# Water Use & Preservation Element

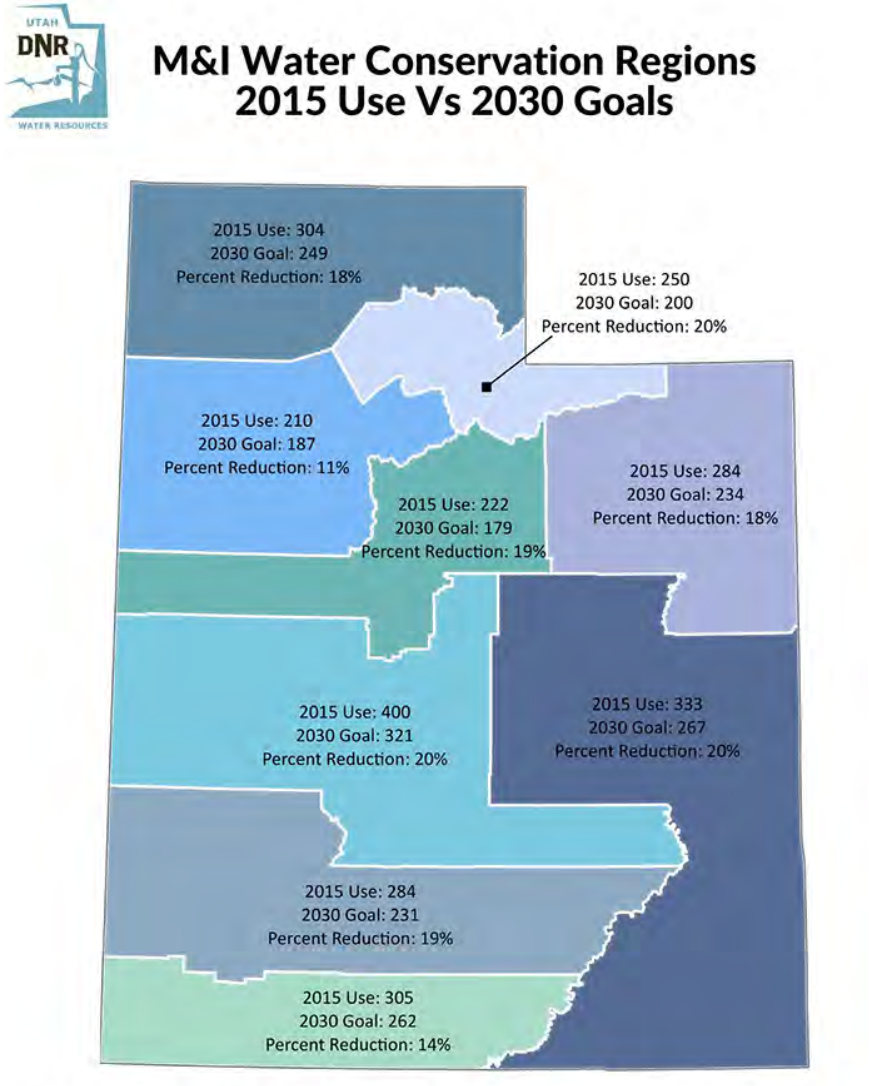
**STATE REQUIREMENTS ONLY**

## Introduction

This Water Use and Preservation Element fulfills requirements under Utah Code 1727a403, SB110 (2022), and SB76 (2023) integrating water and land use planning to promote sustainable development and ensure longterm water security. Per state requirements, this element only addresses the following at this time:

- The impact of development on water demand and infrastructure
- Strategies to reduce water use for existing and future development
- Operational modifications to reduce waste
- Coordination with state and regional stakeholders.

FIGURE 1.01 DNR WATER CONSERVATION REGION GOALS




A regional approach allows the goals to be tailored for nine different regions and takes into account climate, elevation, and each region's characteristics.
Note: Use is measured in gallons per capita per day.

Source: Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Water Resources

## State Conservation Goals for Duchesne County

The State of Utah classified Duchesne County in the Green River Region (alongside Uintah and Daggett counties) and estimated a 2015 Gallons Per Capita Per Day (GPCD) usage of 284. The Utah Division of Water Resources established a goal for reduction of 18% or 234 GPCD by 2030. This Water Element reflects Duchesne County's commitment to these regional goals and outlines policy directions to improve longterm water conservation, infrastructure coordination, and smart growth.

**↓50 GPCD**
*by 2030*

## Water demand and infrastructure impact

Duchesne County's water supply and distribution systems are managed by numerous independent water districts and local providers, none of which are owned or operated by the County itself. The following data was compiled from annual reports submitted by individual water providers to the Utah Division of Water Rights.

These figures include service areas within incorporated cities as well as unincorporated portions of the county, since most districts serve residents across both boundaries. Due to limited reporting and a lack of consistent metering, it is not possible to accurately separate water use data exclusive to unincorporated areas.

Many rural areas of the county have minimal water infrastructure, making detailed tracking of supply, usage, and losses difficult. As a result, this section presents the most complete data available to characterize overall countywide demand and identify areas where infrastructure investment and improved data collection are needed.

FIGURE 1.02 CONSTRUCTION OF VICTORY PIPELINE

Source: ISCO Field Report 2016, © ISCO

**Existing Conditions**

- Population (2024) ..... 19,932[1] || 17,691[2]
- Reliable Water Supply (estimated) ..... 9,637 AF/year[3]
- Estimated ERCs[4] (2024)..... 6,644[5]
- Total Water Use (2024) ..... 6,032 AF/year[6]
- Average Use per ERC..... 0.348 AF/year (113,321 gallons)
- Reliable Water Supply Estimate ..... 10,740 AF/year[7]

**Water Demand by Use Type - Duchesne County (2024)**

Based on 2024 actual water system reports based on public culinary water:

- Residential[8] .....~80% of total use
- Commercial .....~10%
- Institutional.....~7%
- Industrial.....~3%

1 Headwaters Economics' Economic Profile System (EPS): A Demographic Profile of Duchesne County, 2024.
2 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025.
3 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025.
4 ERC: equivelant residential connections.
5 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025.
6 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025.
7 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025. Highest reported available in previous 5 years.
8 Division of Water Rights Water Records/Use Information Viewer website, Duchesne County, 2025. Based on "domestic" category in 2024 data.

### III. Projected Growth and Water Demand Scenarios

Population projections were developed using four scenarios reflecting different economic growth patterns. For each, we assumed 3 persons per ERC and used the state ERC usage standard of 0.896 AF/year (based on 800 gallons/day × 365 ÷ 325,851). All water supply and demand is measured in acre-feet per year (AF/year).

TABLE 1.01 SCENARIO 1: HISTORICAL GROWTH 2.21%

| YEAR | POPULATION | SUPPLY | DEMAND | | | | | TOTAL USE | LEFT OVER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Residential | Commercial | Industrial | Institutional | Wholesale | | |
| 2025 | 17,488 | 9,637 | 2,918 | 466 | 2,294 | 354 | 0 | 6,032 | 3,606 |
| 2030 | 19,508 | 9,637 | 3,877 | 619 | 3048 | 470 | 0 | 6,728 | 2,909 |
| 2045 | 30,872 | 9,637 | 5,151 | 822 | 4050 | 625 | 0 | 10,648 | 1,010 |
| 2060 | 42,852 | 9,637 | 7,149 | 1,142 | 5,622 | 967 | 0 | 14,780 | 5,142 |

TABLE 1.02 SCENARIO 2: TECH MIGRATION 3.81% (NO DATA CENTERS)

| YEAR | POPULATION | SUPPLY | DEMAND | | | | | TOTAL USE | LEFT OVER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Residential | Commercial | Industrial | Institutional | Wholesale | | |
| 2025 | 17,488 | 9,637 | 2,918 | 466 | 2,294 | 354 | 0 | 6,032 | 3,606 |
| 2030 | 19,508 | 9,637 | 3,518 | 562 | 2,766 | 427 | 0 | 7,272 | 2,366 |
| 2045 | 30,872 | 9,637 | 7,714 | 1,232 | 6,065 | 936 | 0 | 15,946 | 6,309 |
| 2060 | 42,852 | 9,637 | 13,516 | 2,158 | 10,628 | 1,640 | 0 | 27,941 | 18,304 |

TABLE 1.03 SCENARIO 3: RAIL EXPANSION 5%

| YEAR | POPULATION | SUPPLY | DEMAND | | | | | TOTAL USE | LEFT OVER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Residential | Commercial | Industrial | Institutional | Wholesale | | |
| 2025 | 17,488 | 9,637 | 2,918 | 466 | 2,294 | 354 | 0 | 6,032 | 3,606 |
| 2030 | 19,508 | 9,637 | 3,724 | 595 | 2,928 | 452 | 0 | 7,698 | 1,940 |
| 2045 | 30,872 | 9,637 | 10,374 | 1,656 | 8,157 | 1,259 | 0 | 21,447 | 17,936 |
| 2060 | 42,852 | 9,637 | 21,568 | 3,444 | 16,959 | 2,616 | 0 | 44,586 | 41,076 |

TABLE 1.04 SCENARIO 4: AGRICULTURE FOCUS 0.85%

| YEAR | POPULATION | SUPPLY | DEMAND | | | | | TOTAL USE | LEFT OVER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Residential | Commercial | Industrial | Institutional | Wholesale | | |
| 2025 | 17,488 | 9,637 | 2,918 | 466 | 2,294 | 354 | 0 | 6,032 | 3,606 |
| 2030 | 19,508 | 9,637 | 3,042 | 488 | 2,393 | 369 | 0 | 6,292 | 3,345 |
| 2045 | 30,872 | 9,637 | 3,636 | 581 | 2,859 | 441 | 0 | 7,516 | 4,006 |
| 2060 | 42,852 | 9,637 | 4,128 | 659 | 3,246 | 501 | 0 | 8,534 | 5,024 |

**NOTE:** The water budgets were compiled using the largest reported supply values from the past five years. However, these figures may not fully represent the total water available to Duchesne County's suppliers, as many entities hold additional water rights or shares not reflected in annual reporting. To obtain a complete understanding of available supplies possible through water rights, the individual water districts' water master plans should be consulted. The tables align with the Utah Division of Water Resources' Method 2 approach. Duchesne County should select one scenario to be updated no less than once every five years in coordination with General Plan or utility master plan updates.

## Water Conservation- Existing Development

**Strategies to Reduce Per Capita Water Use in Existing Development**

To support longterm water sustainability, Duchesne County will implement targeted strategies to support residents voluntarily participating in the effort to reduce water use in existing homes, businesses, and public facilities. These strategies focus on reducing indoor and outdoor demand, improving system efficiency, and increasing public awareness.

**Turf Removal and Xeriscaping Promotion**

- Focus on the benefit of preserving water to agricultural endeavors
- Encourage the replacement of highwateruse turf with drought tolerant landscaping through public education and outreach.
    - Launch a coordinated, countywide outreach campaign in partnership with Duchesne City, Roosevelt City, Johnson Water District, and other providers.
        - Develop print, radio, and digital materials emphasizing:
            - Common outdoor water waste habits and how to remedy them
            - Seasonal watering schedules and rebate availability
- Use models such as the Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD) conservation grant programs to establish local funding streams.
- Promote demonstration projects on public or school properties to showcase xeriscaping benefits.

TABLE 1.05 WATER USE BY GRASS TYPE

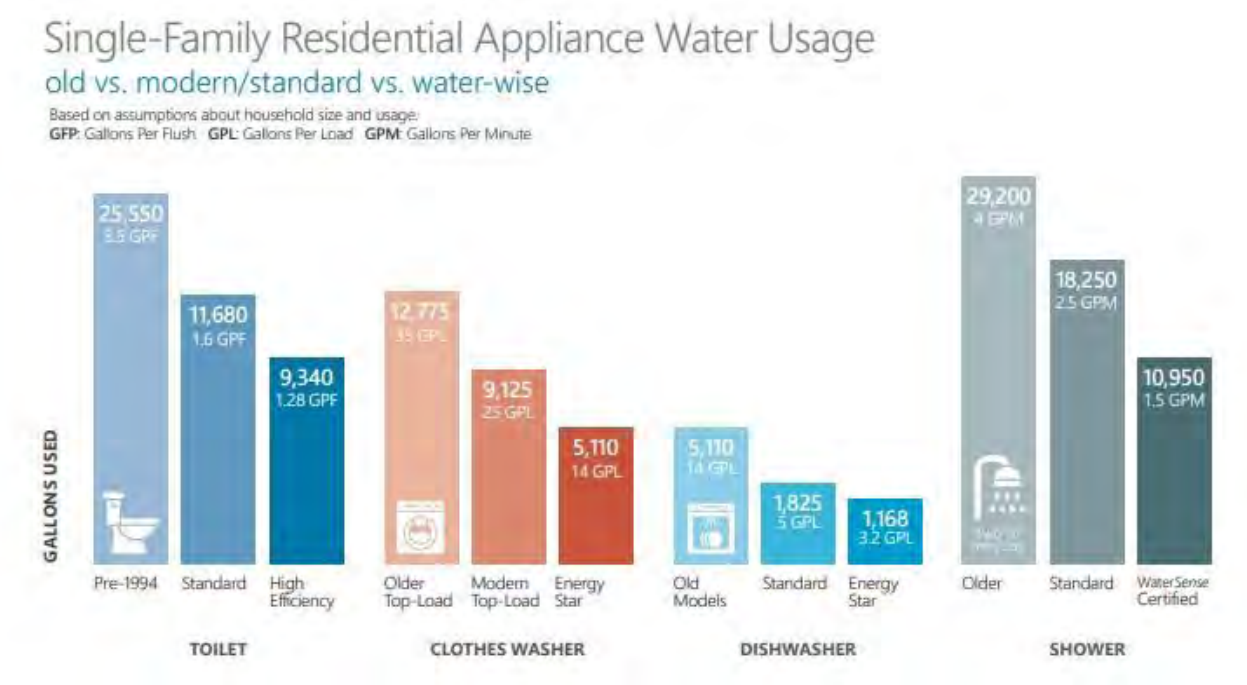
| Grass Type | Gallons per Season (25 weeks) | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 sq ft | 5,000 sq ft | 10,000 sq ft |
| Kentucky Bluegrass | 25,000 | 125,000 | 250,000 |
| Tall Fescue | 18,700 | 93,500 | 187,000 |
| Fine Fescue | 15,600 | 78,000 | 156,000 |
| Buffalograss | 9,400 | 47,000 | 94,000 |
| Xeriscape (native drought tolerant) | 7,500 or less | 37,500 or less | 75,000 or less |

Source: Research compiled by Sunrise Engineering

**Retrofit Support for Water Efficient Technology**

- Work with water providers and state agencies to expand access to retrofit programs for:
    - Smart irrigation controllers
    - Lowflow fixtures and nozzles
    - Secondary water metering systems
        - EXAMPLE: Fruitland Special Service District installed secondary meters and sought Central Utah Water Conservancy District support
- Provide information on targeted retrofits of highefficiency appliances (e.g., toilets, washers)
- Focus outreach on older neighborhoods and commercial centers with high per capita use.
- Work with Healthy Community of Northeastern Utah on health-related grants.

FIGURE 1.03 HIGH-EFFICIENCY APPLIANCE COMPARISON




Source: Research compiled by Sunrise Engineering

**Private Wells and Groundwater Preservation**

Many residences located in unincorporated areas are not connected to a centralized water system and instead rely on individual private wells for their water supply. These wells draw from underground aquifers, which are a shared and finite resource. However, there is currently limited data available to determine the sustainability of this water use.

At present, the County does not have access to specific and reliable data regarding:

- The volume of water being withdrawn from individual wells;
- Seasonal variation in usage;
- The overall availability and recharge rates of local aquifers;
- The cumulative impact of well use on groundwater levels;
- The extent of aquifer depletion or changes in water table levels over time.

These data gaps limit the County's ability to assess the longterm viability of wellbased water sources or evaluate their potential impact on regional water supplies.

Although this General Plan does not analyze aquifer conditions or private well impacts in detail, the County acknowledges the importance of groundwater stewardship. To address this, the County supports regional coordination efforts and would like to preserve and protect groundwater resources for longterm water security in areas served by individual wells by encouraging the following:

1. **Encourage greater understanding of local groundwater conditions.**
    a. Support and coordinate with state and regional agencies (such as the Utah Division of Water Rights and Utah Geological Survey) to encourage or pursue a scientific aquifer study to better understand groundwater availability, recharge rates, and well impacts.
    b. Engage with academic institutions or water conservancy districts to explore collaborative studies and technical support.

2. **Encourage responsible well use and water conservation among private well owners.**
    a. Provide educational materials to residents on best practices for well maintenance, water conservation, and groundwater protection.
    b. Support outreach programs that explain how individual actions can collectively impact aquifer health and longterm water reliability.
3. **Plan for future data driven water management.**
    a. Monitor legislative and regulatory developments related to groundwater management, and encourage water providers to adopt policies that reflect emerging best practices.
    b. Identify funding or grant opportunities that could help support a future groundwater or aquifer assessment.
    c. Incorporate updated groundwater data into future planning efforts once it becomes available.

## Water Conservation Future Development

In accordance with Utah Code 1727a403(2)(a)(v), Duchesne County will incorporate proactive water conservation strategies into land use policy and development review procedures. These measures will ensure that all future development supports longterm water resilience and that land use intensity is aligned with available water supply and delivery capacity.

1. **Review Development Codes to Consider the Requirement of WaterEfficient Design**

Duchesne County intends to review its land use and subdivision codes to consider the integration of water conservation best practices. These updates may be based on successful ordinances from other Utah communities and may include the following strategies:

a. The County will explore adopting ordinances for water wise landscaping such as:
    i. Requiring for Smart Irrigation Systems: Require smart controllers and weatherbased irrigation systems in all new developments that have landscaping.
    ii. Fixture Standards: Encourage or incentivize highefficiency indoor plumbing fixtures at County facilities.
    iii. Consider merits of limiting turf grass coverage in new subdivisions and/or turf in park strips.
    iv. Consider the degree of water-efficient landscaping coordination with arid areas or where culinary water is used for irrigation.
    v. Encourage water-efficient landscape design in all zones especially focusing on all commercial and institutional developments.
    vi. Encourage or require the use of droughttolerant and/or native vegetation or the preservation of native vegetation whenever possible.
    vii. Tree Preservation and Selection: Protect existing tree canopy whenever possible with wildland interface requirements and encourage droughttolerant species for new plantings excluding nonnative or invasive species.

2. **Encourage secondary Water Availability and Agricultural Irrigation Duty:**

In addition to general conservation measures, Duchesne County will encourage future development relying on irrigation systems adhere to realistic supply assessments, especially in rural and agricultural zones:

**a. Water Rights for Subdivisions:** Projects using irrigation must demonstrate that sufficient divertible duty is available, not just consumptive volume.

b. **Parcel-level Irrigation:** Residential parcels with pasture, turf, or irrigated open space must be assessed using agricultural irrigation duty, not just standard ERC (equivalent residential connection) values.

c. **Secondary Systems:** Secondary water systems serving turf or pasture irrigation should be evaluated for pressure, conveyance reliability, and droughtseason capacity.

These provisions help prevent subdivision approvals that appear viable on paper but are unserviceable due to irrigation infrastructure limits or water rights gaps.

**3. Promote On-Site Water Reuse**

Where feasible, the County will incentivize or encourage onsite water reuse systems to reduce peak summer demand and extend the usable life of supply infrastructure. Coordination with the TriCounty Health Department will ensure public safety and compliance. Depending on the type of reuse system proposed, approval through the Utah Division of Water Rights may also be required to ensure compliance with state regulations:

a. Rainwater harvesting systems on site in accordance with state code[1].

b. Drip irrigation in landscaped areas.

c. On site stormwater capture and reuse for landscaping in accordance with state requirements[2].

**4. Consider the Adoption of a Water Concurrency Standard:**

To support in the prevention of development from exceeding available supply, Duchesne County will explore adopting a "water concurrency" standard as part of the subdivision approval process:

a. No final plat or site plan approval will be granted without verified water rights and confirmation of delivery system capacity.

b. Projects that meet minimum size requirements though connections or population could be required to submit a Water Supply and Demand Impact Report, certified by the servicing water provider, with each provider should provide their connection or population numbers.

**5. Consider incentivizing waterefficient land use patterns:**

To help reduce longterm demand and infrastructure strain, the County will look for ways to promote:

a. Higher-density development (e.g., townhomes, cluster subdivisions) that use less water per capita

b. Density bonuses or expedited permitting for developments meeting advanced conservation benchmarks

1 Utah Code §73-3-1.5. Capture and storage of precipitation.
2 Utah Code §73-3-1.5. Capture and storage of precipitation.

## County Operations and Policy

Duchesne County recognizes its role in setting the tone for water conservation efforts. By retrofitting public facilities, improving landscape design, and tracking water use internally, the County can model the conservation behaviors it seeks to promote countywide.

1. **Track and/ or Retrofit CountyOwned Facilities to reduce longterm operating costs and indoor water use, the County will:**
    a. Consider tracking facilitywide water use in order to audit to identify outdated plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems and/ or publish aggregate County government water use trends in an annual public report.
    b. Replace all county restroom, kitchen, and janitorial fixtures with highefficiency models (WaterSense certified or better) when replacements are necessary.
    c. Prioritize retrofits in hightraffic buildings such as the courthouse, community centers, libraries, and parks.
2. **Convert Public Landscapes to Waterwise Design**
    a. Review existing lawns and ornamental turf in Countymaintained areas to replace with xeriscaping or lowwateruse ground cover.
    b. Continue the trend in recent county facility landscaping of using droughttolerant trees and native shrubs in publicfacing landscapes, particularly around buildings, medians, and public parks when possible.
    c. Redesign irrigation systems to support drip irrigation or weatherbased controls.
3. **Encourage Water-wise Ornamental Water Features**
    a. Review new ornamental water features (e.g., fountains, ponds) to prioritize the possible use of reclaimed water.
    b. Evaluate the removal or conversion of existing features unless they serve a cooling or functional stormwater management purpose.
    c. Explore install signage explaining these changes as a conservation education tool for residents.

## Irrigation and Agricultural Water Use

Agriculture plays a foundational role in Duchesne County's economy, culture, and landscape. Protecting agricultural land and ensuring the longterm reliability of irrigation water is essential not only for food and forage production, but also for preserving rural character and water resource sustainability.

Irrigation refers to the act of applying water to support the growth and maintenance of any type of plants or crops. This includes watering lawns, gardens, shrubs, pastures, orchards, and nonnative trees and landscaping. In planning and water rights contexts, all of these are considered irrigation, even if the plant material is not harvested for agricultural production.

**Irrigation Duty**

In Utah, the amount of water typically diverted for irrigation purposes is measured as "duty of water" which is defined as the annual volume of water (in acrefeet) allocated per irrigated acre to achieve optimal crop growth. This figure accounts for the most waterintensive crops (e.g., alfalfa) and assumes traditional surface irrigation methods during the region's growing season.

FIGURE 1.04 IRRIGATION DUTY ZONES


Source: Utah Division of Water Rights

The average diversion duty in Utah is approximately 4.0 AF per acre, but it varies considerably based on location and climate:

**Note: These figures reflect diversion, not consumption. Actual crop consumptive use is generally lower due to return flows and conveyance losses.**

A map of irrigation duty zones across the state (provided by the Utah Division of Water Rights) should be referenced by Duchesne County when evaluating water right adequacy for agricultural parcels and rural subdivisions.

Duchesne County will pursue policies and planning strategies that support the longterm viability of agriculture, and will collaborate with producers and irrigation companies to acheive this goal.

1. **Map Agricultural Protection Areas and Explore Conservation Easements**

To ensure the long-term viability of farmland and its associated water rights from future conversion or fragmentation, Duchesne County will:

a. Assist in the creation of a map showing current Agricultural Protection Areas (APAs) and identify gaps or vulnerable parcels within active production corridors.

b. Promote awareness of federal, state, and nonprofit land protection tools that permanently preserve working lands while allowing continued agricultural use.

**2. Encourage OnFarm Efficiency Improvements**

To optimize agricultural water use and reduce system losses, Duchesne County will support voluntary adoption of improved onfarm irrigation methods, including:

a. Drip and microirrigation systems for orchards, small pasture operations, or specialty crops
b. Sprinkler retrofits in place of flood irrigation where feasible
c. Use of soil moisture monitoring to time watering more precisely including the use of satellites/ drones and other emerging technologies.

Producers will be encouraged to participate in NRCS-funded programs such as:

d. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
e. ACEP Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)
f. Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

**Note**: These programs offer technical and financial support for irrigation upgrades, system planning, and conservation planning.

**3. Integrate Agricultural Suitability and Soil Data**

The County will work with NRCS and other partners to incorporate:

a. Soil productivity classifications
b. Crop suitability mapping
c. Irrigation infrastructure overlays

into the General Plan and zoning ordinance updates. This data can help prioritize areas for:

d. Agricultural zoning protections
e. Targeted infrastructure upgrades
f. Future irrigation optimization grants

**4. Revisit HB237 with Local Stakeholders**

Utah's House Bill 237 (2022) enables counties to establish policies that prioritize the longterm viability of agriculture. Duchesne County will revisit past concerns about HB237 and assess whether there is interest in:

a. Establishing Agricultural Planning Advisory Committees
b. Identifying Agricultural Priority Areas
c. Creating a framework to integrate agriculture into broader land use, water, and housing decisions

## Action Plan and implementation

To achieve meaningful water savings and align land use decisions with longterm water availability, Duchesne County will implement this Water Element in phases, supported by clear timelines, performance metrics, and interagency coordination. This approach ensures that planning efforts evolve alongside community needs, infrastructure improvements, and conservation goals.

### 1. Timeline for Key Implementation Actions

**Note:** These timelines may shift based on funding availability, interlocal coordination, and state-level support.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Fall 2025:** | Research, write and adopt Water Element into General Plan |
| **Spring 2026:** | Review Water Element as an overall piece of the updated General Plan and make any adjustments as needed |
| **2027:** | Public information and education |
| **2028:** | Possible ordinance updates |
| **2030:** | Secondary water metering expansion |
| **2035:** | Conversion incentives / updated water master plan with infrastructure plans |

### 2. Measurement Tools and 2030 Reduction Goal

Duchesne County adopts the statewide target of 18% per capita water use reduction by 2030, as recommended by the Utah Division of Water Resources. To track progress, the County will:

a. Monitor annual water use per ERC and compare to baseline (2024) values
b. Track number of secondary meters installed
c. Track square footage of turf converted via incentive or voluntary programs
d. Monitor the percentage of new developments using droughttolerant landscaping
e. Evaluate implementing a required annual report from water providers to evaluate progress

### 3. Funding Sources

To support these actions, Duchesne County may pursue assistance for the preparation or update of its Water Element through several available grant programs. These programs can support efforts to integrate water planning into the broader General Plan or to develop the Water Element as a standalone document. These grants include but are not limited to:

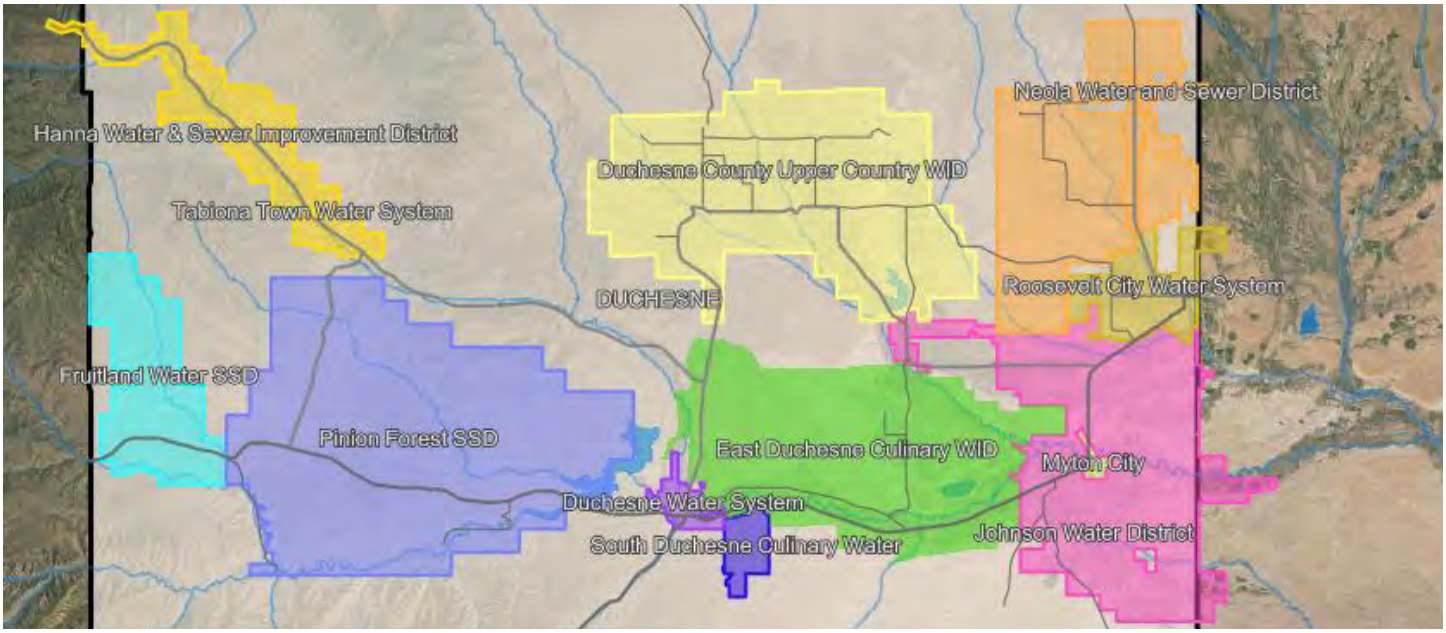
1. Utah Division of Water Resources Technical Assistance Grant funds may be used to:
    - Develop landscape ordinance language
    - Facilitate stakeholder workshops
    - Build public education campaigns
    - Contract engineering or GIS support for system mapping and metering analysis
2. Utah UDOT Technical Planning Assistance Grant
    - Integrate land use and transportation planning
    - Maximize the value of investment in public infrastructure
    - Increase travel options to optimize mobility
    - Create communities with opportunities to live, work, and play

## Stakeholder Coordination

Duchesne County will engage with the following agencies throughout the planning and implementation process to align with best practices and receive technical guidance:

- Utah Division of Water Resources - Assist with water budget methodology, supply planning
- Division of Drinking Water - Support for systemlevel planning and source protection
- Department of Agriculture & Food - Guidance on agricultural water use, grants, and reuse

FIGURE 1.05 DUCHESNE COUNTY WATER DISTRICTS




Source: Duchesne County

Effective regional planning requires close collaboration with cities and water districts. Duchesne County will continue to coordinate with the following entities:

1. Cedarview-Montwell Special Service District
2. Central Utah Water Conservancy District
3. Duchesne City Water
4. Duchesne County Water Conservancy District (no culinary water)
5. East Duchesne Culinary Water Improvement District
6. Fruitland Water Special Service District
7. Hanna Water and Sewer Improvement District
8. Johnson Water District
9. Moon Lake Resort (impaired)
10. Mt. Tabby Springs Water District
11. Myton City Municipal Water System
12. Neola Water and Sewer District
13. North Fork Ranchettes (limited)
14. Pinion Forest SSD (water hauling only)
15. Roosevelt City Corporation (culinary)
16. South Duchesne Culinary Water (limited)
17. Starvation State Park (state park only)
18. Tabiona Town Water System
19. Upper Country Water Improvement District
20. Valle Del Padres Subdivision (limited)

Many areas of Duchesne County rely on secondary water provided through canals and ditches. To support conservation in both agricultural and suburban areas, the County will coordinate with all irrigation and private ditch companies and associations, and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District.

## APPENDIX: Public Outreach and Feedback

The Water Element of the Duchesne County General Plan was developed in coordination with local water providers, irrigation companies, and the general public. Stakeholder outreach emphasized understanding local water supply systems, capturing user concerns, and identifying practical conservation strategies. Stakeholders whose contact information was available were contacted early in the drafting process to provide input, and the completed draft was distributed to them for review and comment.

The broader public outreach effort for the 2025 General Plan update also served as the foundation for gathering community input on waterrelated issues. Water was among the most frequently mentioned topics in both survey responses and public comments.

Public and stakeholder engagement included the following activities:

- **Stakeholder Meetings:** Individual interviews and group discussions were held with developers, realtors, farmers, water users, and city representatives to identify local challenges and priorities.
- **Public Events:** Booths at community events such as Myton Daze, the Tabiona Rodeo, and other summer gatherings provided direct opportunities for residents and rural water users to share feedback.
- **Planning Commission Meetings:** Ongoing discussions at monthly meetings ensured that proposed water conservation policies and implementation strategies were reviewed by local officials and members of the public.
- **Online Engagement:** The Duchesne General Plan website (www.duchesnegp2025.com) offered access to draft materials, surveys, and open comment forms, allowing residents to participate digitally throughout the planning process.

The feedback gathered throughout this process underscored several consistent themes:

a. Residents want water supply and infrastructure reliability prioritized in development approvals.

b. There is support for turf and landscape restrictions, provided they are paired with education and support.

c. Farmers and rural users emphasized the importance of protecting agricultural water rights and improving canal efficiency.

d. Water providers raised concerns about system pressure, aging infrastructure, and funding constraints for secondary metering.

# APPENDIX: Email Correspondence

**1. Email correspondence to water districts/ stakeholders:**

*"Duchesne County is in the process of preparing its Water Element in accordance with the State of Utah's general plan requirements. This document will serve as an advisory element within the Vernal City General Plan, guiding future land use and infrastructure decisions with a focus on longterm water supply, conservation, and system efficiency.*

*Attached is the Draft Duchesne Water Element for your review and input. As a valued partner in regional water planning, your feedback is essential to ensure the document accurately reflects current and future conditions.*

*Please help by:*

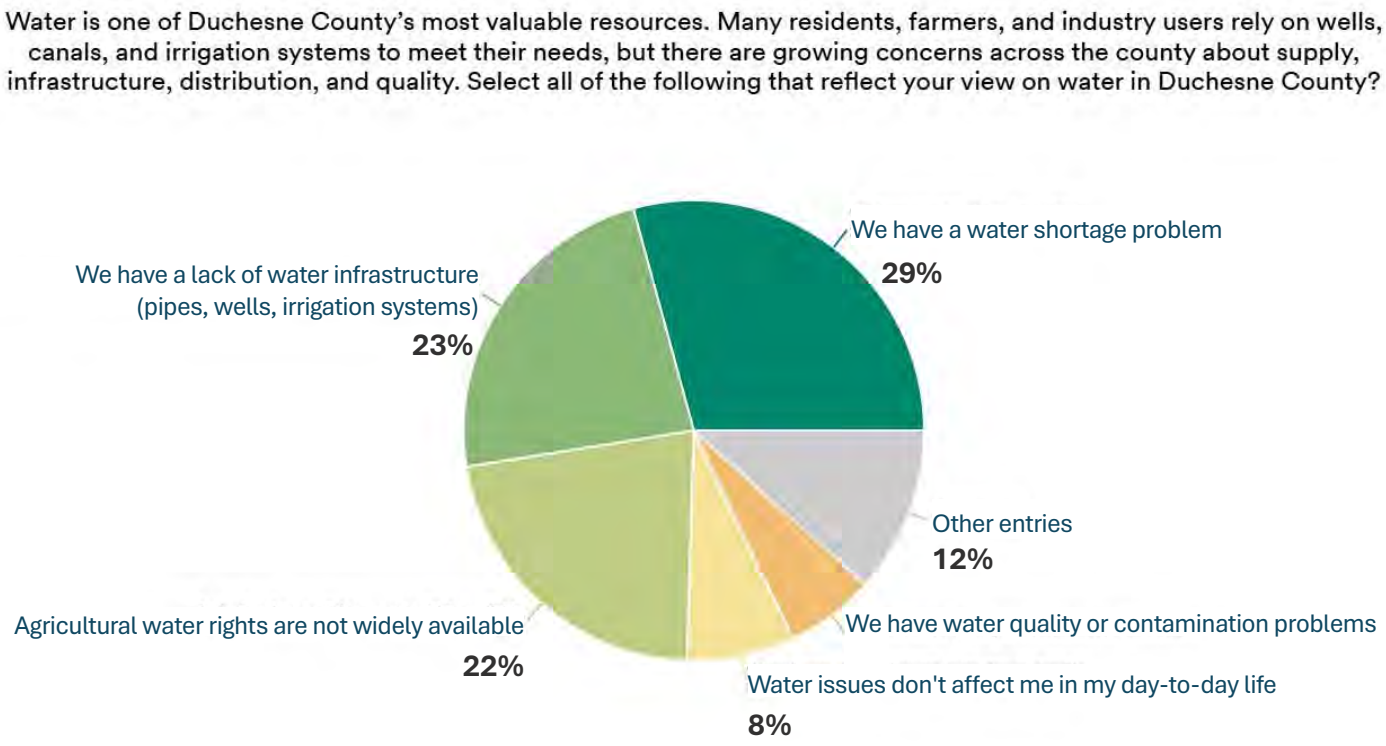
- *Sharing conservation goals and policies, and*
- *Providing updates on planned infrastructure projects related to water resources.*

*Please don't feel that you need to create any new information. Existing reports, summaries, or data you already have are perfect, and if some information isn't available, that's completely fine.*

*Comments or materials can be sent to Gabby Blackburn at gabby.blackburn@sunriseeng.com by November 7th 2025.*

*Thank you for your time and continued collaboration in planning for Duchesne Counties Future"*

**2. Survey Question Results**



How much would you support each of the following measures to ensure future water availability in Duchesne County?