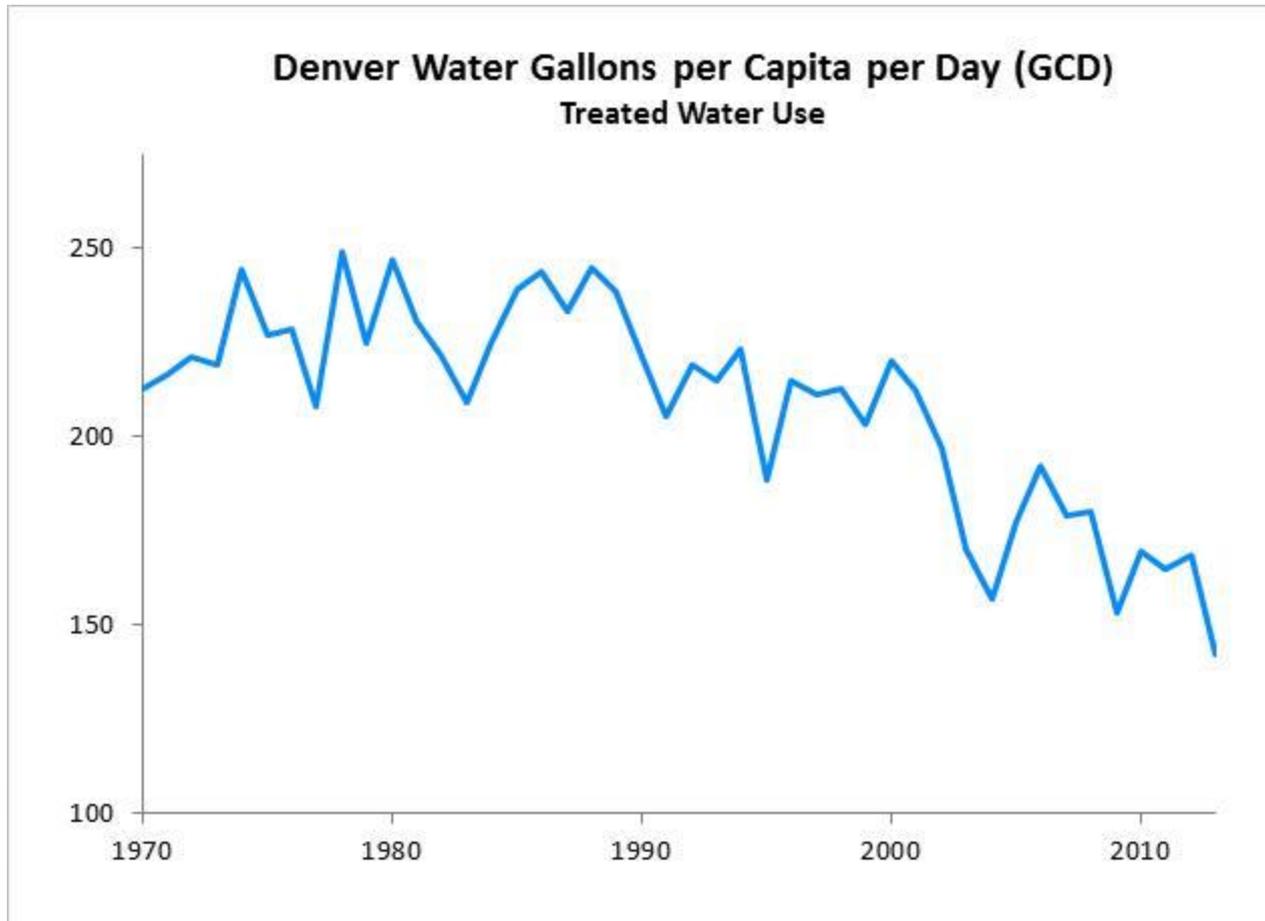
Outdoor Municipal Water Conservation

- **Current state**
- **Opportunities**
- **Barriers**
- **Leadership**

Current State

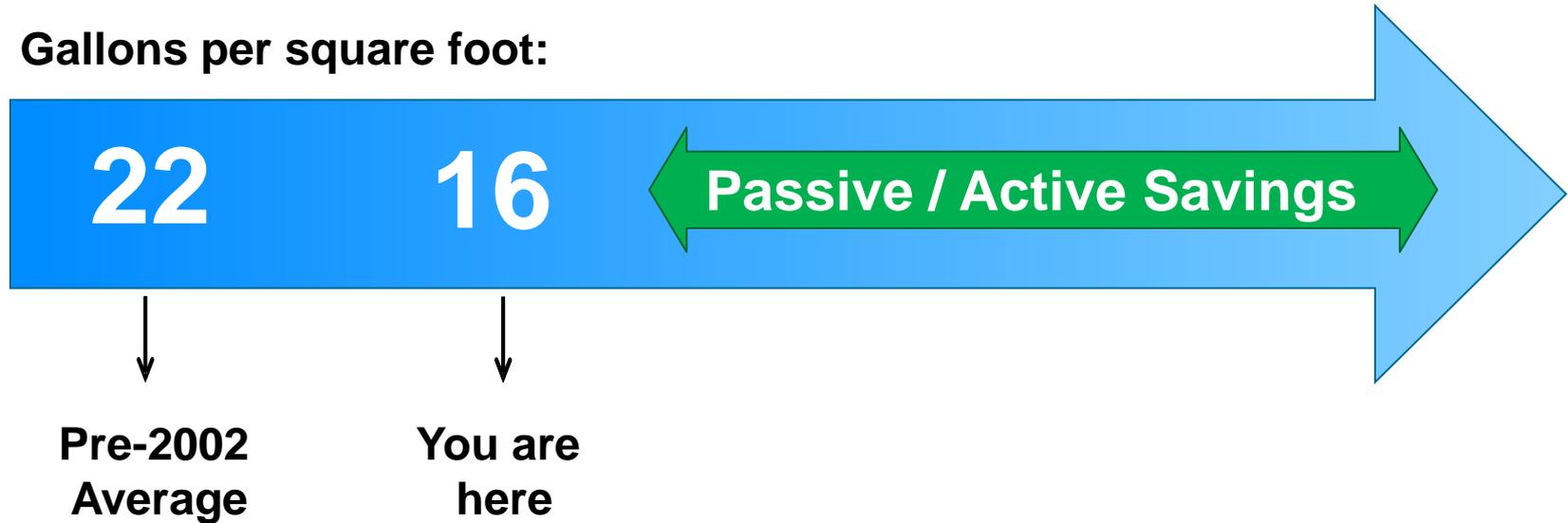
- **Gains in water conservation**
 - Overall water savings
 - Outdoor water conservation
- **Examples of how we got here**
 - Water use reports/ Water budgets image
 - Rebates – rotary nozzles/ smart irrigation controllers

Gains: Overall Water Savings

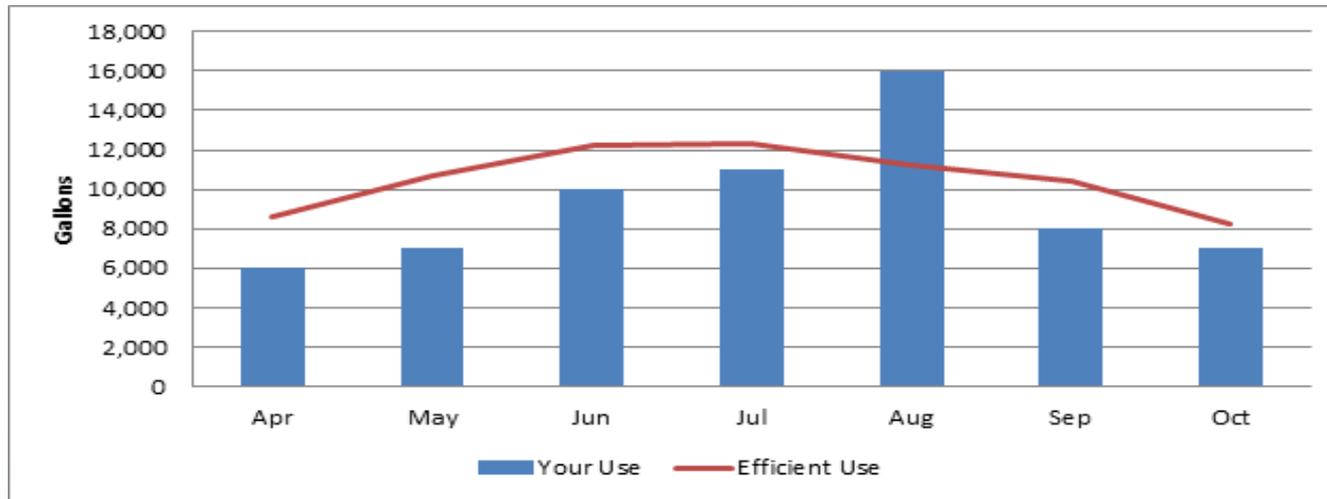
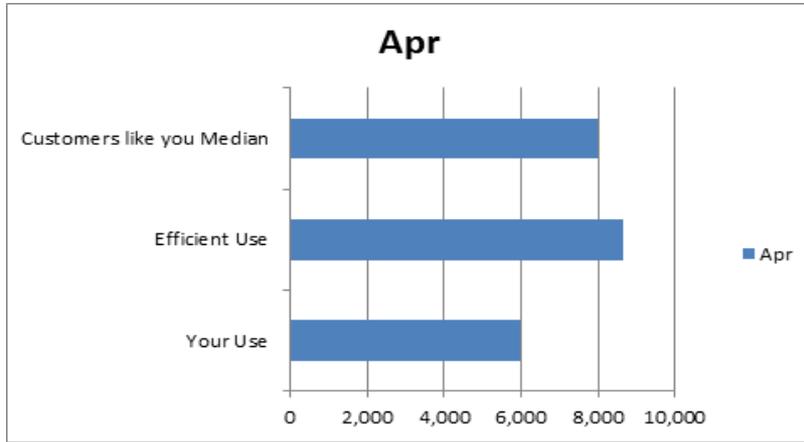


Gains: Outdoor Water Conservation

Gallons per square foot:



Examples: Residential Report



Opportunities

Two trends in municipal landscapes

- Landscape choices
- Reduced landscape area

Opportunities: Median strips



**Water efficient
plants in strips**

Opportunities: Xeric/lawn mix



**Bluegrass in the
right places**

Opportunities: Xeric landscape



Opportunities: Green Public Spaces

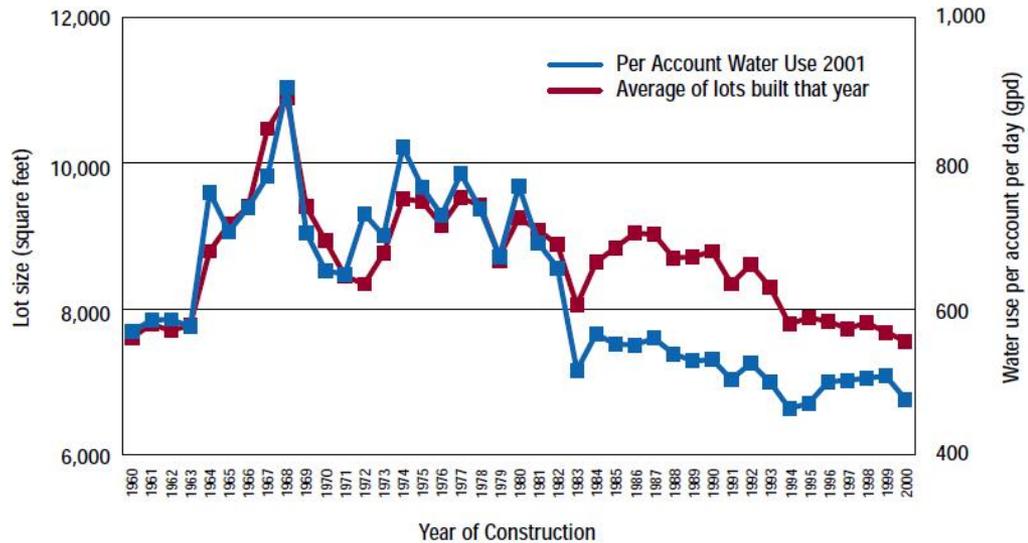


**Use bluegrass
where it makes
sense**

Opportunities: Landscape Size

Density and landscape type combine for double benefit

2001 Water Consumption per Residential Account by Year of Construction Compared with Average Single-Family Lot Size by Year of Construction, Clark County, Nevada



Smart Water A Comparative Study of Urban Water Use Across the Southwest

Barriers

“Despite bad reputation, blue grass is still the path of least resistance”

“The lowest cost irrigation products perform much worse than the best technology”

“Every local jurisdiction, HOA and water provider does it differently”

Leadership Opportunities

- **Have a full discussion of the issues**
- **Address need for more data**
- **Determine which strategies are best addressed at local vs. state level**
- **State – can provide consistency**

Local leadership

- **Codes and ordinances**
 - **Meaningful guidance in master plans around overall water use**
- **Education**

State Leadership

- **Consistency**
 - **Planning**
 - **Products**
 - **Certifications**
- **Research**
 - **What works**
 - **Where**

Questions

**Try? There is no try,
there is only do or
do not - Yoda**

