

# Advancing Solutions for Water Scarcity



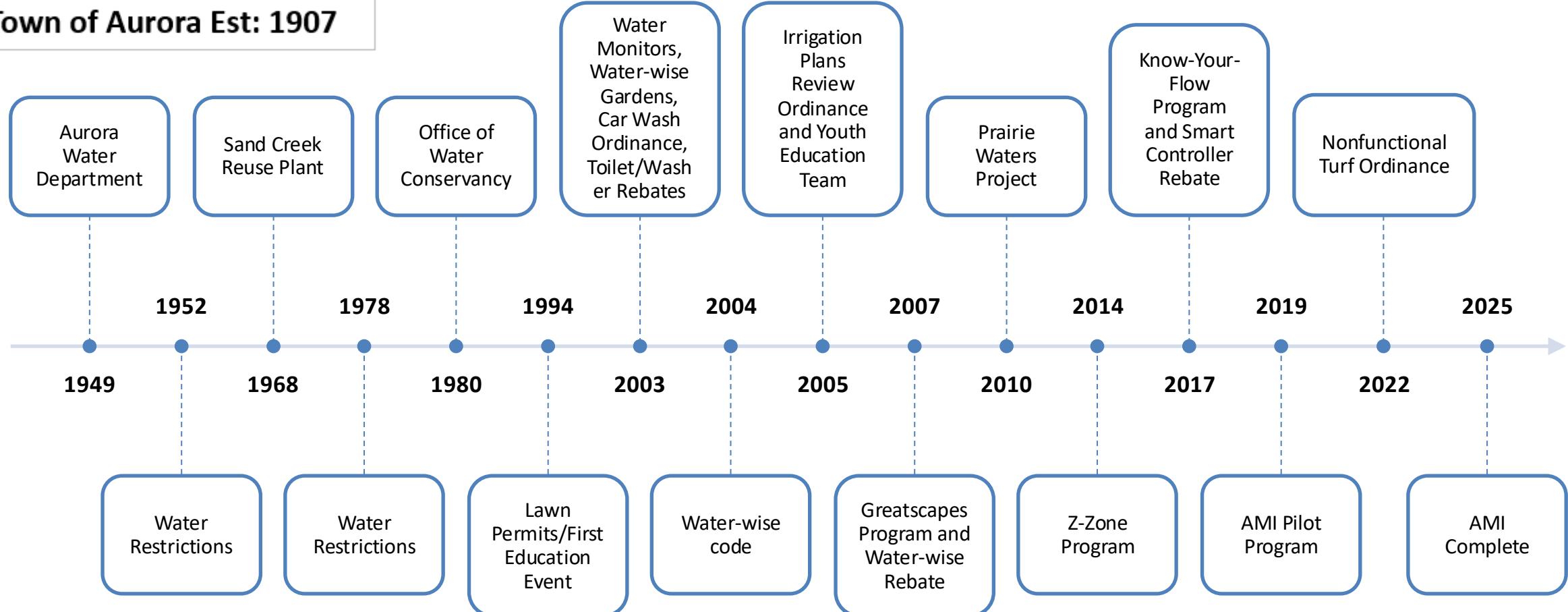
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Aurora Water Assistant General Manager  
Water Supply and Demand  
Captured On: Fri Aug 11 CRWUA 2025



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# Water Conservation History

## Town of Aurora Est: 1907



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# Potable Reuse - Prairie Waters

Planned and developed after the 2002 drought

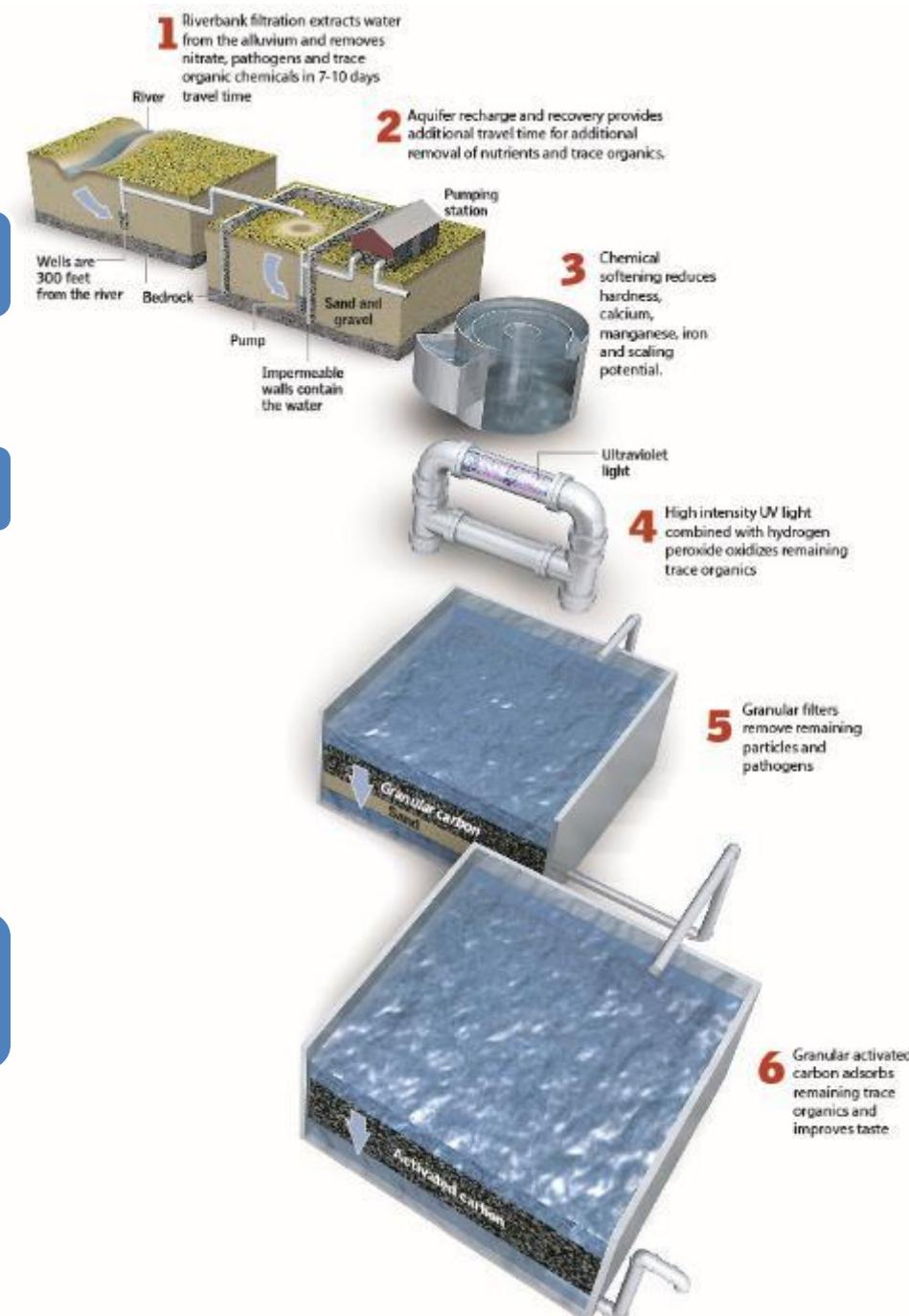
- Source water is fully consumable (return flows & effluent)
- Built to expand capacity over time

## Infrastructure

- 23 wells along South Platte River
- Aquifer Recharge and Recovery for pre-treatment
- 3 pump stations
- Numerous Gravel Pits
- 50 MGD advanced treatment plant
- Over \$1 Billion invested in reclaiming water

Allows water to be diverted when available outside of normal demands

- Drought protection
- Flexibility to operations



# Policy Driven Conservation

- Water Service Connection/Tap Fees
- Municipal Code Sec. 138-191
  - Prohibits non-functional turf in new development
  - Limits turf in residential back yards
  - Prohibits ornamental water features
  - Prohibits the removal of water-wise landscape for the purpose of installing turf
  - Large Water User Guide
  - Prohibits the waste of water



# Program Driven Conservation

- Incentive Programs
  - Commercial Washer Rebates
  - Grass Replacement Incentive Program
  - High-Efficiency Irrigation Components
  - Low-income Water Efficiency Program
  - “Smart” Irrigation Controller Rebates
  - Ultra-high Efficiency Toilet Rebates
  - GreatScapes Income-qualified Program
- New Development & Policies
  - Codes/Ordinances
  - Irrigation & Soil Inspections
  - Irrigation Plans Review
  - Water Management Plan Enforcement
  - Z-zone Program
- Efficiency & Education Programs
  - Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
    - Leak Notification and Investigation
  - Conservation Education Program
  - High-Use Outreach and Investigations
  - Indoor Water Assessments
  - Know Your Flow
  - Large Property Watering Variance Program
  - Outdoor Water Assessments
  - Aurora Water-wise Garden
  - Water-wise Landscape Design Program
  - Contractor Engagement Seminar (annual)
  - Water-wise Day

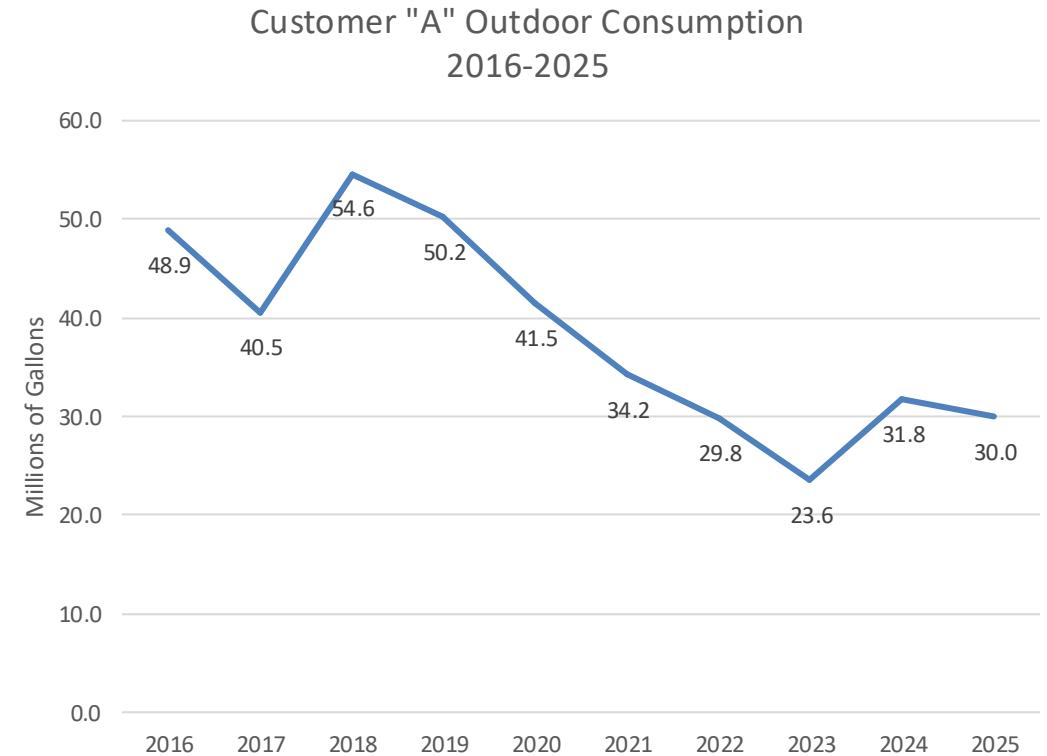
# Innovations

- Prairie Waters
- AMI
- Turf Ordinance
- Direct Potable Reuse
- Large Water User Guide
- Volumetric Fee Structure/Allocations

		Non-Recoverable Use			
		≤25%	26% - 50%	51% - 75%	76% - 100%
Volumetric Use (Avg gal/acre/day)	≤600	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use/ Moderate Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use/ High Non-Recoverable
	601-1,000	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use/ Moderate Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Low Volumetric Use/ High Non-Recoverable
	1,001 - 2,000	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Moderate Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ High Non-Recoverable
	2,001 - 2,500	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - Avg Volumetric Use/ Moderate Non-Recoverable	Allowed Under Exemption Only
	2,501 - 3,000	Allowed - High Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed - High Volumetric Use/ Low Non-Recoverable	Allowed Under Exemption Only	Not Allowed
	3,001 - 3,500	Allowed Under Exemption Only	Allowed Under Exemption Only	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
	3,501+	Allowed Under Exemption Only	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed

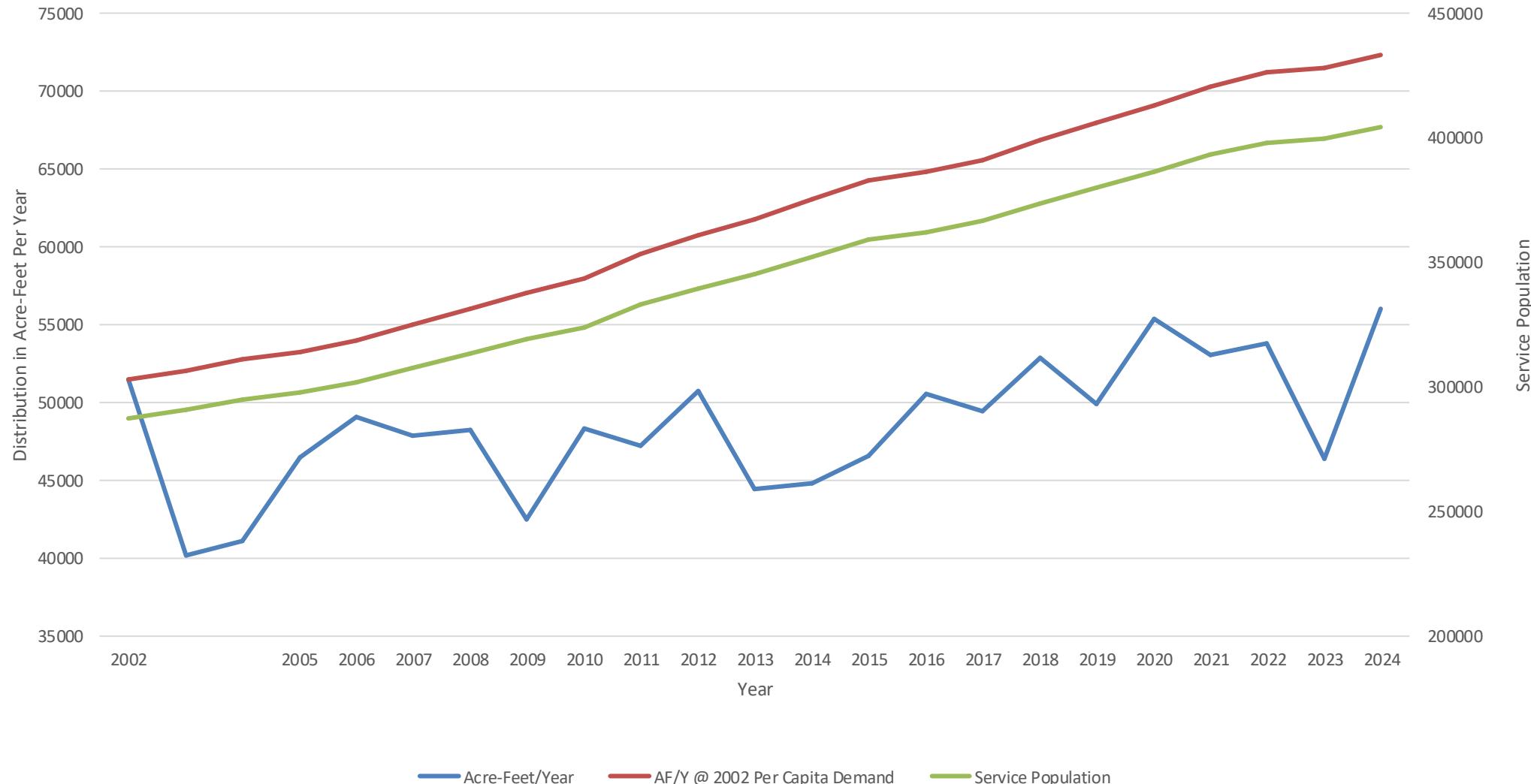
# Allocation Agreement Rebate Success Story

- Large property, high water use customers
- Multi-year, phased implementation
- Customer “A” Success
  - Analysis, assessment, and education began 2018
  - “Smart” Irrigation Controller rebate (\$250K) 2020
  - Turf conversions began 2021 and have continued
  - Planned 160,000 square feet of conversions in 2026
  - 2025 demand was 75 acre feet less than 2018 demand
- New “allocations” set to vegetation cover and area
- If savings goals not met, rebate is paid back over time



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## Water Demand vs. Growth



— Acre-Feet/Year   — AF/Y @ 2002 Per Capita Demand   — Service Population



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Aurora's Water Conservation team is one of 5 platinum recognized teams in the country (and the only one in Colorado).

# Questions?