06 Public Services

Stock image.

Photo Credit: Unknown (2025)

Limited availability of public services in unincorporated Wasatch County is not just a logistical constraint—it's a defining feature of rural life. Sparse infrastructure, decentralized service delivery, and natural resource limitations have long shaped the pace and pattern of development outside municipal boundaries. These limitations reflect a rural ethic of self-reliance, fiscal restraint, and environmental stewardship.

Rather than viewing service constraints as obstacles, this General Plan recognizes them as essential boundaries that help preserve the County's natural beauty, protect water resources, and support responsible growth. Infrastructure availability—especially for sewer, stormwater, and water supply—is one of the most effective tools for guiding development toward areas that can support it, while safeguarding open lands and sensitive ecosystems.

Residents and landowners considering development outside serviced areas should be aware of these limitations. In many cases, the absence of centralized infrastructure may restrict density, increase permitting complexity, or require alternative systems that carry long-term maintenance responsibilities. Understanding these realities is essential to making informed decisions and aligning expectations with the nature of the County's resilience, stewardship, and rural character.

Fiscal Responsibility

In a rural context where resources are limited and expectations for frugality are high, the County must ensure that public investments are transparent, coordinated, and value-driven. A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is the primary tool for achieving this. The CIP identifies major infrastructure needs, evaluates financial commitments, and ensures consistency with the goals and policies of the General Plan. By aligning capital projects with long-term priorities, avoiding duplication across jurisdictions, and pursuing cost-sharing opportunities, the County can stretch limited resources while maintaining essential services.

As part of this effort, this chapter supports planning for adequate utility and public services, whether through the land development process or government-led programs. It is essential that new development pays its fair share of the cost associated with expanding utility infrastructure and delivering services to newly developed areas. Most utilities and public services require significant upfront investment and must be planned proactively to meet future demand. Key factors influencing the amount, location, and type of growth that Wasatch County can anticipate include who will pay for improvements and where those facilities will be located.

Public Schools

Wasatch County School District, charter schools, and Utah Valley University serves many of the public education and technical training needs in the county and, under state law, these entities operate with some autonomy from local land use regulations. However, school sites are still required to obtain land use permits from the county and demonstrate compliance with general site development standards.

Because land use policies influence school district projections and facility planning, and similarly, the impact that the design and construction of new school facilities can have on the community, it is important that the school district and the county make efforts to collaborate on policies and projects to seek outcomes that provide for optimal community benefit, reduced infrastructure costs and traffic impacts, and increased potential for success of each other's goals.

Storm Water Control

Stormwater management in Wasatch County has evolved alongside growth in the Heber Valley. In 1986, the County and Heber City constructed a joint flood control system to convey runoff from Lake Creek and Center Creek to the Provo River. This system, comprised of natural channels, canals, and a constructed floodway, remains a critical piece of regional infrastructure.

As development continues, additional stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces must be carefully managed to protect water quality and reduce downstream impacts. Storm events contribute to the majority of nutrient loading and pollutants in local streams and water bodies, highlighting the need for proactive stormwater management.

The 2000 Heber Valley Storm Water Management Plan (PSOMAS)[1] identifies sediment basins and constructed wetlands as effective best management practices (BMPs) for reducing nutrient loads. The plan

[1] PSOMAS. *Heber Valley Storm Water Management Plan*. Prepared for Wasatch County, 2000.

outlines two alternatives for basin construction and should continue to guide the County's efforts to improve water quality. This plan is hereby incorporated into the General Plan by reference.

To further support long-term stormwater management, Wasatch County and the municipalities in Heber Valley should collaborate on a regional drainage system to supplement the existing flood control network and replace the irrigation ditches that have been phased out by pressurized irrigation systems.

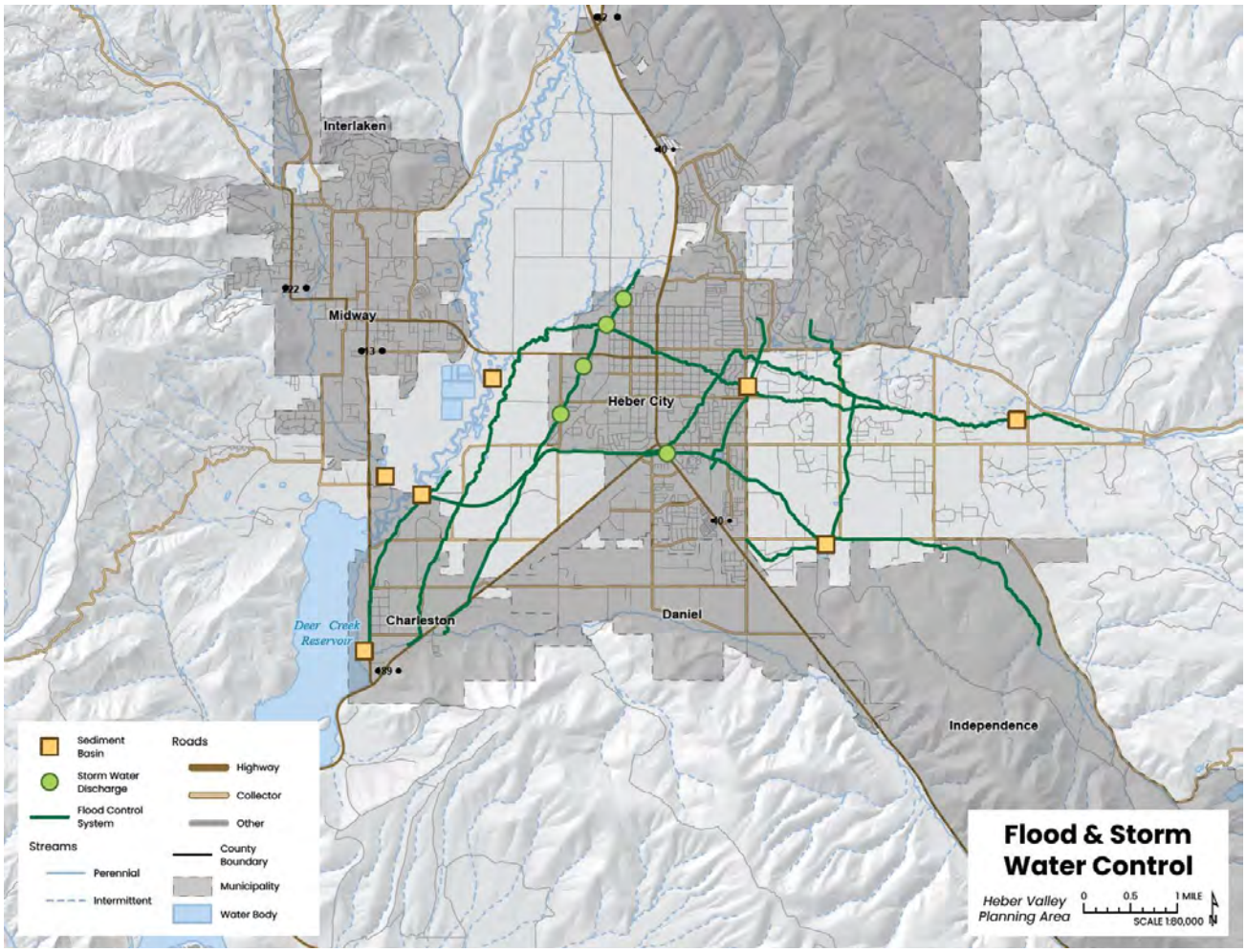


Figure 6-1. Existing Flood and Stormwater Collection System

Wastewater Treatment

System Overview

The Heber Valley Special Service District (HVSSD): Established in 1977 to provide wastewater treatment services for Heber City, Midway City, the Midway Sanitation District, and Charleston Town. The service area has since expanded to include portions of the Twin Creeks Special Service District. Lagoon capacity was expanded in 2001, increasing treatment capacity to approximately 10,000 Equivalent Residential Units (ERUs), and a mechanical treatment facility added in 2013 to accommodate projected flows through 2030.

Jordanelle Basin facility: A separate mechanical treatment facility built in 2013 below the Jordanelle Reservoir serves the Jordanelle and North Village SSDs to support higher-density resort development in the Jordanelle Basin.

Septic limitations: To protect groundwater, septic drainfields are unsuitable in areas with densities greater than one ERU per five acres. As a result, the timing and location of sewer line extensions are among the County's most effective tools for managing growth and preventing sprawl by directing development to serviced areas. County policies encourage both new construction and existing homes on septic systems to connect to the centralized sewer system when they're within a reasonable distance. Additionally, the Wasatch County Health Department uses state and local rules to appropriately manage septic systems when used. This approach helps safeguard water quality, especially in areas where aging or poorly sited septic systems pose a risk to water quality.

Future Capacity and Planning Considerations

Ongoing coordination with the Heber Valley Special Service District (HVSSD), Strawberry Ranch SSD (SRSSD), and the Jordanelle Special Service District (JSSD) is essential for understanding wastewater treatment capacity and planning for future growth. Both entities should maintain up-to-date master plans that identify service boundaries, infrastructure needs, and growth limitations based on treatment capacity. Local jurisdictions and preliminary municipalities should respect these limitations and incorporate them into land use decisions to ensure that development remains aligned with available infrastructure.

Because the HVSSD system was approved as a non-discharging facility to protect Deer Creek Reservoir, the Division of Water Rights classifies it as nearly 100% consumptive. This means that when culinary water is used and wastewater is treated by HVSSD, additional water rights may be required to offset the lack of return flow to the watershed. This consideration is especially important when evaluating new development proposals and water right transfers.

Water Use and Preservation

Wasatch County, like many other counties in the State, faces ongoing challenges related to limited water availability. The entire county is either closed to new appropriations[2] or subject to restrictions on new water rights. As a result, all new development must secure sufficient and appropriate water resources.

Water use is governed by a complex system of rights and regulations that determine how much water is available, where it can be used, and for what purposes. While municipalities typically provide these services

[2] Division of Water Rights. https://www.waterrights.utah.gov/gisinfo/maps/agwpol.pdf

within their boundaries, the unincorporated areas of Wasatch County rely on Special Service Districts (SSDs), mutual water companies, or private systems to meet these essential needs.

Culinary Water

Culinary water in the unincorporated county that is not provided by private wells is delivered by approximately 14 public providers, ranging from large SSDs to small mutual companies. Larger providers, such as SSDs, have capacity to monitor water resources, project demand and plan infrastructure investments. Smaller providers often face staffing and financial limitations, making long-term planning more difficult. There are areas where existing residential development exists outside of service area boundaries, specifically in the North Fields area and near the town of Wallsburg. These areas are limited in scope and population, so their impact to the analysis is minimal.

Table 6-1. Wasatch County Water Providers

System	Source	Population	Water Use (Mgal/year, 2024)	Water Conservation Plan[1]
Canyon Meadows Mutual Water Company	Little Deer Creek Intake	50	11.97	
Center Creek Culinary Water Company	Center Creek Well, Springs	340	9.03	
Charleston WCD	Charleston Park Well, Charleston Well, Upper and Lower Springs	510	33.03	
County Estates Mobile Home Park	Well	160	4.56	
Jordanelle SSD (JSSD)	Keetley Water Treatment Plant, Fisher Ranch Water Treatment Plant, Victory Ranch Well #1 and 2, JSSD Back up Well	3,550	440.69	Yes
North Village SSD	Keetley Water Treatment Plant, Fisher Water Treatment Plant (JSSD)	1280	35.46	Yes
Oak Haven Water Co.	Oak Haven well	388	6.61	
Storm Haven Residents	Storm Haven Well	190	4.35	
Swiss Alpine Water Co.	Swiss Alpine Well, Upper Devils Hole Spring	300	15.89	
Swiss Oaks HOA	Wholesale from Midway City	143	8.86	
Timber Lakes Water SSD	Cover Springs (2), Lone Pine Springs (6), Lookout Mountain Springs	1000	19.89	Yes
Twin Creeks SSD	Lake Creek and Big Pole Creek, Fisher Water Treatment Plant (JSSD), Billy Bether Spring	4530	155.59	Yes
Wolf Creek Ranch	Caretaker Well, Wolf Creek Well (2)	50	33.91	
Woodland South Hills Irrigation	Mountain Well, River Well	198	2.02	

Municipalities within Wasatch County				
Daniel Municipal Water	Daniel Well #1, Fisher Spring, Thacker Spring	760	25.34	
Heber City	Valley Hills Well, Hospital Well, Well No. 1, Upper Broadhead Spring	16,276	704.33	Yes
Hideout Town	JSSD	600	46.06	
Interlaken Mutual Water Company		350	9.95	
Midway City		5,200	526.81	Yes
Wallsburg Town		440	16.15	

Notes:

1. Conservation Plans, when applicable, can be found at https://conservewater.utah.gov/submitted-conservation-plans/

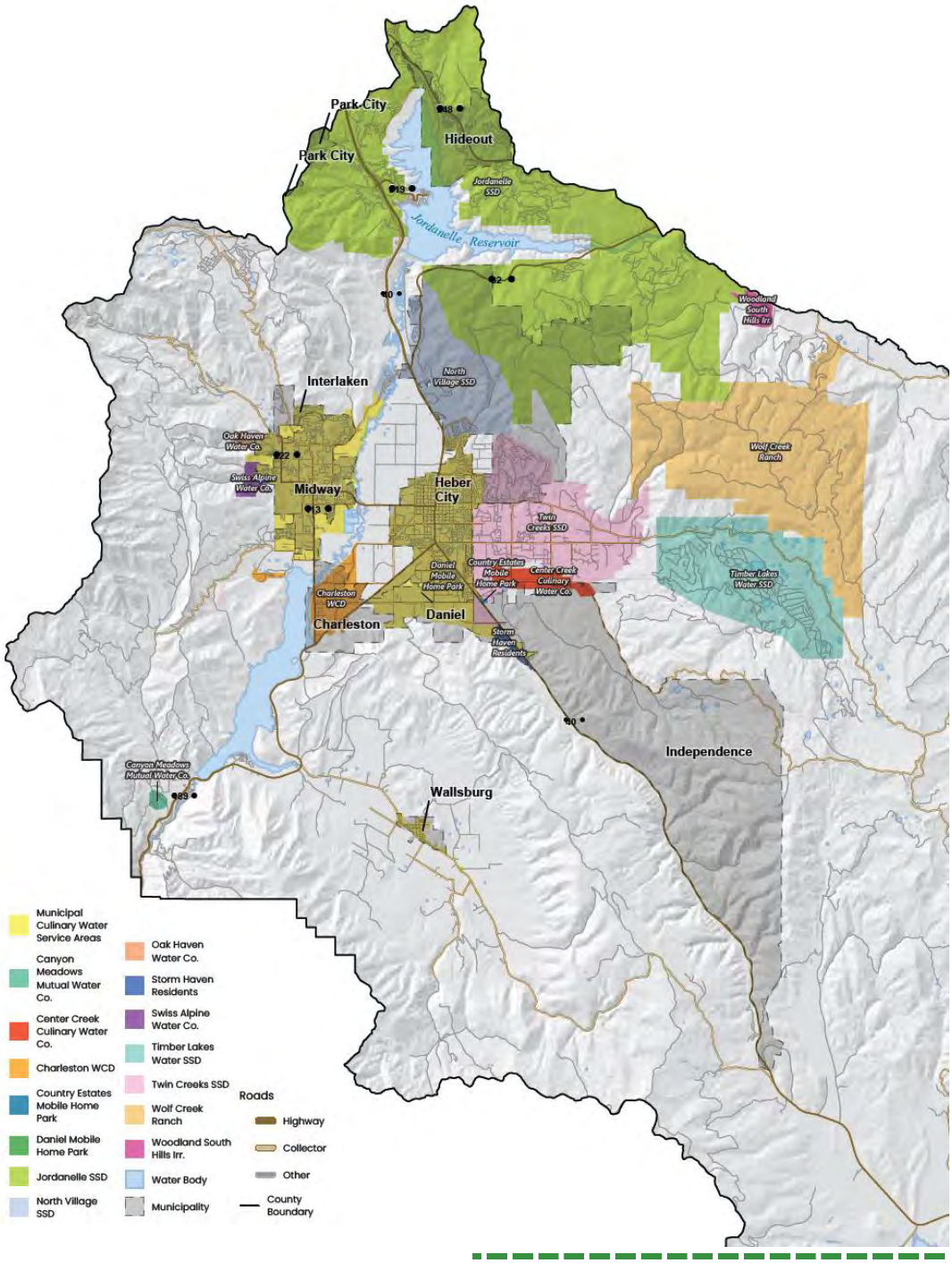


Figure 6-2. Culinary Water Provider Service Areas

There are significant differences in water use, land use, and demand throughout the unincorporated County. For example, the North Fields area is historically agricultural land serviced by an irrigation company with a few residences supporting their own water rights and infrastructure to supply culinary water. In contrast, areas near Park City and the Jordanelle are seeing drastically different development patterns characterized by higher density residential use, a lack of historic irrigation and no service from irrigation companies.

In these high growth areas, like the areas surrounding Hideout and Park City, higher-density development as prescribed in the Future Land Use Map, are better served by a special service district that can provide more culinary connections and manage environmental concerns associated with wastewater and well drilling. For areas of the unincorporated county that are historically agricultural, very low-density residential and agricultural uses should be maintained as much as possible to reduce the need for significant investment in new water infrastructure or a high intensity of individual well drillings. In all instances, development of new infrastructure should consider the significant impact of using culinary water for outside irrigation. Future land use decisions must understand this impact, as outdoor irrigation with culinary water significantly increases per capita water use.

In unincorporated Wasatch County, most culinary water is used for residential purposes. While providers don't separate indoor and outdoor use, statewide estimates suggest that up to 65% of residential culinary water goes to landscaping, highlighting a significant area to target for water conservation. Agricultural and pressurized irrigation is not included in the figures, as they are harder to track and often not metered. However, data is slowly beginning to improve as the state of Utah is requiring pressurized irrigation connections to be metered by 2030.[3] As that data becomes available, more refined policies can be explored.

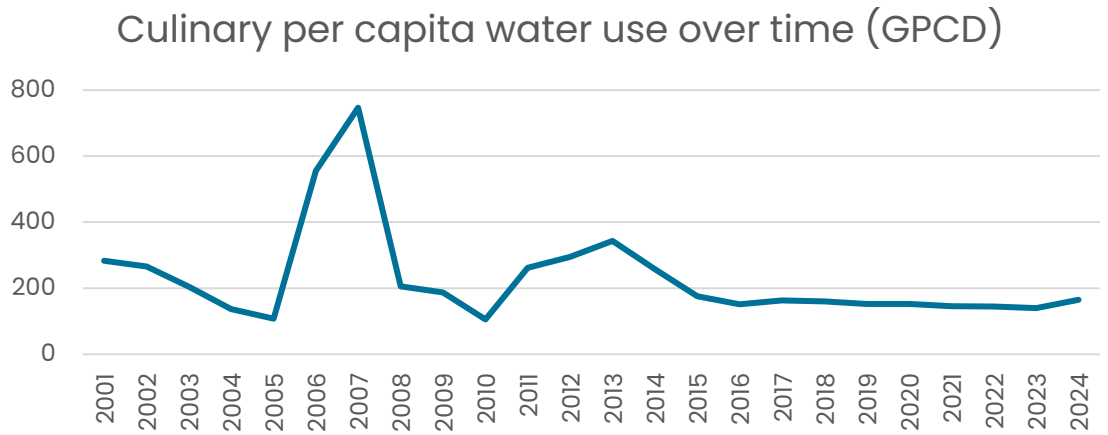


Figure 6-3. Per Capita Water Use within Public Culinary Water Provider Service Areas

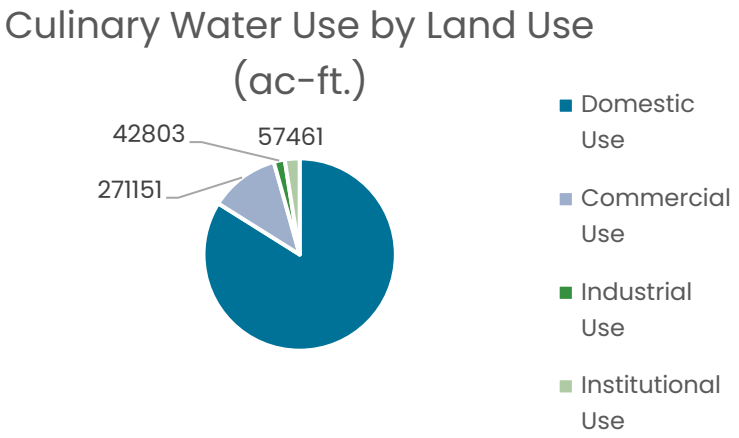


Figure 6-4. Water Use Type for County Water Providers (Source: Division of Water Rights, 2025)

[3] Utah State Code 73-10-34. November 2025

Irrigation Water

A number of private irrigation companies serve Wasatch County, operating both pressurized systems and gravity-fed canals and ditches. Gravity-fed systems rely on a consistent volume of headwater to maintain flow across the full extent of the ditch network. These systems are inexpensive but inefficient, suffering from high water loss from seepage, evaporation, and unregulated flow. In contrast, pressurized systems use pump stations, regulating ponds, and pipelines to deliver water across varied terrain with greater control and efficiency, but at a higher infrastructure cost and exposure to risks associated with power grid failures.

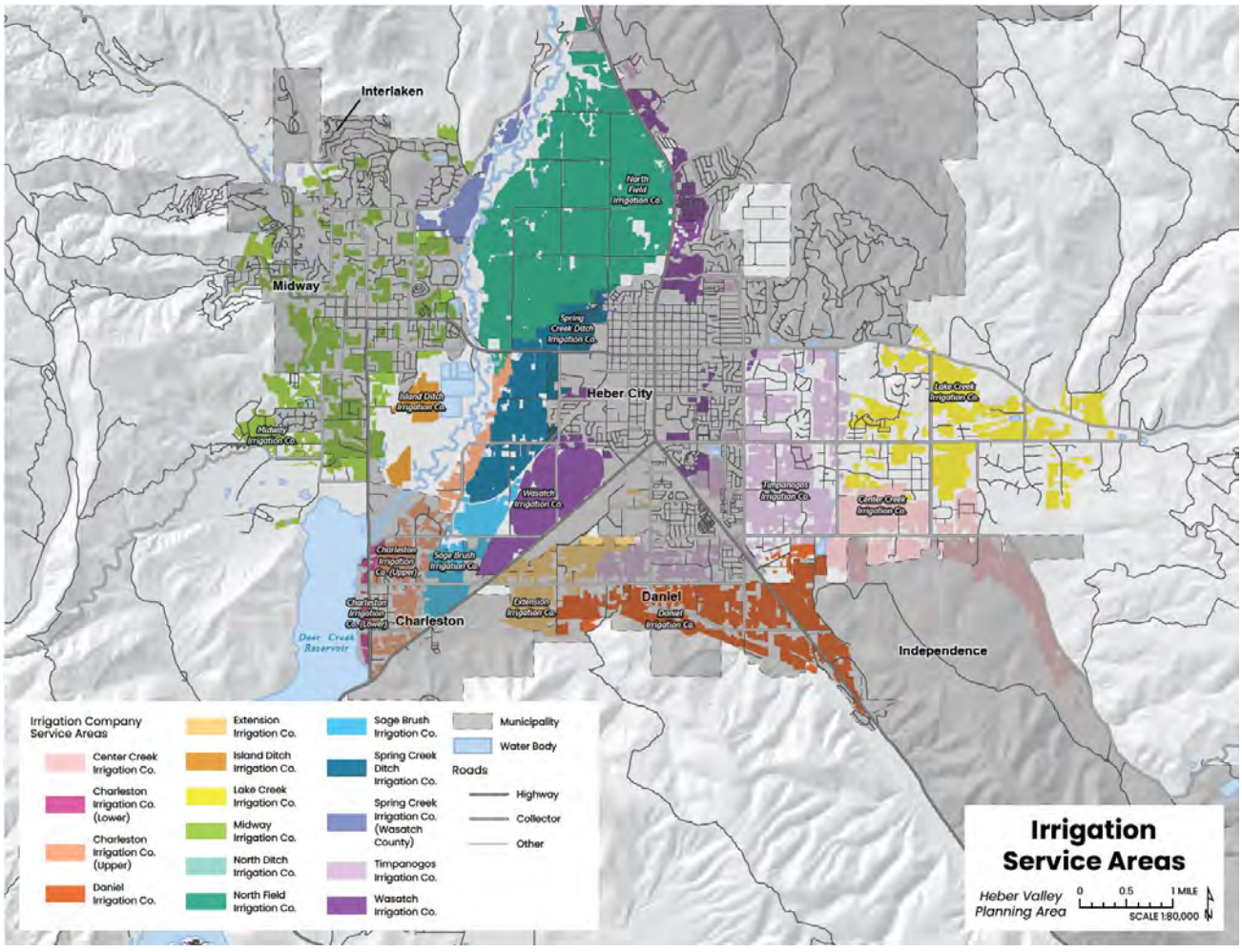
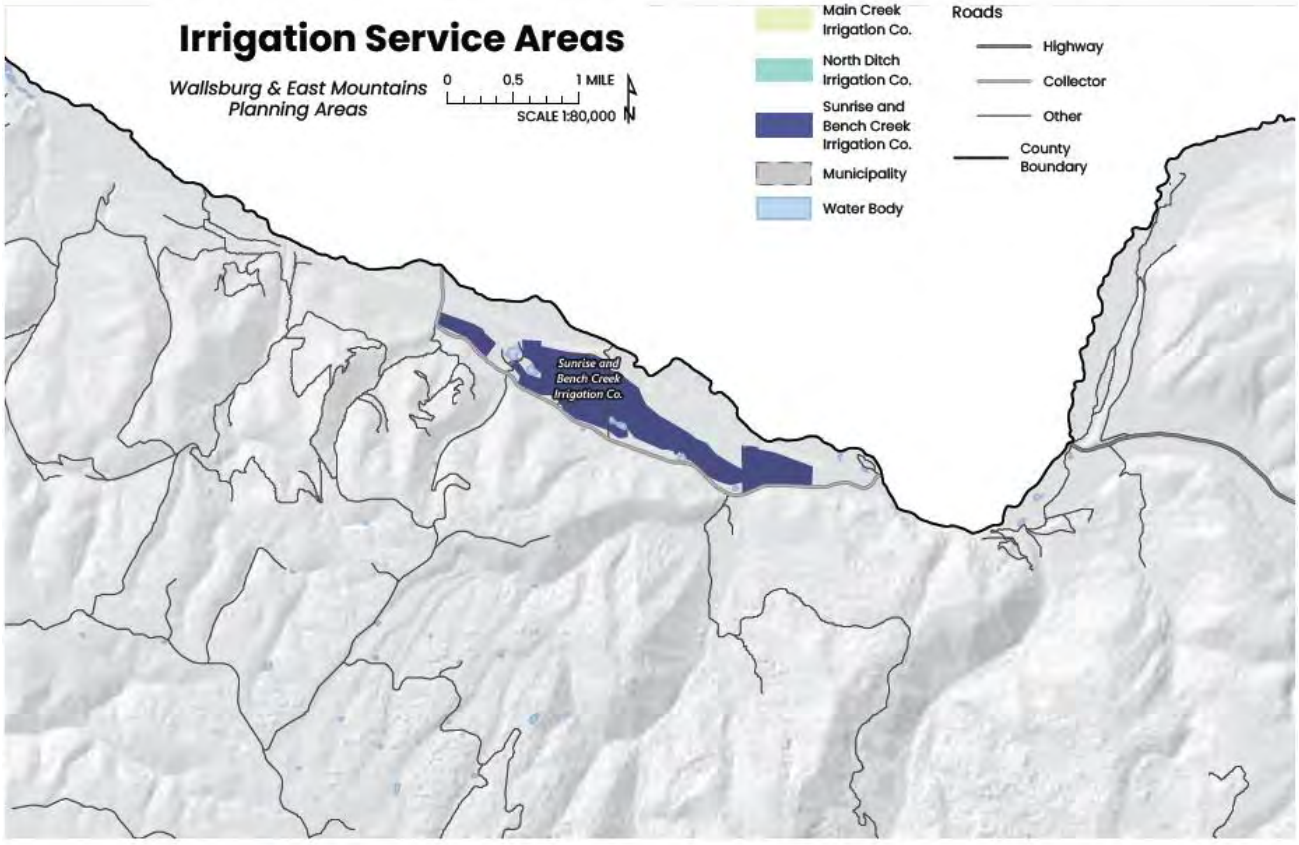


Figure 6-5. Irrigation Company Generalized Service Areas (Source: Utah Division of Water Rights, Utah Division of Water Resources, Utah Association of Conservation Districts) These include state divisions' data, irrigation company websites and other online information, shapefiles received from various entities, and some unknown sources. This data set evolves as new information sources are developed. The map is meant to illustrate general locations of irrigation service and is not authoritative. Parcel location does not indicate shareholder status in an irrigation company or use of water from a given company. Irrigation company boundaries in the County may also overlap. The data in the map above was published in September of 2025. Contact your local irrigation companies for additional information. Contact information can be found at https://waterrights.utah.gov/canalinfo/canal_owners.asp.


Irrigation Service Areas
Wallsburg & East Mountains Planning Areas
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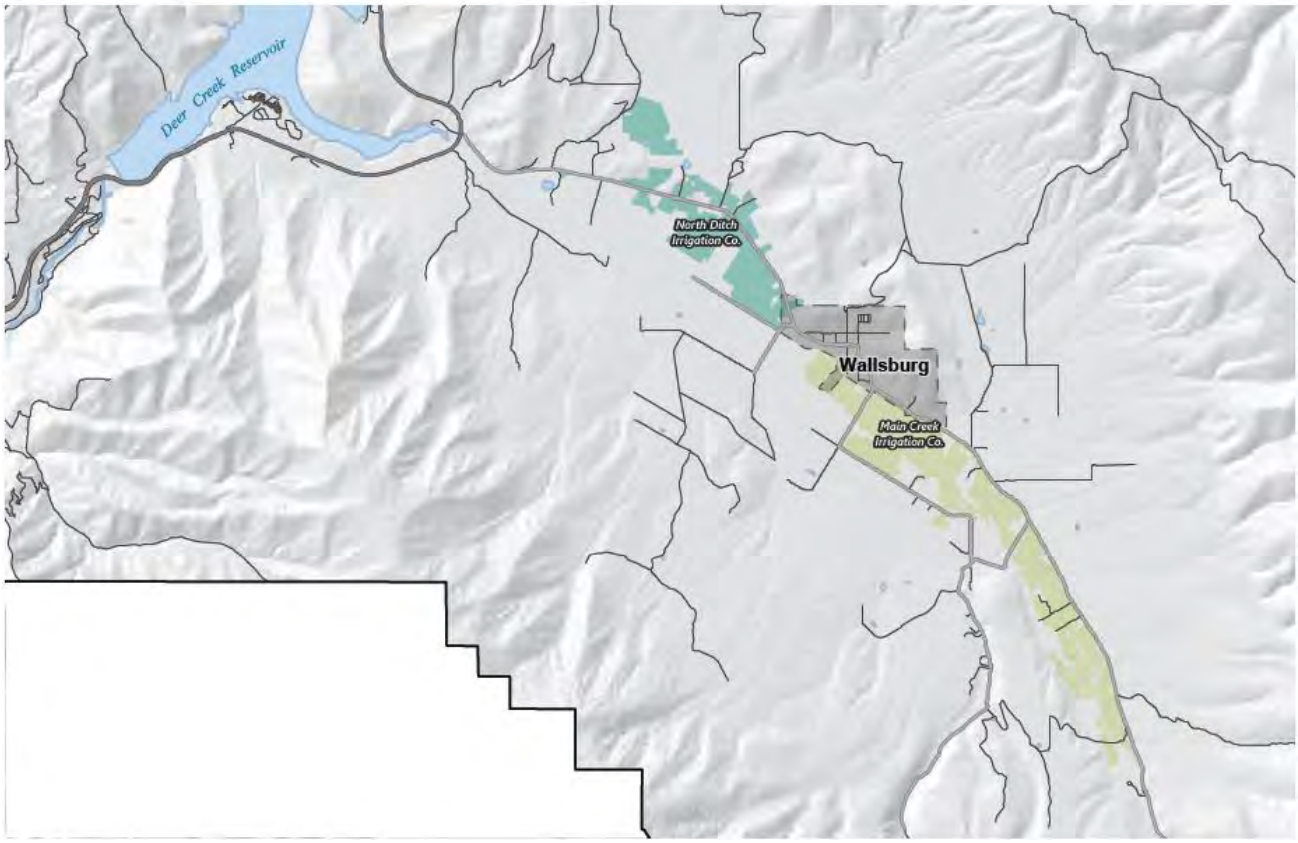
N
Main Creek Irrigation Co.
North Ditch Irrigation Co.
Sunrise and Bench Creek Irrigation Co.
Municipality
Water Body
Roads
Highway
Collector
Other
County Boundary
Sunrise and Bench Creek Irrigation Co.


Deer Creek Reservoir
North Ditch Irrigation Co.
Wallsburg
Main Creek Irrigation Co.

Wasatch County has already undertaken significant investment in modernizing irrigation infrastructure through the Wasatch County Water Efficiency Project (WCWEP). This project consolidated water distribution from multiple irrigation companies into a centralized, pressurized distribution system, significantly reducing water loss from open ditch canals. The project diverts water from the Timpanogos Company point of diversion along the Provo River where water enters a pressurized system. From there the Central Utah Water

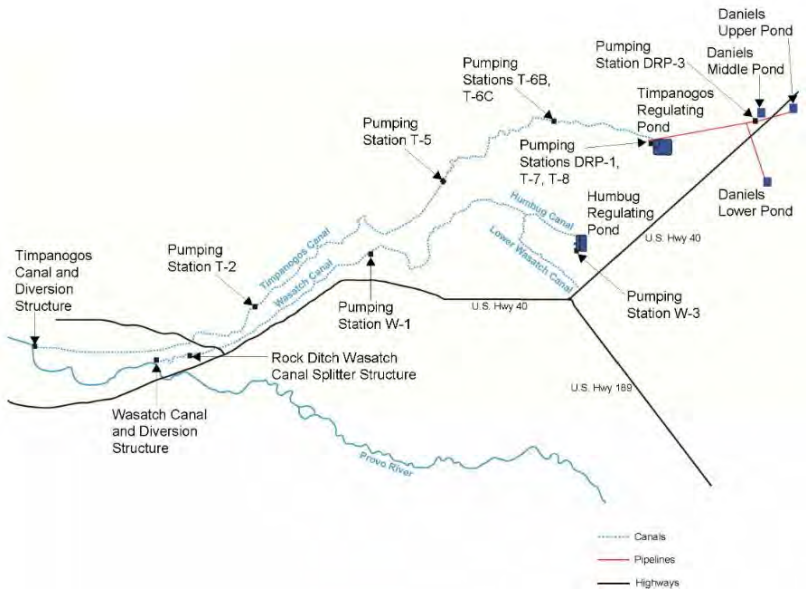
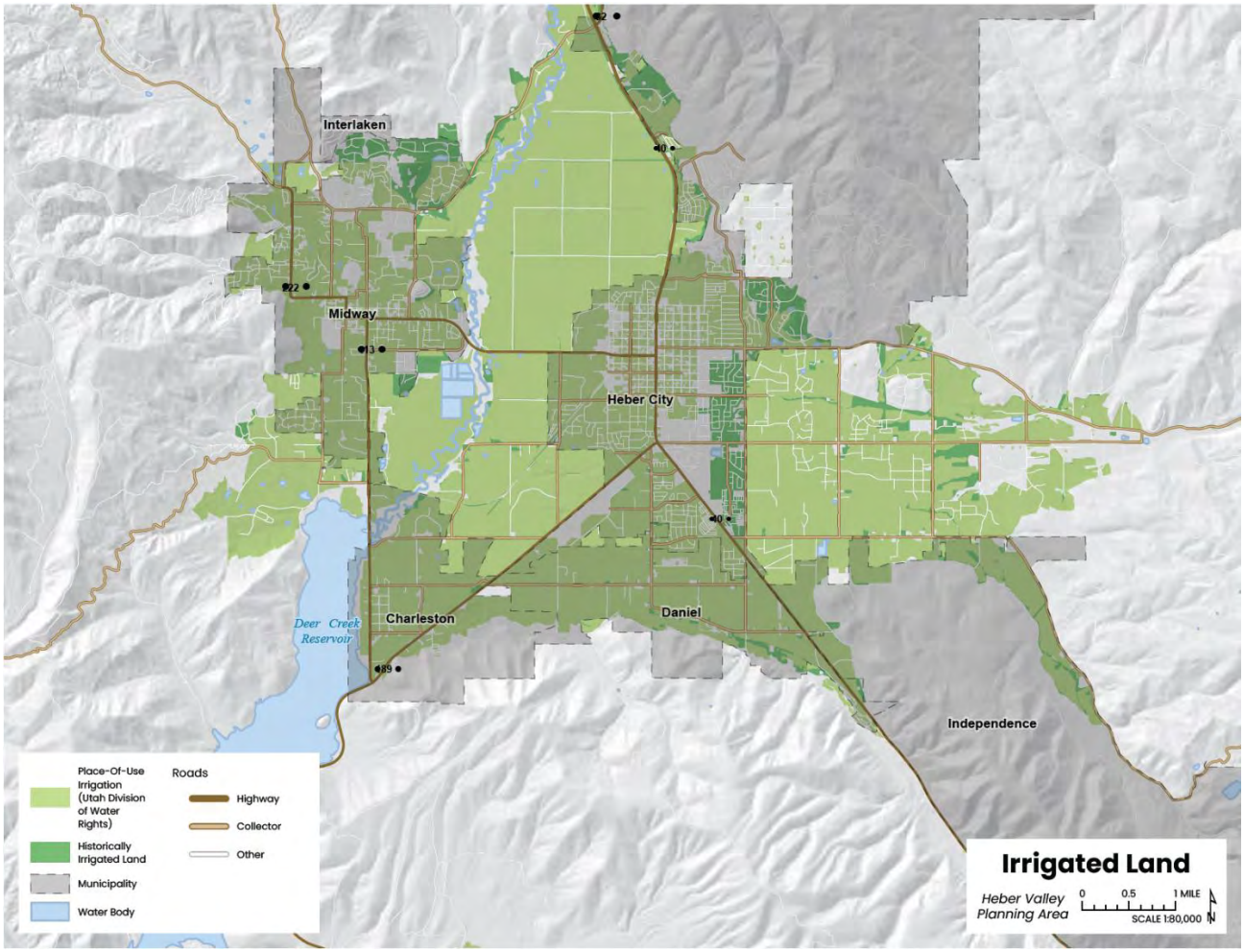


Figure 6-6. WCWEP Project Map (Source: US Department of the Interior)

Conservancy District maintains the main infrastructure including pipelines, pump stations, and regulating ponds and local irrigation companies manage the water rights and distribution to agricultural users. End users (farmers) remain responsible for how the water is applied on their land, which presents a key opportunity for further conservation.

The WCWEP has already had a measurable impact on the County's natural environment, protecting surface waters for recreation and ecological health. Water savings from project enabled the termination of the Daniel Irrigation Canal's diversions from the Strawberry River (historically 2,900 ac-ft.), protecting the river's recreational value and wildlife habitat. Continued adoption of efficient irrigation practices can build on this success, further conserving agricultural water to support the County's rural heritage.

To balance agricultural productivity, groundwater sustainability, and long-term water savings, Wasatch County encourages the continued irrigation of historically irrigated lands. These areas contribute to shallow aquifer recharge and help maintain hydrologic continuity within established groundwater systems. In contrast, new development on non-historically irrigated mountainsides presents different challenges. To reduce the volume of water transferred uphill—often requiring significant energy and infrastructure—the County may reduce the required amount of irrigation for these areas. This approach supports water conservation while recognizing the distinct hydrologic and topographic conditions of hillside development.



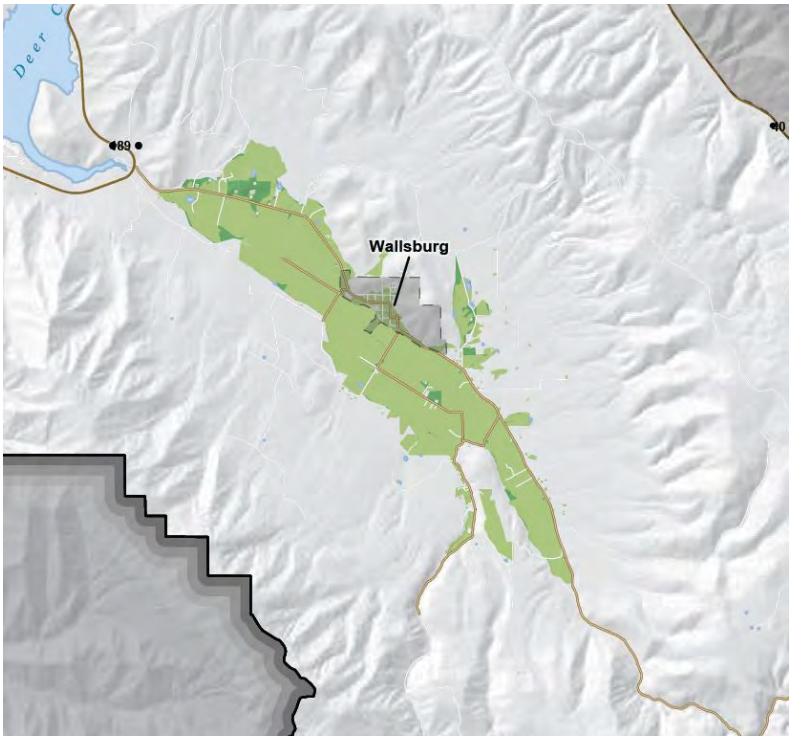


Figure 6-7. Historically Irrigated Land (Source: Utah Division of Water Rights, and Division of Water Resources)

Water Rights and Development

Most developable land in Wasatch County falls within Water Rights Area 55, which is closed to new appropriations. Development must therefore rely on the purchase and transfer of existing water rights. The State of Utah administers water rights based on beneficial uses, such as domestic, irrigation, or stock watering.[4]

Table 6-2. Estimated Water Required by Use [5]

Use	Water Estimates
Domestic	0.45 ac-ft per residential unit
Irrigation	3 ac-ft per acre of irrigated land
Stock	0.028 ac-ft per animal (cow or horse)

Note: Other uses such as municipal, mining, and power are not commonly newly instated uses and do not have associated assumptions or estimates. These estimates are given to illustrate general water requirements, each property and land use must be evaluated for exact water rights appropriations per county and State Engineer requirements.

Where water has historically been used for irrigating agricultural uses, a portion typically returns to surface or groundwater systems. The amount of this return flow varies depending on the irrigation method. For instance, flood irrigation can result in up to 50% of applied water infiltrating into the groundwater, whereas sprinkler irrigation typically returns only 5% to 20%.[6]

In contrast, indoor domestic water is routed through wastewater systems and does not naturally re-enter the local surface or groundwater, thus affecting downstream users. When a change of use or increase in development intensity occurs, such as subdividing property, the Division of Water Rights evaluates the potential loss of return flow. The portion of water that would have historically returned for downstream use is set aside and cannot be reallocated for domestic use. These determinations are made following a detailed review by the State Engineer.[7]

Wasatch County maintains a well-established process that requires all new development to be reviewed by the Wasatch County Water Committee. In this review, the developer must demonstrate that sufficient culinary and irrigation water is available to meet the needs of the proposed development. In the SSD service areas, developers must deed water rights to the district and build the infrastructure to connect, and in some cases, pay additional fees for other improvements. Outside of an SSD or other water provider service area, developers must provide both water rights and infrastructure independently.

[4] Beneficial Use: The State of Utah requires that all water diverted from any source should be used for a beneficial use including domestic, irrigation, or stock use. A water right that allows for diversion must include the use, the amount of water diverted, and the point of diversion. If a water right owner does not use the appropriated water for the specified beneficial use for seven consecutive years, they lose the water right.

[5] More information on water use information for water right applications can be found at the Division of Water Rights Website: https://www.waterrights.utah.gov/wrinfo/policy/topic.asp#diversion-depletion-quantities

[6] Crookston, Bradley, Troy Peters, Matt Yost, and Burdette Barker. *Irrigation Water Loss and Recovery in Utah*. Utah State University Extension. 2020.

[7] Ownership of water rights does not ensure access or infrastructure to obtain water, and does not reflect the quantity of water that will be available in a given year. The year that the water right was recorded and other factors contribute to which water rights have priority in the case of water scarcity.

Planning for Future Demand

To estimate future water demand across unincorporated Wasatch County, a parcel-level analysis was conducted based on land use potential and irrigation history. The analysis includes both existing and projected dwelling units. While the analysis reflects maximum buildout potential under the Future Land Use Map, it does not account for physical constraints such as steep slopes or access limitations, that may reduce actual development capacity. This methodology included:

1. Identifying all privately owned parcels not under conservation easement or designated Agricultural Protection Areas—representing land that may experience some level of development.
2. Classifying potentially developable parcels based on irrigation history, distinguishing historically irrigated areas from non-irrigated ones, which have different water requirements for landscaping and outdoor use.
3. Applying maximum allowable density to each parcel based on zoning and the Future Land Use Map.
4. Estimating irrigation needs for historically irrigated parcels by assigning categories based on parcel size, including both the number of dwelling units and the pervious surface area likely to require irrigation.
5. Estimating irrigation needs for non-historically irrigated parcels based on projected landscaping and water required for dwelling units.

Data from the Division of Water Rights[8] and the US Census Bureau shows that nearly three quarters of Wasatch County's population is served via municipal water providers. As such, it is anticipated that much of the future population growth will continue to be within the municipalities.[9] Four SSDs serving unincorporated areas, Jordanelle, Twin Creeks, North Village, and Timber Lakes SSDs serve over 500 connections and are required by the State of Utah to regularly assess current and future demand and identify conservation methods as part of a water conservation plan. While smaller providers and individual wells exist, these four districts serve approximately 86% of the total unincorporated population and provide the basis for future water demand projections within this chapter. It should be noted that the vast majority of NVSSD and a large portion of JSSD is within Heber City boundaries. While those portions are not included in the total unincorporated population or the total culinary water supply available to the unincorporated county, they have been included in the table below to provide valuable context.

[8] Division of Water Rights. Water Use/Record Viewer, 2025. https://waterrights.utah.gov/asp_apps/generalWaterUse/WaterUseList.asp

[9] Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. *State and County Projections 2025-2065*. MAG Small Area/City Population Projections https://magutah.gov/mag-population-projections/

Table 6-3. Water Projections from Special Service District Conservation Plans								
System	Population	Total Use (Mgal/year)	Per capita Use (gpcd)	Conservation Goal (gpcd)	Population Projection	Capacity (ac-ft)	Projected Demand (Mgal/year)	Projected Demand w Conservation (Mgal/year)
Jordanelle SSD (JSSD)	3,550 2021)	1,365.95 (2021)	343[1] (2021)	250; 32% (2065)	35,740 (2065)	9190 (2021); 17,390 (2041)	15,733 (2065)	11,797 (2065)
Twin Creeks SSD, Culinary	4,230 (2020)	318 (2020)[2]	73.1 (2021)	55, 18.2%[2] (2065)	18,031 (2060)	2,031.3	2,079 (2065)	1,702 (2065)
Twin Creeks SSD, Secondary	1,180 (2021)	437 (2020)	342 (2021)	237.7, 34.6%[2] (2065)	2,413 (2065)	* Provided Contractually	982	643
North Village SSD	516 (2021)	108.82	186	152; 32% (2065)	10,700 (2060)	5,900	1,838	1,250
Timber Lakes SSD- 2022	997[3] (2022)	61 (2022)	55	45.5; 22.3% (2065)	1933 (2060)	425	124[4]	97[5]

Notes:

1. JSSD uses an adjusted population because there is a large portion of part-time residents with different water use needs
2. The per capita goal is based on the combination of culinary and secondary water. This was 431 gpcd in 2015 meaning the 32% reduction is 293 gpcd for both culinary and secondary water.
3. Timber Lakes SSD uses an adjusted population estimate due to a large portion of part-time residents with water use needs.
4. Estimated Reliable Annual Yield
5. These are high estimates that reflect higher rates (65%) of full-time occupancy in the Service Area, today's rate of full-time occupancy is near 35%
6. Incorporated Hideout uses culinary water from JSSD, but this is not reflected in the population or use projections shown in Table 2.

To support the growth that is anticipated within the SSD service areas, each provider has identified projects to expand capacity and improve delivery systems. For example:

1. **Twin Creeks SSD** recently upgraded its Treatment Plant and Big Pole Tank (storage), and continually updating the distribution system as developments occur.
2. **Jordanelle SSD** plans to expand the Victory Ranch Well 1 and 2, and has constructed the first phase of the Fisher Ranch Water Treatment Plant to treat water from the Provo River, adding 4 MGD capacity. Future plans for a phase 2 is anticipated to begin when the plant reaches 50% capacity to bring another 4 MGD and phase 3 capable of adding another 16 MGD when development necessitates its expansion.
3. **North Village SSD** is improving the upper NVSSD South Tank and Wasatch Commons Tank, transmission and booster stations.
4. **Timber Lakes SSD** is focusing on spring development and rehabilitation at Lone Pine, West Side Spring, and development of a new spring near the Upper Lone Pine Concrete Tank.

While not all development will occur within the SSD service areas, the County should continue to encourage clustered growth within existing service areas to ensure efficient water delivery, protect environmental quality, and preserve the County's rural character.

Based on historic growth trends and the planned infrastructure projects, SSDs alone are anticipated to accommodate the estimated population growth in unincorporated Wasatch County through 2065.

Water Conservation Strategies

Conservation Public Awareness Practices: Special Service Districts already manage drought advisories and educate residents on landscaping best practices for reducing outdoor water use. This is especially effective in areas without irrigation companies, where people rely on more expensive culinary water for landscaping. Education efforts reference Utah Water Saver initiatives, which promote smart controllers, deficient interior fixtures (like toilets), and retrofitting landscapes to reduce culinary water use.

Metering and Tiered Rates: Water providers can use tiered rate structures to encourage more mindful water consumption. Advanced metering technologies give water providers a clearer picture of consumption patterns which helps with infrastructure planning and real-time feedback to support conservation.

Ordinances and Standards: The county already uses land use regulations to encourage water conservation. They require careful review of water rights for new developments and include special service districts in development review. Other ordinances encourage natural landscapes that reduce outdoor water use by minimizing turf areas and encouraging the use of native or drought-tolerant plants, turf meadows, and wildflowers.

County Operations: Wasatch County's water-intensive operations are fairly minimal compared to the operations of incorporated cities, but there are facilities that could contribute to water reduction. Wasatch County is responsible for the operations of a scattered array of different facilities ranging from administrative office buildings to court and jail complexes. Other properties are owned by the county, but operated by special service districts such as the Wasatch Fire SSD, Parks and Recreation SSD, and Solid Waste SSD. In each

of these facilities, the county should stand as the example and consider the same water-saving improvements encouraged of other uses.

Agricultural Efficiency Grants: A significant portion of the irrigated land in Wasatch County remains in agricultural use, particularly outside SSD boundaries. The County supports the preservation of this valuable land through zoning and water policy that prioritizes long-term agricultural viability.

To help sustain active farmland, the County encourages participation in state and federal grant programs that promote sustainable agricultural practices. Programs offered by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provide funding and technical support for projects that enhance soil health, upgrade irrigation systems, and improve overall water efficiency.

Flood to Sprinkler Conversion: Conversion of flood irrigation to sprinkler irrigation reduces average annual water use in affected areas by a significant amount. Figure 3 below shows where different types of irrigation are being used. Notably, the Round valley, which is beyond the reach of the WCWEP, and the North Fields area are almost entirely flood irrigation. While the WCWEP does not regulate the irrigation method, conversion from flood to sprinkler irrigation is strongly encouraged by Central Utah Water Conservancy District and many other programs through the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

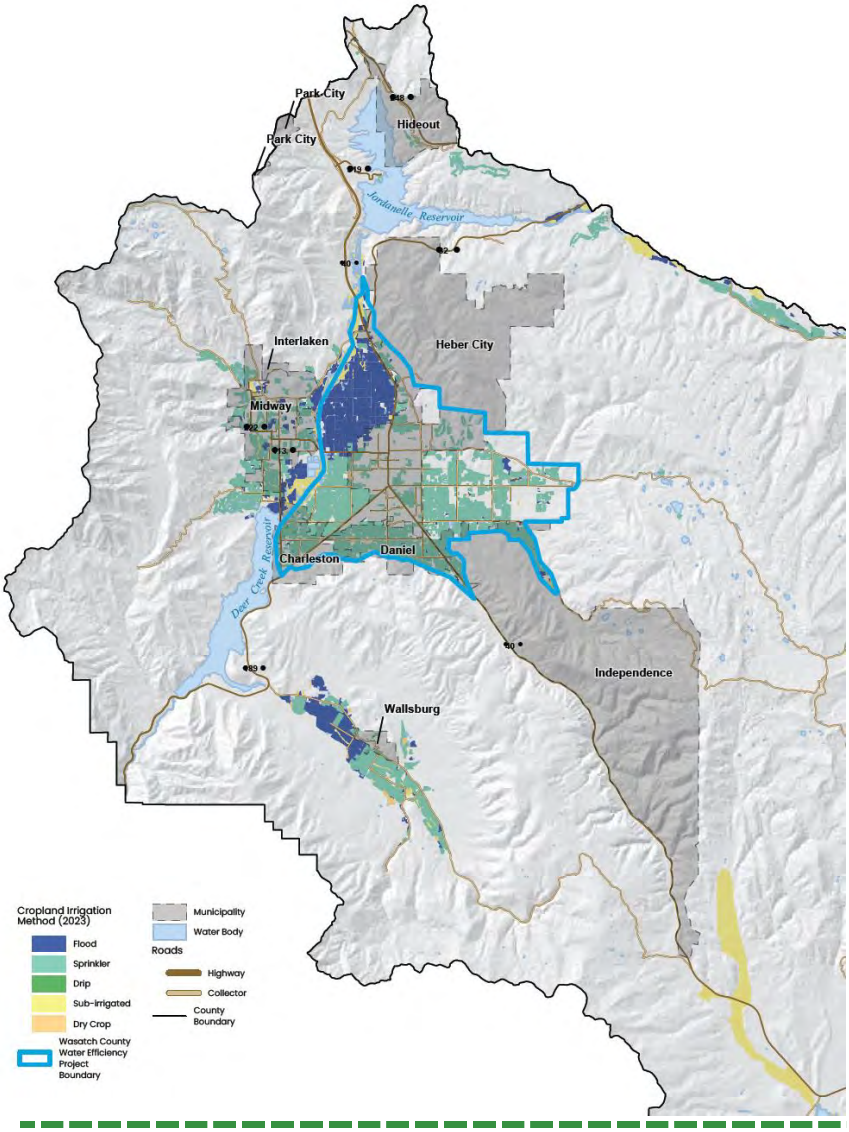


Figure 6-8. Irrigation Method (Source: Wasatch County and WFRC)

Looking Ahead – Public Services

Vision: Wasatch County will proactively coordinate with the various entities providing utilities, emergency services, and public infrastructure to ensure necessary facilities and services are provided to the community in a fiscally responsible way. Through prudent policy guidance, we will promote systems that endure and serve the community.

GOAL 6.1: Prioritize development near existing municipalities and service providers to avoid sprawl, reduce infrastructure costs, and preserve the County's open and agricultural lands.

POLICY 6.1.1: Limit expansion of special service district boundaries to areas consistent with the Future Land Use Map.

POLICY 6.1.2: Regularly review the capacities of utility providers and their alignment with the General Plan.

POLICY 6.1.3: Evaluate proposed land use changes for impacts on agricultural water use and restrict those that increase demand in unserved areas.

POLICY 6.1.4: Clearly communicate service limitations in the unincorporated area as part of the rural character.

GOAL 6.2: Support the development of cost-effective infrastructure that meets the needs of unincorporated areas of the County.

POLICY 6.2.1: Prepare and maintain a Capital Improvement Plan, reviewed annually and make it available to the public.

POLICY 6.2.2: Require all developments more dense than one unit per five acres to be connected to an existing approved culinary water system or certified operator of an approved system, unless in compliance with added restrictions in the land use code.

POLICY 6.2.3: Establish public sewer collection as the primary method of sewer disposal and encourage existing non-conforming lots and developments using individual septic systems to convert to a centralized system where feasible.

POLICY 6.2.4: Ensure new developments pay for the extension or expansion of all necessary infrastructure.

POLICY 6.2.5: Require storm water runoff from new development to match the pre-development discharge rate.

POLICY 6.2.6: Develop a joint storm drainage system with the Cities and Towns of Heber Valley.

POLICY 6.2.7: Identify the optimal sizes and locations for regional storm water retention basins that could be used as public park sites.

POLICY 6.2.8: Collaborate with other entities to reduce resource use and minimize disruption during construction of public facilities.

GOAL 6.3: Ensure adequate water sources for all new developments or changes in use.

POLICY 6.3.1: Require proof of adequate water rights and sources approved by the Divisions of Water Rights and Drinking Water before granting final approval of developments.

POLICY 6.3.2: Regularly identify wet water supply concerns with each SSD or water provider.

POLICY 6.3.3: Engage SSDs and other providers in development review when applicable.

GOAL 6.4: Maintain the green agricultural appearance of the land without relying on treated culinary water.

POLICY 6.4.1: Require developments to retain irrigation water rights for the non-built portions of historically irrigated areas to support shallow aquifer recharge and maintain local groundwater continuity.

POLICY 6.4.2: Limit development densities in areas where irrigation has not been provided in the past, except in designated resort areas.

POLICY 6.4.3: Require new developments to provide pressurized irrigation systems instead of using culinary sources for outdoor watering.

POLICY 6.4.4: Protect the Heber Valley Special Service District's wastewater treatment facility.

GOAL 6.5: Conserve water throughout the County.

POLICY 6.5.1: Partner with municipalities and SSDs to enforce conservation measures such as secondary water metering and expanding secondary water connections for all irrigation users, including, but not limited to, residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural.

POLICY 6.5.2: Promote sustainable landscape design that supports highly efficient irrigation practices, while respecting private property rights and individual water rights.

POLICY 6.5.3: Discourage the use of turfgrass in non-functional areas, such as narrow strips or ornamental zones, except where turf serves a recreational or playfield purpose.

POLICY 6.5.4: Audit County facilities for water efficiency and address waste.

POLICY 6.5.5: Support agricultural irrigation efficiency projects, similar to the Wasatch County Water Efficiency Project, to reduce waste in agricultural lands.

POLICY 6.5.6: Encourage conversion from flood to sprinkler irrigation.

POLICY 6.5.7: Provide resources and reduce barriers to accessing rebate programs and services offered through the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the Department of Agriculture and Food, the National Resource Conservation Service, and other local programs.