

WATER SYSTEMS ~~AND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS~~ SHALL INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES CURRENTLY IN USE, OR TO BE IMPLEMENTED, FOR IMPROVING WATER CONSERVATION AND THE EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH WATER ~~OR WASTEWATER~~ IS USED, TREATED, STORED, AND TRANSMITTED. THE APPLICATION SHALL ALSO INCLUDE A SCHEDULE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

(B) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(1) PRACTICES DESIGNED TO MEASURE THE AMOUNT OF WATER CONVEYED THROUGH THE SYSTEM'S INFRASTRUCTURE TO WATER USERS, SUCH AS UNIVERSAL METERING;

(2) AUDITS OF LARGE-VOLUME USERS;

(3) REUSE AND RECYCLING OF WATER FOR NONPOTABLE, NONRESIDENTIAL APPLICATIONS;

(4) MANAGEMENT OF SYSTEM PRESSURE TO REDUCE USAGE;

(5) RETROFIT PROGRAMS;

(6) EFFICIENCY IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND IRRIGATION TECHNIQUES;

(7) WASTEWATER RECLAMATION AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS;

(8) FIXTURE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS;

(9) WATER AND WASTEWATER PRICING STRUCTURES THAT ENCOURAGE IMPROVED EFFICIENCY;

(10) REBATES AND OTHER FINANCIAL INCENTIVES;

(11) AN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR USERS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION; AND

(12) PROMOTION OR ADOPTION OF LOCAL WATER-USE ORDINANCES THAT ENCOURAGE WATER CONSERVATION.

5-5B-05.

(A) IN REVIEWING REQUESTS FOR NEW, ~~RENEWED~~, OR EXPANDED WATER APPROPRIATION ~~OR WASTEWATER DISCHARGE~~ PERMITS BY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS ~~OR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS~~, AS DEFINED BY THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER EXISTING LOCAL INITIATIVES AND VOLUNTARY EFFORTS AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SET FORTH FOR IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN A PERMIT APPLICATION.

(B) IN REVIEWING AND PRIORITIZING REQUESTS BY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS ~~OR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS~~, AS DEFINED BY THIS SUBTITLE, FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE MARYLAND WATER QUALITY REVOLVING LOAN FUND UNDER § 9-1605 OF THIS ARTICLE AND OTHER STATE FUNDING SOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER LOCAL INITIATIVES AND VOLUNTARY