

Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas

Education, Communication, and Public Outreach-Related Phase I Action Items

1. Assign a coordinating team to oversee working groups to develop a multi-phased educational proposal for target audiences of K-12, community leaders and media to promote local conservation decisions. Existing educational efforts, programs and activities should be incorporated as appropriate. (V-p.15) (S-p.1)
 - *Design and implement a statewide curriculum for K-12 on water conservation, building on current resources and knowledge such as Project WET and integrate water conservation into science curriculum, by working with partners such as the Kansas Association of Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) and the Kansas Department of Education (V-p.15) (S-p.4)*
 - *Develop additional activities within youth and adult organizations such as 4-H and the KSRE system to educate others and promote youth activities related to water conservation (V-p.15) (S-p.4)*
2. Create a long-term commitment to water conservation education by designating responsibility for water conservation public information and outreach within agencies of the Water Resources Sub-Cabinet. (V-p.16) (S-pgs.2,3)
 - *Develop continual media plans and message maps related to water conservation and the importance of local engagement to be implemented by multiple partners through all aspects of traditional paid, earned and social media (V-p.16) (S-p.2)*
3. Provide greater information and decision making tools to evaluate the economic impacts, both short-term and long-term, of reduced water use. (V-p.16) (S-pgs.3,5)
4. Enhance educational programming specifically for state legislators, as well as, other state officials, the Congressional delegation and local policy makers. (V-p.16) (S-pgs.2,3)
5. Develop stronger working relationships between local and state entities through improved communication, streamlined collaboration and realigned water cooperative strategies. (V-p.32) (S-pgs.2,3,5)
6. Share research findings broadly with Kansas citizens to improve understanding of our state's water resources.(V-p.38) (S-pgs.3,5)
7. Annually coordinate with university researchers regarding the Vision for the Future of Water Supply in Kansas to ensure future collaborative research supports the successful implementation of the Vision. (V-p.38) (S-p.5)
8. Utilize agricultural education and 4-H to encourage young people to develop agricultural programs using water efficient technologies and less water intensive crops or crop varieties through recognition and incentive programs. (V-p.41) (S-p.4)
9. Develop models for the inclusion of water conservation into the agricultural education curriculum, including classroom, supervised agricultural experience and FFA activities. (V- p.41) (S-p.4)
10. Encourage the development of community college, technical and university programs to prepare the future workforce to work in irrigation efficiency technologies and with necessary expertise in less water intensive crops and crop varieties. (V-p.41) (S-p.6)