

AWWA CA/NV SECTION WATER CONSERVATION TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM “NEED TO KNOW” CRITERIA FOR LEVEL III

The “Need to Know” criteria” presented below is based upon the general knowledge requirements expected for level III AWWA CA/NV water conservation certification and focuses on tools and methods for program monitoring and evaluation.

Terms and definitions associated with the subjects discussed below.

Program Design

Knowledge of and interpretation of Conservation Program Designs, building and implementation.

Understanding of the criteria needed to make the program fit your area.

- How much potential savings is envisioned
- Where the savings are being realized

Program Monitoring

Knowledge of methods and issues involved in monitoring conservation measures, databases, data types, sampling techniques, methods to determine water savings, and statistical significance.

- identifying models
- importance of pre-planning
- mid-course corrections
- involvement of stakeholders

Program Evaluation

Knowledge of methods and issues involved in evaluating conservation measures, databases, data types, sampling techniques, methods to determine water savings, and statistical significance.

- identifying models
- importance of pre-planning
- mid-course corrections
- involvement of stakeholders

Program Cost-Effectiveness Analysis/Issues

Analyze benefits and costs of alternatives.

- Knowledge of the process involved in determining program cost-effectiveness
- issues and methods to determine avoided cost
- present worth cost-effectiveness analysis
- cost-benefit ratio
- issues of environmental benefits and costs
- issues of savings decay and natural replacement
- administrative costs
- water savings
- life of measures
- assessing reliability of projected costs and benefits
- involvement of stakeholders
- importance of external “peer” review

Rate Design Concepts

Knowledge of pricing issues and considerations, cost allocation, and alternative rate structures.

- identifying models
- gaining political support
- involvement of stakeholders
- mid-course corrections

A BROADER PLANNING PERSPECTIVE

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)

Knowledge of various planning approaches such as traditional supply-side planning, least-cost planning and integrated resource planning. Understanding of IRP objectives and evaluation criteria, involvement of stakeholders, assessing supply and conservation options, and formulating and evaluating resource strategies.

- involving all departments
- including efficiency as a supply option
- analyzing supply reliability
- comparing “total cost” of each new supply option
- involvement of stakeholders