Water Smart works!

Building Sustainable Futures for Community Water Use

In collaboration with local governments, Columbia Basin Trust offered the Water Smart program as a collaborative, regional, data-driven water conservation initiative from 2009 through to 2016.

Why did we create this program? Conserve water



Build local capacity

How did we do it?

Water Smart model



Team

Technical assistance and communications support



Matched funding Up to \$10k annually

for each Water Smart community



Collaboration

Water utility operators learning from each other



Learning

Training for water utility personnel



Website

Ambassadors

Water conservation

outreach to

Online hub for sharing news, tools and resources



Who participated?

23 municipalities 2 regional districts

1 First Nation community

What did we achieve? Decreased usage

Reductions in water use between 2% and 39% percent in most

communities.



New data & know-how

Valuable water conservation expertise in data collection, water loss management and peak water demand management.



Long-term savings

Long-term savings gained by reducing leaks in water distribution systems, reducing residential irrigation and using improved water data to guide water conservation actions.



What did we learn?

Actions = Results



If we use **LESS** we can...

Ensure water is available for human use and ecosystem health during periods of low water supply. Minimize the long-term costs of delivering fresh, potable water.





Increase resilience to climate change.



A complete summary of Water Smart's achievements is available at ourtrust.org/watersmartsummary 🖣

